

Write down the type of influence you desire to have on those you come into contact with. Now write down three ways you can move towards that goal.

Pray through your “influence goal” and ask God to give you the courage, humility and faith to move towards being a person who influences other for good.

Saturday

Please read 1 Corinthians 15:13–14. Take each phrase of this verse and write down one way you can apply that to your faith and relationships right now.

Please pray for this weekend’s service. Pray that as we continue our study on commitment, our church will grow stronger in commitment to God and in our influence on the community.



WEEK 1

Living All In

JULY 27 & 28, 2013 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

Commitment has power: Goals are achieved, growth happens, and progress is made when you make commitments. In this new series we begin today, rediscover this important biblical truth — and learn how to overcome the fear of commitment!

SERIES INTRODUCTION:

The Power of Commitment

The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to **strengthen** those whose hearts are fully **committed** to him... *2 Chronicles 16:9a NV*

My commitments...

THIS WEEK’S “ALL IN” STORY:

The Most Important Commitment in Life

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold... and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon... The herald proclaimed... “Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.” Therefore, as soon as they heard the... music, all the nations and peoples of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. *Daniel 3:1,6,7*



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3 Crucial Questions

1. _____ ?

“...there are some **Jews** whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon — Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego — who ... neither **serve your gods** nor **worship the image of gold** you have set up.” *Daniel 3:12*

What is the _____ in my life?

2. _____ ?

“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, **the God we serve** is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. But **even if he does not**, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.” *Daniel 3:17–18*

Have an “ _____ ” attitude

3. _____ ?

Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?” They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.” He said, “Look! **I see four men** walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and **the fourth looks like a son of the gods.**” *Daniel 3:24–25*

RESULT:

Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego... **They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives** rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.” *Daniel 3:28*

The final question:

_____ ?

Daily Meditations

Monday

Think honestly: Is your life driven by commitment — or by circumstances, convenience, or criticism? Please read Daniel 3:1–7. What was most striking to you in the message this weekend? Why?

Thank God today for the example of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Pray that your dominant life principle will be commitment!

Tuesday

Review the first “crucial question” from the notes. Please read Daniel 3:12. What do you think were Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego’s core identities?

What about you: what is your core identity?

Think about your life right now. What trumps everything else right now?

Thank God today for the truth that your core identity is in Him. Pray that you’ll grow in courage and conviction.

Wednesday

Please read Daniel 3:16–18. What do you find most encouraging in Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego’s courage in this passage?

How does it challenge you?

While you’re not probably under threat of being thrown in a literal fire, you may feel the “fires” of various life situations. Are you able to say, “the God I serve is able...”? And “even if he does not...” I choose to serve Him? What would it look like to apply the courage of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to your life?

Pray that you’ll have the same attitude and faith of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Thursday

Please read Daniel 3:24–25. Think again today about the “fires” in your life. How does it encourage you to know that God is with you in those fires today?

What is your obstacle to believing He is with you?

Thank God today that you never stand alone — in good times or bad. Talk to Him about your struggles to believe He is with you. Ask Him to grow your faith.

Friday

Please read Daniel 3:28–30. What was the impact of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego’s courage on the king?

We are always influencing people — for good or bad. Think about those closest to you; what visible influence are you having on them? Would they agree with you?



Then [Jesus] said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.” *Luke 9:23*

over