

**Into The Midst** by Kirk Hunt

*Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.*

[Daniel 3:22-23](#) NKJV

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego called Nebuchadnezzar's bluff. The king ordered them thrown into the midst of the furnace. Keep in mind, the heat of the furnace killed the men ordered to carry out the executions.

Integrity always has costs. Missed opportunities at profits or pleasures. Lost relationships or connections. Open derision or scorn from some. Naked opposition or attack from others.

The unbent knees of your integrity may start your journey into the midst of circumstances you never imagined. Or wanted. The flames in the midst of your personal furnace will be hot. The heat may hurt people close to you, whether they are friend or foe.

No matter where you go, God is there. He was present, before you got there. He is present, the entire time you are there. He remains present, even after you leave there. Rely on God's power, no matter where you go or why you went.

It takes integrity to say “[I will not serve your gods.](#)” It takes courage to stay on your feet as they stoke the fires of the furnace. Maintain your Christian integrity, even in the midst.

**Think:** Am I willing to maintain my Christian integrity in the midst of opposition?

**Pray:** “Lord, help me to maintain my integrity before You, no matter what happens.”

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