

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

SKIT

Characters: Commentator, King Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego

FYI: This skit retells the story of the fiery furnace in Daniel 3 but framed in a television reality show format.

Commentator: Welcome to *What's Your Fear?* Today we're in Babylon on the plain of Dura, and behind me is a solid gold monument that stretches 90 feet high and nearly 10 feet wide! It is quite the structure to behold! And you're not going to believe this, but today's fear challenge will be to climb to the top of this 90-foot statue. To tell us a little about the statue is none other than the king himself, King Nebuchadnezzar. *(Enter the king)* This is some statue, King. Today's contestants will have to really face their fears on this one. What do you call this monstrosity?

King: Uh, a golden image, I guess. Maybe a god.

Commentator: Do you mean *the* God, or *a* god?

King: Uh, just *a* god, I suppose.

Commentator: Great! And now let's meet our three contestants: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! Well, fellas, this is going to be a tough one. I'm sure you didn't count on facing something like this, did you? Your challenge is to climb a god! What a great fear challenge! Let me ask you, Shad, does this look scary? Will this be the challenge that brings you three fear?

Shadrach: Actually, yes. All of us are afraid to do this one. You see, if we climb this statue, it might look like we believe this is really God. But we don't, do we, guys?

Meshach and Abednego: Nope. This is not God.

Commentator: *(Nervously laughing)* That's not what the king said. He had this built, and he says it's a god—not *the* God but definitely a god! Now, I would be scared *not* to climb it. *(Whispering to the three)* The king can get kind of angry if people don't obey him. Don't back out now.

King: Uh, that's right! I'll punish you! Climb my god!

Meshach: That's the problem, King. It's not *our* god. Ours is the one true God.

Abednego: Yeah. And we're more scared of what might happen if we forget about Him and start climbing after other gods. I'd rather try to spell your name than face the anger of our God.

Commentator: Whew! Now that's scary! Not climbing a god, but trying to spell the king's name.

King: Uh, that's easy. You spell my name, N-E-B-U-H-C-U-Z-Z-E-R.

Commentator: Okay. So you three are not going to face this fear challenge?

Shadrach: Nope. Can't do it.

Commentator: Well, we sure kicked it up a notch on this episode of *What's Your Fear?* We're really putting fear in the heart of these three men. Look! They're too scared to climb the golden image god!

Meshach: Um, excuse me, sir. We're not too scared to climb it; we just don't want to climb it.

King: Huh?

Commentator: Well, Mr. King, you heard it. They have greater fear and loyalty toward their God than this 90-foot golden monstrosity you had built. What do you say?

King: Uh, well, I'll give you something to fear. If you won't climb my god, you'll be tossed into the Fero-cious Fearful Fiery Furnace!

Commentator: Oh! That's the big one! This is going to be great, folks! I think we just answered the question of *What's Your Fear?* It's got to be this fiery furnace. You three have got to be terrified! Don't tell me you're not scared.

Shadrach: We're not scared.

Meshach: Toss away!

Abednego: You might as well call it the Fearless Fiery Furnace!

King: Uh, the what?

Shadrach: Or better yet, call it the Immanuel Furnace!

King: Immanuel?

Shadrach: Yep. The God with Us Furnace!

Meshach: There's only one God, and only Him will we worship.

Shadrach: We fear, love, and trust God—and that's a faith that stretches well beyond 90 feet.

Abednego: Toss away!

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(SKIT, CONTINUED)

DISCUSSION

How would you identify or describe the one true God?

The one true God is the Trinity—three persons in one Godhead. This three-in-one identity is a divine mystery. Each person in the Trinity is ascribed a specific work, although all three persons are involved in each work because the three persons are inseparable; they are one God. God the Father is referred to as the Creator, God the Son as the Redeemer, and God the Spirit as the Sanctifier.

Why don't we need to fear the threats of those influences that would have us abandon the one true God?

God is almighty, and through the Means of Grace He strengthens us to fear, love, and trust in Him above all else.