**Our Faith Under Fire**

**Sermon Based Discussion (September 4, 2016)**

**church wide sermon**

**WARM UP**

1. What is the biggest punishment you have ever received?

**INTO THE BIBLE (Read Daniel 3)**

1. From Daniel 2:31-45, what do you think motivated King Nebuchadnezzar to build the image and demand people bow down and worship it?
2. At the dedication of the image, what was the government officials commanded to do? What punishment was threatened for refusal? What was the result?
3. How would you summarize the testimony of the Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (SMA) in vs. 16-18?

**UNDERSTANDING**

1. Why do you think SMA did not follow everyone else and bow down and worship the image?
2. What is the significance of the 4th person seen (“like a son of the gods”) in the fiery furnace?

**DIFFERENCE**

1. How could SMA rationalize bowing down and worshipping the image?
2. What kinds of gods/idols are we tempted to serve today?

**APPLICATION**

1. In what ways are you tempted to compromise your faith in order to be accepted by others?
2. If you are going through suffering for obeying God, what perspective does 1 Peter 1:6-7 bring?