

2021

Fact or Fiction

The lies we believe

Group Guide July 25th



Series Overview

The circumstances of life have a way of convincing us false things are actually true. However, appearances can be deceptive. The truth is false beliefs are commonplace and dangerous. This is especially true when it comes to God. This matters because the things we believe can have serious implications on the actions we take. In this series, we will be discussing four, common false beliefs about God and how separating fact from fiction leads the way to freedom.

Week Three

No one wants a difficult life, and no one, no matter the appearances, gets an easy one. Life contains its fair share of overwhelm and difficulty. Our experiences teach us this. In these times, the lie that God won't give us more than we can handle haunts us. Correcting this lie make peace and hope available no matter the circumstance. In this last week of our Fact or Fiction series, we will take on perhaps the most dangerous lie of them all.

Big Idea: In this life, we will experience more than we can handle.

Scripture: Daniel 3:16-18 ESV, Psalms 115:3 ESV, Daniel 3:24-27 ESV, John 16:33 NLT, Philippians 1:6 NLT

Key Takeaways & Action Items:

- The bible is a corrective narrative
- Our God is able, but if not, we still need to stand firm.
- Even before deliverance, we can stand in confidence.
- You may receive more than you can handle, but God will meet you there.
- Jesus was honest about how hard life can be but gives us a foundation of hope.

Group Discussion Questions:

1. This week's big lie we've been taught to believe: "God won't give you more than you can handle" is this something you've been taught to believe or still believe?
2. Do you often retreat to old beliefs that God doesn't know what we're going through? Or that he Loves me, but he doesn't like me?
3. What "percentage" relates to where you and God are, right now, in your relationship?
 - a. 50/50: "God you do your part, and i'll do mine"
 - b. 80/20: "God i know you're busy, so i'll take on 80% if you can take the rest"
 - c. 90/10: "God, you just meet me at 10% i'll handle the rest."
4. Read Daniel 3:16-18esv
What are some things that culture is asking us to do that we know we're not supposed to, but if we don't follow the crowd, we burn?
5. We see these three men confidently stand, before there was deliverance- how can we do the same when faced with what feels like life or death in our decision?
6. "God's plan may not be to deliver you from the fire, but to join you in it."
What are ways we can stand in the fire, and help others through it?
 - a. Fight saying something religious
 - b. Be ok not being ok
 - c. Don't try to fix it
 - d. Be ok in the abnormal doing something unnormal
 - e. Allow God to work over His time.

Scripture & Resources

- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up." Daniel 3:16-18 (ESV)
- Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods." Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace; he declared, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them. Daniel 3:24-27 (ESV)
- "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." John 16:33 (NLT)
- And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. Philippians 1:6 (NLT)