

## Nadab and Abihu Story

### SUPPLIES NEEDED

You will need the following:

- 6 Sheets of Cardstock (8.5" x 11")
- 6 3 mil Laminating Film

### DIRECTIONS

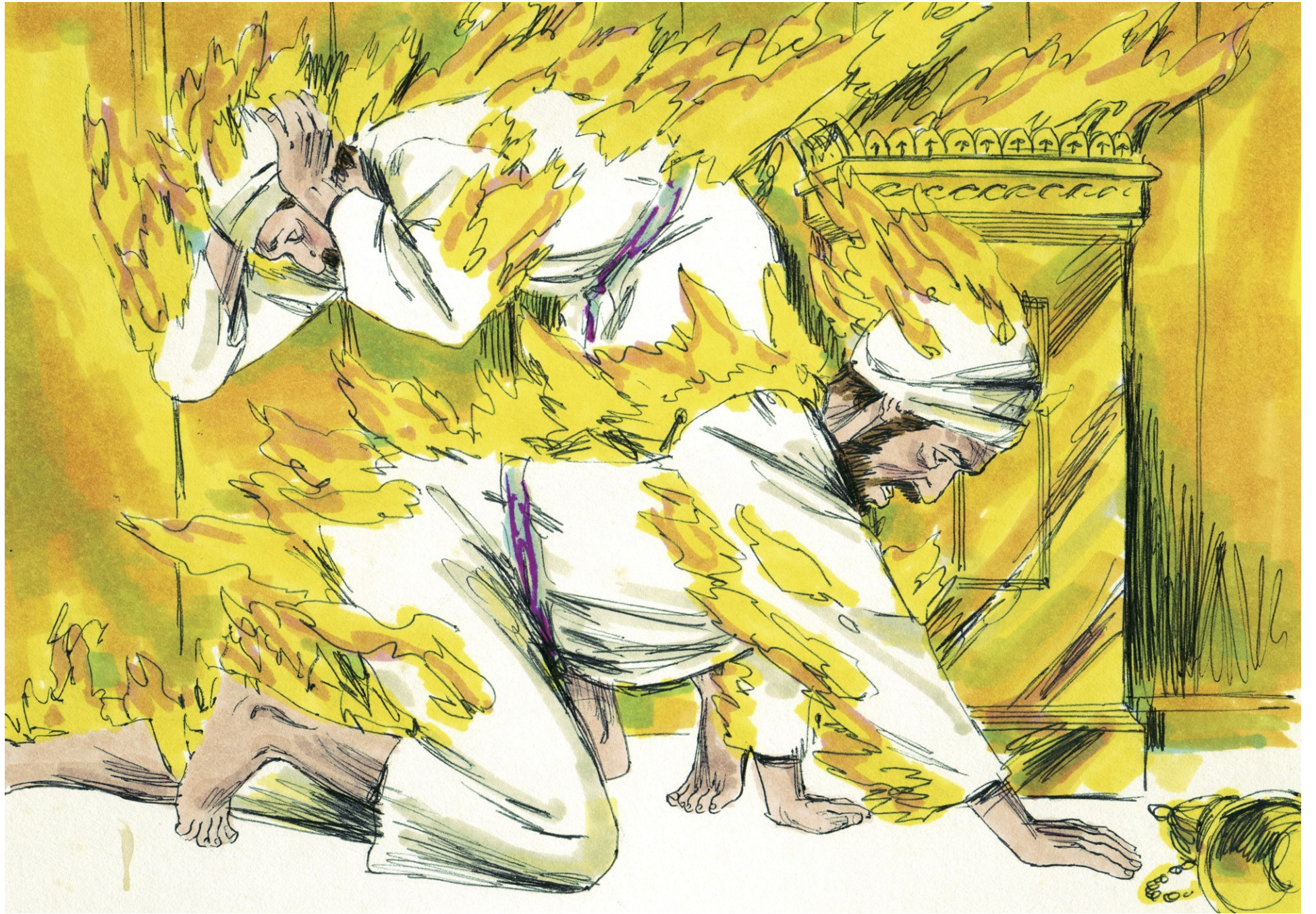
- Print pages 2-13 two-sided and then laminate them.
- Hold up the pictures while you read the story on the back during class.



Do you remember where we left our story last time? *(answers will vary)* It was the very first day of worship at the Tabernacle. Aaron and his four sons had been anointed as priests a week earlier and then they spent seven days dedicating themselves to God and learning all the laws and how to do the sacrifices. After Aaron gave the sin, burnt, peace and grain offerings, he blessed the people. Then what amazing thing happened? *(the glory of the Lord appeared)* Then fire came out from the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and what did the people do? *(shouted and fell on their faces)*



After seeing this amazing display of God's power, Nadab and Abihu, the oldest two sons of Aaron, took their censers and put "strange fire" in the censers along with some incense. We don't know where they got their fire from, but God had specifically said they were to get fire for their censers from the burnt offering. Did they obey God? *(no)*



The Bible says, “And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. Then Moses said to Aaron, “It is what the Lord spoke, saying, ‘By those who come near Me I must be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored.’” So Aaron kept silent.”

This must have been very difficult for Aaron because he just witnessed his oldest two sons’ death. But he understood that his sons had not obeyed what God had commanded them to do as priests for Israel.

What an important lesson this is for us also. We need to read our Bibles so we know exactly how God wants to be worshipped today. We will not please God if we change His commands.





Then Moses called forth Mishael and Elzaphan, Nadab and Abihu's cousins, and told them to carry out Nadab and Abihu's bodies from the Tabernacle. Why do you think Moses, Aaron, Eleazar or Ithamar couldn't carry out the bodies? *(They would not have been allowed to touch the dead bodies without making themselves unclean)*



If one of our family members died, we might cry and wear black to show that we're mourning a loved one. But in Moses' time, they would show they were mourning by tearing their clothes and putting ashes on their heads.

Well, Moses told Aaron, Eleazar and Ithamar, "Do not uncover your heads nor tear your clothes, so that you do not die...But let the entire house of Israel, weep for Nadab and Abihu. You shall not even go out from the doorway of the tent of meeting, or you will die; for the Lord's anointing oil is upon you." So they did according to the word of Moses.



The death of Nadab and Abihu must have shocked the Israelites. They had just experienced great excitement of seeing God's presence at the Tabernacle to the sorrow of mourning two of Aaron's sons. But God wanted the people to know that He must be treated as Holy and that His laws were to be obeyed completely.

So what would you say to someone who told you, "God doesn't care where or how you worship Him?" *(He does care! You must follow what God says in the Bible. Don't add or take anything away.)*