

May 31, 1997
1st - 6th Grades

Daniel Chapters 3 & 6
3DAN37

We Won't Compromise God's Standards

Daniel



Materials I Need:

Legend:

 = Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Graders

 = Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Graders

Memory Work:



It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. Daniel 4:2



It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. How great are His signs, how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom, His dominion endures from generation to generation. Daniel 4:2&3

Prophet	Daniel
People	Jews in Exile
Prophecy	The Most High is Sovereign Over the Kingdoms of Men
Principle	We Won't Compromise God's Standards

Aim Questions:


1. What is the moral of the story of Daniel Chapters 3 & 6? (*God preserves His people, the exiled Jews in Babylon.*)
2. What did Nebuchadnezzar see in his dream? (*The dream was a history lesson about the future, and in his dream he saw a great big statue.*)
3. What subsequent law did Nebuchadnezzar make, and how did Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego respond?
4. Why was Daniel thrown into the lions' den, and how did God preserve him?
5. Have you heard of any other times in history where God has preserved His people? (*Schindler's List, etc.*)


 Hook:


God Preserves (Object Lesson). Fill a canning jar with toy people. (*Fisher Price people, GI Joes, etc.*) Seal and label: Display in a noticeable place.


**GOD PRESERVES
(Jews in Exile)
Best if used by 538 BC**


Who Am I? (Worksheet). Can you identify the person in the following illustration? **3DAN37.GF1**


 **Favorites (Discussion).** Ask students to think of their all-time favorite Bible story. Give each student a chance to tell of what story he or she is thinking. Tally their favorites on the board if you wish. Some students are very likely to name one of the stories in today's lesson. *(If not, they will surely add these to their favorites.)*


 **No Lion! (Object Lesson).** Bring a stuffed lion to show the students. It's very soft and cuddly. Are real lions like that? Use the following facts to discuss the strength and disposition of lions. They are no pussycats, and we're not LION! **FACTS:** The big, powerful lion is the largest member of the cat family. You can hear its thundering roar across the African plains where it lives. The male lion's long, thick mane gives him a royal appearance and makes him look bigger than he really is. It also protects him during fights with other males. The female does a lot of the hunting, mostly at night. They prefer to eat large game, such as zebras, antelopes, and giraffes; but they will eat anything they can catch, including fish, rodents, birds and other small prey. They can't chew their food; they have to swallow it in chunks. They can eat 75 pounds of meat at one meal. Lions spend 20 hours a day resting or sleeping. They live to be about 15 to 20 years old. Full-grown males weigh approximately 350 - 400 pounds and are about 9 feet in length; females weigh approximately 250 - 300 pounds and are about 8 feet in length. They both have a shoulder height of approximately 40 inches and a roar that can be heard up to five miles away. What a majestic beast God has created. *(Teachers, provide a color shot of a real lion out of a book or magazine as you give the students these facts.)*

 **Role-Play**

 **Not-So-Funny Faces.** Have students make faces with you. Start with happy faces. Then look displeased, then irritated, then angry, then very angry, then really mad and finally totally furious!! Let students share their faces with each other. Tell them to listen for a face like this in today's story.

 **Throw a Fit.** Today we are going to throw a fit. Who knows how to throw a fit? What do you do when you throw a fit? Can you give us a demonstration? Okay, everybody try throwing a fit for 30 seconds. *(Bring a timer!!!)* That was great! Let's try again with a little more feeling and facial expression. Set the timer for thirty seconds and go for it. *(Teachers, please participate.)*

 **Build a Tower (Game/Contest).** You will need building blocks and books for this project. Number off 1-3. Give each team all the supplies they need for a tower-building contest. The teams will be competing to see who can make the sturdiest tower. Give the teams two minutes. At the end of the two minute time period, see how sturdy each tower is by placing books on top, one at a time. The tower that can stand the most pressure is the winner. *(That would be the tower that supports the most books.)* **DEBRIEF:** Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel all had to withstand a great deal of pressure. Listen to today's Adventure to find out how and why God preserved them.

 **Habit Forming (Role-Play).** Have one of the Bible teachers imitate one of the Bible students. They can imitate a physical or verbal habit. See how long it takes the rest of the group to find out who you are imitating. Next, allow one of the Bible students to do an imitation. *(***Let the Bible students know that the imitations should be harmless and good-natured. Do not under any circumstances embarrass one of your classmates!)* If the Bible students are stumped, have them imitate a famous personality. **DEBRIEF:** Daniel was known for a certain habit. Do you know what it was?



Book:

Presentation Ideas-



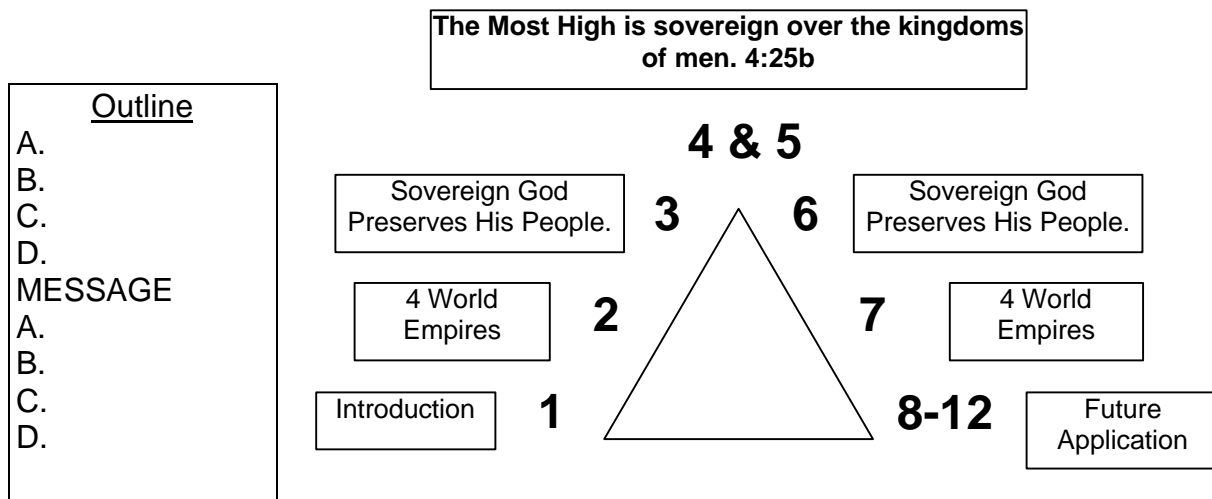
Newspaper (Visual Aid). Bring in a copy of a current newspaper. Open the paper to the horoscope section and show it during the Bible Adventure. **Do not offer to read anyone's horoscope.**



The Life of Daniel (Visual Aid). Present the timeline of Daniel's life to the students. Since we are not studying the book of Daniel in chronological order, this will be helpful in preventing confusion. Point out the events we have already studied and introduce the stories in today's lesson. Notice Daniel's age and the current king of Babylon at the time of each event, **3DAN37.GF11.**



Chiastic Structure (Explanation/Discussion). This is a simple explanation for the Bible students as to why we are jumping around in our study of Daniel. Have the following diagrams up on the board for them to compare the different styles of outlines and teaching methods. Compare how we normally outline information (*show first outline example or show them a Sunday message outline*) with how the Hebrews preferred to organize their material (*show second outline example - form of a triangle.*) Chiastic structure usually points to the focus of what is being studied.



Bible Adventure-

Do you know what I mean when I say to you, "This is the moral of the story"? What is the moral of a story? The moral of a story is the main point. It is the idea or truth that the entire story is trying to help you remember and apply to your life. The moral is what the story teaches about life, integrity, dishonesty and sometimes about God. You have to look beyond what is happening in the story to what the story is teaching.

Sometimes when we read or listen to the Bible, we may think that it is full of some pretty incredible stories. God did great things through men and women, but it is easy to hear the whole account and miss the "moral of the story."

God did not record the deeds and events of people's lives just so we could know a lot of really imaginative stories about Samson, the strong man, or David and Goliath. He put these things in the Bible so that you and I could learn and remember different things about Him and how He works. There are two such accounts in the book of Daniel that have the same moral. The stories are different, but they teach us the same thing about God. We hesitate to call them stories because they are not make-believe. These events really happened between the years of 620 and 520 BC.

Let me begin by telling you the moral of the stories first, then you listen and remember to see if you can tell me how we can learn that from these two historical accounts about Daniel and his friends Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. The moral of these two stories is, "God preserves His people." In Daniel, this

applies specifically to the Jews who were exiled in Babylon. When we are done, I want you to tell me what it means for you and me today.

What did Nebuchadnezzar see in his dream? Do you remember? The dream was a history lesson about the future, and in his dream he saw a great big statue. In Daniel chapter three it appears that King Nebuchadnezzar might have misapplied his dream. The head of the great statue was made of gold. Daniel told the king that the gold head represented Nebuchadnezzar's great kingdom. I think the king forgot about the rest of the dream. Possibly he spent a lot of time thinking about the gold part of the statue because in chapter three he builds his own gold statue. Look at Daniel 3:1. This gold statue was huge, ninety feet tall and nine feet wide. Wow!!! The whole thing was covered with gold.

King Nebuchadnezzar made a law that every time his band played their song, all of the people in his kingdom were supposed to bow down and worship the statue. Now it was an idol. We have a problem on our hands. You already know about Daniel and his friends. We don't know where Daniel was when all of this was happening, but Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were right there working for the king. Remember, they would not eat the king's food because it violated God's law. What do you think they did about this idol while the king's band was playing away?

I want you to take a good look at Daniel 3:8. Who was it that tried to get Daniel's friends in trouble? Astrologers! You think for a minute. Astrologers wanted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to worship an idol and compromise their faith in the true God. That is still going on today. The Astrologers have a section in your daily newspaper. It is called a horoscope.

Back to the story. King Nebuchadnezzar gave the men one more chance to bow to his idol. When they refused, he became so mad that he threw a fit. Daniel describes the king's fit in Daniel 3:19 in the NASB translation of the Bible.

"Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with wrath and his facial expression was altered toward Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He answered by giving orders to heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated."

BILL – THIS IS FOR YOU TO FINISH. THANK YOU.



Look:



The Fiery Furnace (Worksheet).



Circle and color men in picture, **3DAN37.GF7.**

In the squares, write the answers to the definitions. The letters in the darker boxes spell the name. Write the words from the flame on the lines, **3DAN37.GF8.**



Three Men In (Word Search). Read Daniel 3:18-28, and complete the word search, **3DAN37.GF3.**

N	T	D	J	W	L	E	G	N	A	K	J	K	V	S
E	C	A	N	R	U	F	Y	R	E	I	F	K	E	W
B	D	Q	W	U	V	L	C	P	D	M	N	V	R	O
U	V	M	T	O	O	S	K	P	Q	A	R	P	Y	I
C	A	Y	J	P	R	B	O	S	K	P	J	U	H	Q
H	H	B	A	X	T	H	K	Q	V	F	Z	Z	O	H
A	I	D	E	G	N	I	S	T	O	N	R	I	T	F
D	W	S	T	D	K	R	R	I	T	V	G	I	H	Y
N	Q	H	K	K	N	J	M	D	P	Y	I	Z	E	Y
E	G	A	M	I	N	E	D	L	O	G	I	T	D	Q
Z	U	D	T	P	S	S	G	T	I	T	O	C	C	T
Z	V	R	O	H	Z	S	T	O	H	X	Z	D	F	P
A	A	A	A	E	R	O	N	Z	C	V	W	A	U	T
R	A	C	V	G	B	T	Z	F	U	Z	K	H	W	G
T	H	H	O	X	M	O	D	A	P	S	T	B	N	H



Hot Stuff (Craft). You will need a copy of the three men, the furnace page and a piece of clear red plastic. Place the three men into the furnace and then put the fire over the top of the men. Who appears? Three men in and now there's four, little did they know it was an angel of the Lord!
3DAN37.GF4.



Daniel in the Lions' Den (Worksheet).



Find and circle letters, **3DAN37.GF5.**

Fill in the blanks with the code words to find out what happened to Daniel because he ALWAYS worshipped God, **3DAN37.GF6.**



A Big Problem (Object Lesson). Show the scale picture of the golden image and Daniel's friends. What have students seen that's this big? Possibly go outside and measure out 90 feet so students can see the size of this thing themselves, **3DAN37.GF12.**



Comparisons (Worksheet). These events are listed in order but are mixed up between the two stories. Assign half the class to work with "The Fiery Furnace" and the other half to work with "The Lion's Den." Have them circle the title and the correct events for the story assigned to them. Then have the class trade papers with someone that has the other story. Pass out markers or crayons so that students may correct the papers they now have. Discuss the correct answers.



Work in groups with a teacher.

Work individually, **3DAN37.GF13.**



Daniel Chapter 3 (Group Interaction). Arrange eight chairs to the right of the teacher and seven to the left. Choose student volunteers to sit in the chairs. Give each of the eight students one of these words (or phrases) to say: "satraps," "prefects," "governors," "advisors," "treasurers," "judges," "magistrates," "and all the other provincial officials." Give each of the seven one of these sounds to make: "horn," "flute," "zither," "lyre," "harp," "pipes," "and all kinds of music." Practice having each group of students repeat their words or sounds in order on a single cue. Then read Chapter 3 in its entirety (NIV). When these words appear in the text, cue each group to do its bit. (First group in verses 2, 3, and 27. Second group in verses 5, 7, 10, and 15.) Students have probably heard this story told many times. Maybe hearing it read will be new to them!

Don't Get Burned (Object Lesson). Burn a few hairs over a candle flame. Notice how easily they burn and how badly they smell? Read Daniel 3:27. What an awesome miracle this was!

A Royal Interview (Drama). Teachers or students perform the interview with king Darius. Darius should wear a simple costume - maybe just a crown, **3DAN37.GF15.**



Took:

Nebuchadnezzar's Face (Color Page). Draw a very angry face on king Nebuchadnezzar, **3DAN37.GF14.**

Lion (Color Page). Fill in the numbered sections with the right colors, **3DAN37.GF10.**

How to be Brave (Craft). Follow directions to assemble Daniel in the den. **DEBRIEF:** How do you think Daniel felt when the stone was placed over the mouth of the den and he got his first close-up look at his "roommates"? Do you think he got any sleep that night? How did King Darius react the next morning when he saw that Daniel was unharmed? **3DAN37.GF9**

Preserves (Snack). Serve jam on crackers. Be sure that students can see the jar and that it says "Preserves." The theme of both stories in today's lesson is that God preserves His people. What does it mean to be "preserved"? What does the word mean to a raspberry? What does it mean to us? This wonderful word means all these things: protect, save, shield, guard, maintain and keep from spoiling. Let Webster help.

Prayer Time (Discussion). What do we learn about prayer from Daniel? Make it a habit in good times and bad. Daniel is known for his faith. Read Hebrews 11:32-34.

You Did It! (Discussion). Ask students if they have ever been accused of doing something wrong. Were these allegations true? If someone wanted to find something to accuse them of, would any wrongdoing be found? Daniel's enemies could only accuse him of praying to his God. They couldn't even find anything wrong with the way he did his work! One of the benefits of living a life that's pleasing to God is that your enemies have nothing to work with!

Jumpin' 4 P's (Jump Rope Ditty). Get in shape with our jump rope ditty... not only for your heart and lungs but a good stretch for the brain as we remember the 4 P's!

The Prophet's name is Daniel
The People are Jews in Exile
The Prophecy---The Most High is Sovereign
Over the Kingdoms of Men
The Principle---We Won't Compromise
God's Standards
These are the 4 P's
Got 'em from Daniel
Now it's time to jump out!

Music.
God Is In Control
Daniel Be Cool
Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego (*In the Fire*) pg. 248, Children's Bible

In the land of Babylon, something is wrong
The king has built an idol, and he's made a law
That when the music plays, you better obey
And bow before the idol that the king has made

Or you'll be dragged away
Into the fire
The flames getting higher and higher
'Til the fire is hot
Believe it or not
In case you forgot, it's hot!

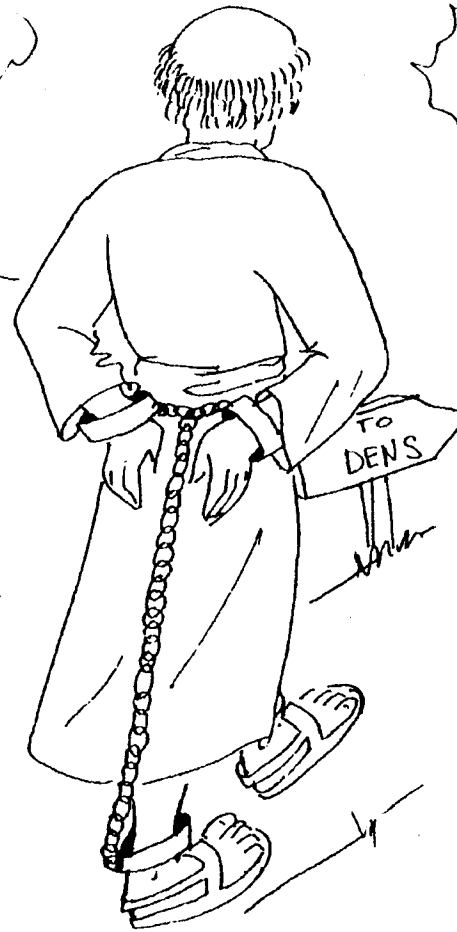
Chorus:
Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego
Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego
Bow down, bow down, bow down

Still they wouldn't compromise, the king
was surprised
But they knew it wasn't right to idolize
'Cause all their gods were fake,
make no mistake
They chose to serve a God who they could
not forsake
So they were dragged away
Into the fire
The flames getting higher and higher
Till the fire is hot
Believe it or not
In case you forgot, it's hot!

Who Am I?



Daniel 6:10



Daniel 6:16



Daniel 6:22

N T D J W L E G N A K J K V S
 E C A N R U F Y R E I F K E W
 B D Q W U V L C P D M N V R O
 U V M T O O S K P Q A R P Y I
 C A Y J P R B O S K P J U H Q
 H H B A X T H K Q V F Z Z O H
 A I D E G N I S T O N R I T F
 D W S T D K R R I T V G I H Y
 N Q H K K N J M D P Y I Z E Y
 E G A M I N E D L O G I T D Q
 Z U D T P S S G T I T O C C T
 Z V R O H Z S T O H X Z D F P
 A A A A E R O N Z C V W A U T
 R A C V G B T Z F U Z K H W G
 T H H O X M O D A P S T B N H

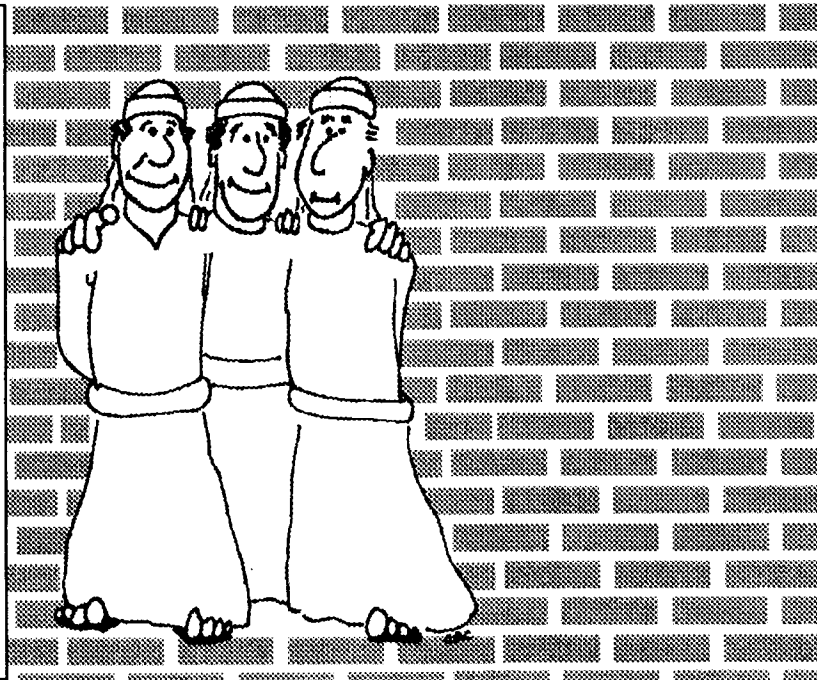
THREE MEN IN



GOLDEN IMAGE	SHADRACH
MESHACH	FIERY FURNACE
BOUND	FOUR MEN
NOT SINGED	WORSHIP GOD
VERY HOT	NEBUCHADNEZZAR
ANGEL	ABEDNEGO

Color the three men in the fiery furnace. Three men in and now there's four!!! Draw in the Angel of the Lord. Add flames to the fiery furnace. What colors are in fire?

FOLD FORWARD



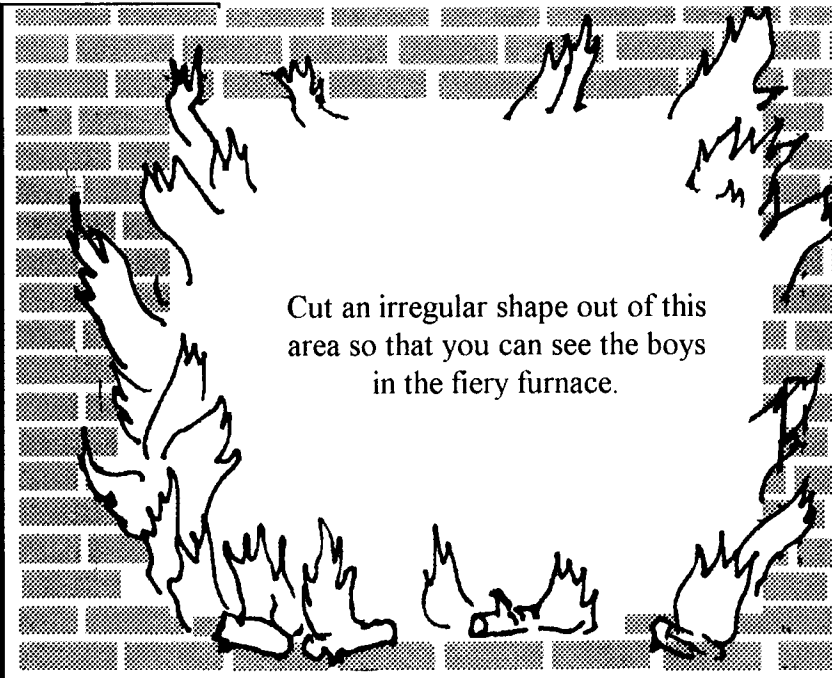
FOLD FORWARD

Cut out front and back panels of the furnace. Cut out an irregular shaped opening on the front furnace panel. Tape red cellophane to back of the front panel. Attach panel flaps with staples, glue, or paper clip to form furnace. Cut out angel and attached finger.

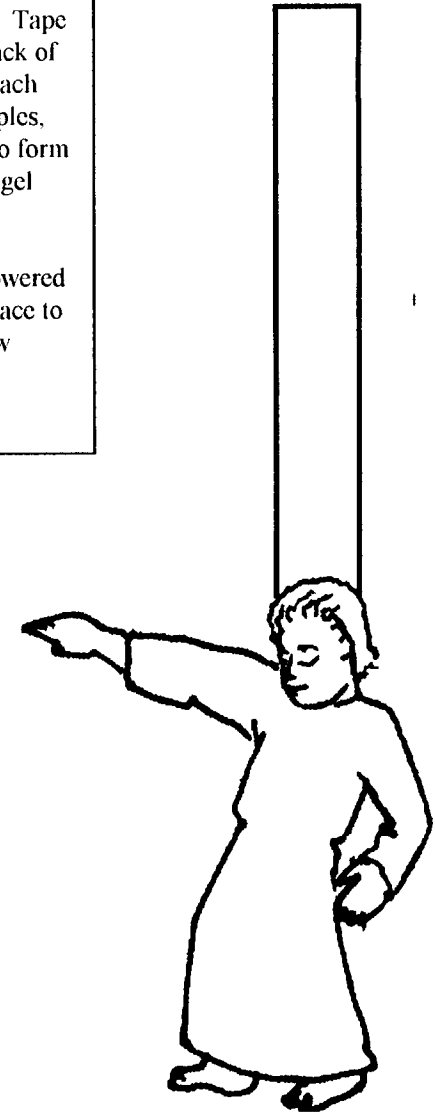
The angel is then lowered from the top of furnace to protect the 3 Hebrew boys.

HOT STUFF

FOLD BACK



FOLD BACK

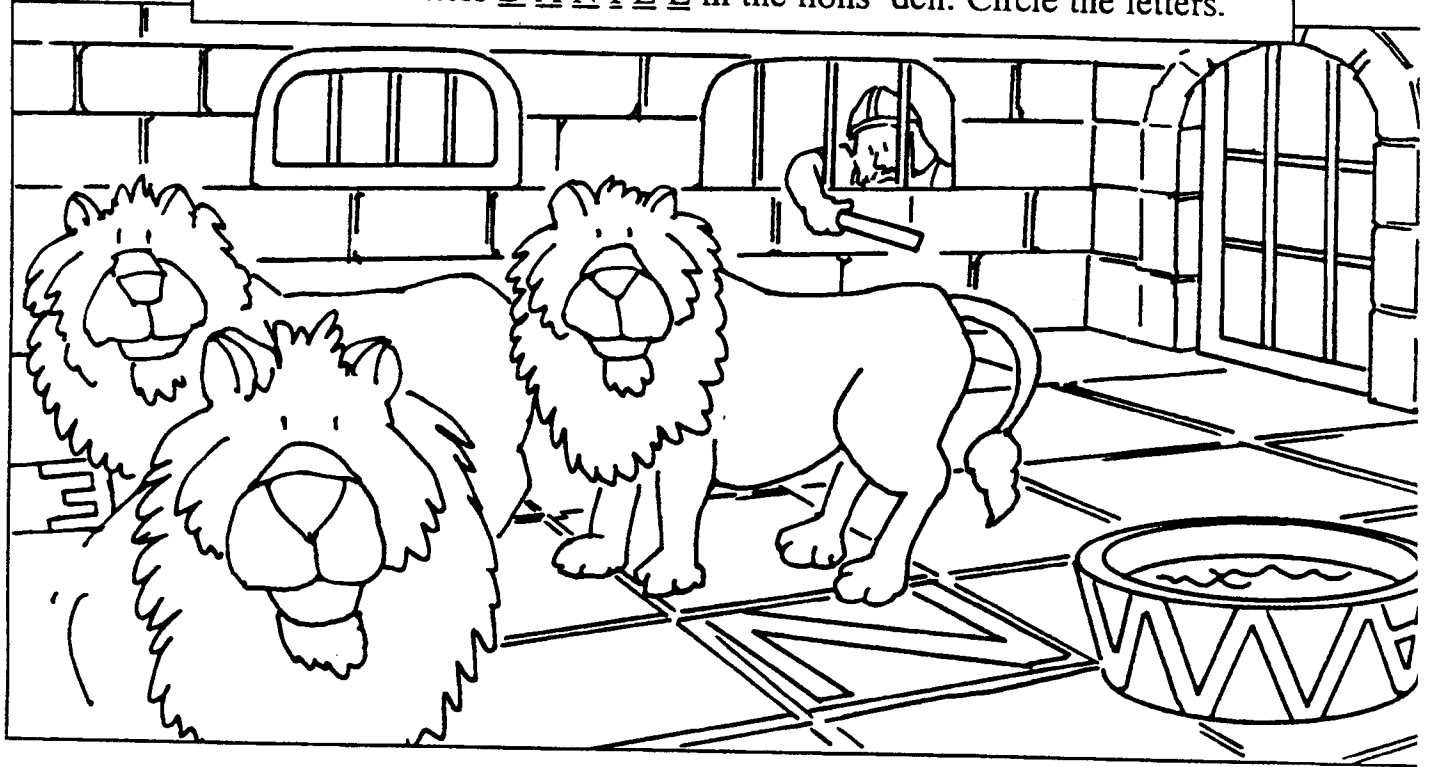


Daniel in the Lion's Den

Daniel was a good man.



Find the letters D A N I E L in the lions' den. Circle the letters.



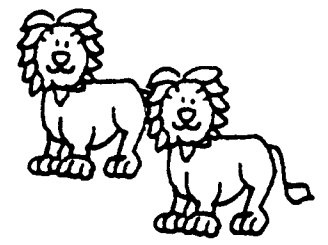
Trace the letters.



God sent an

to save

Daniel from the

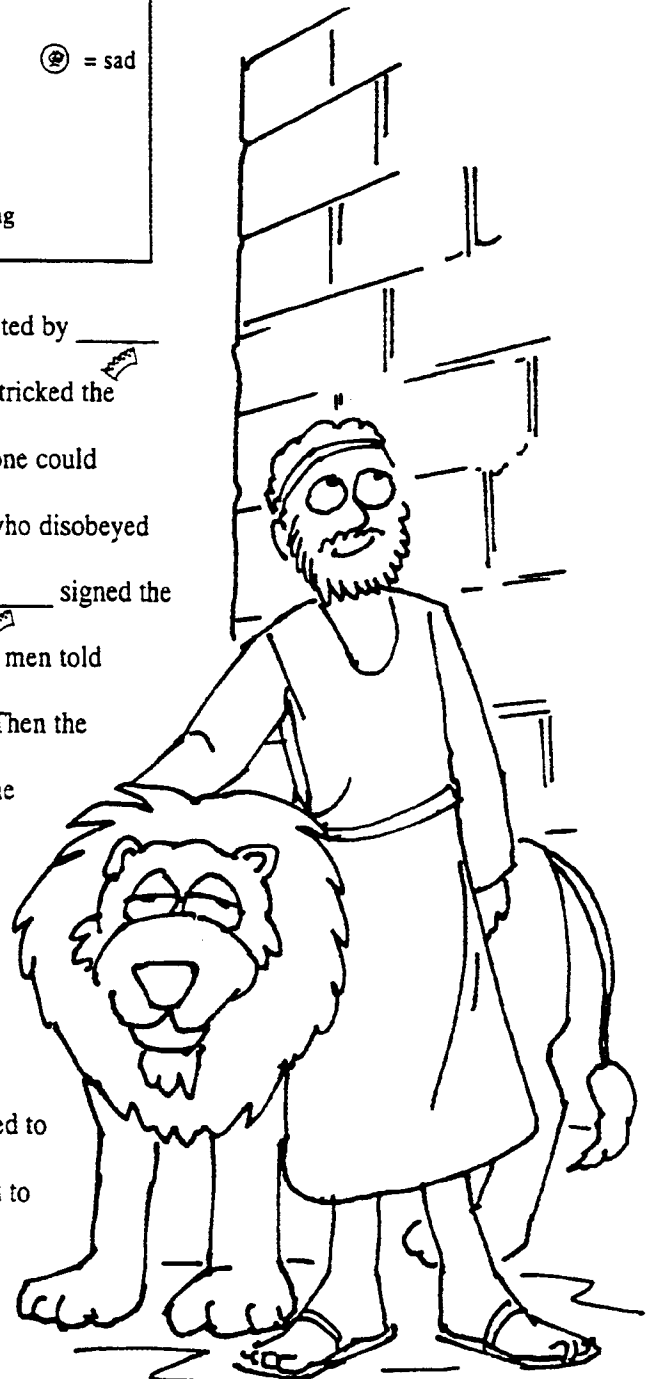


Daniel in the Lion's Den

Daniel always worshiped God. Then something happened.

Code				
= plan	= serve	= law	= lions	= sad
= pray	= Daniel	= angel	= night	
= worship	= King	= alive	= rescue	
= see	= den	= Darius	= morning	

_____ was a good man in the kingdom of Babylon, trusted by _____
 _____. Some other administrators grew jealous! They tricked the
 _____ and presented him a _____ that for 30 days, no one could
 _____ any god or man, only the _____. Those who disobeyed
 would be thrown into the _____, _____. So the _____ signed the
 _____ continued to _____. The jealous men told
 _____ that _____ had broken the _____. Then the
 _____ knew he'd been tricked. But he couldn't change the
 _____, and he was very _____. As _____ was sent
 to the _____, _____, the _____ said, "May
 your God, whom you _____ continually,
 _____ you!" _____ stayed up all
 _____ worrying. When _____ came, he hurried to
 the _____, _____ to _____ what had happened to
 _____. _____ found
 _____ and well. The _____ had
 not hurt him. The Lord had sent an _____ to protect _____.

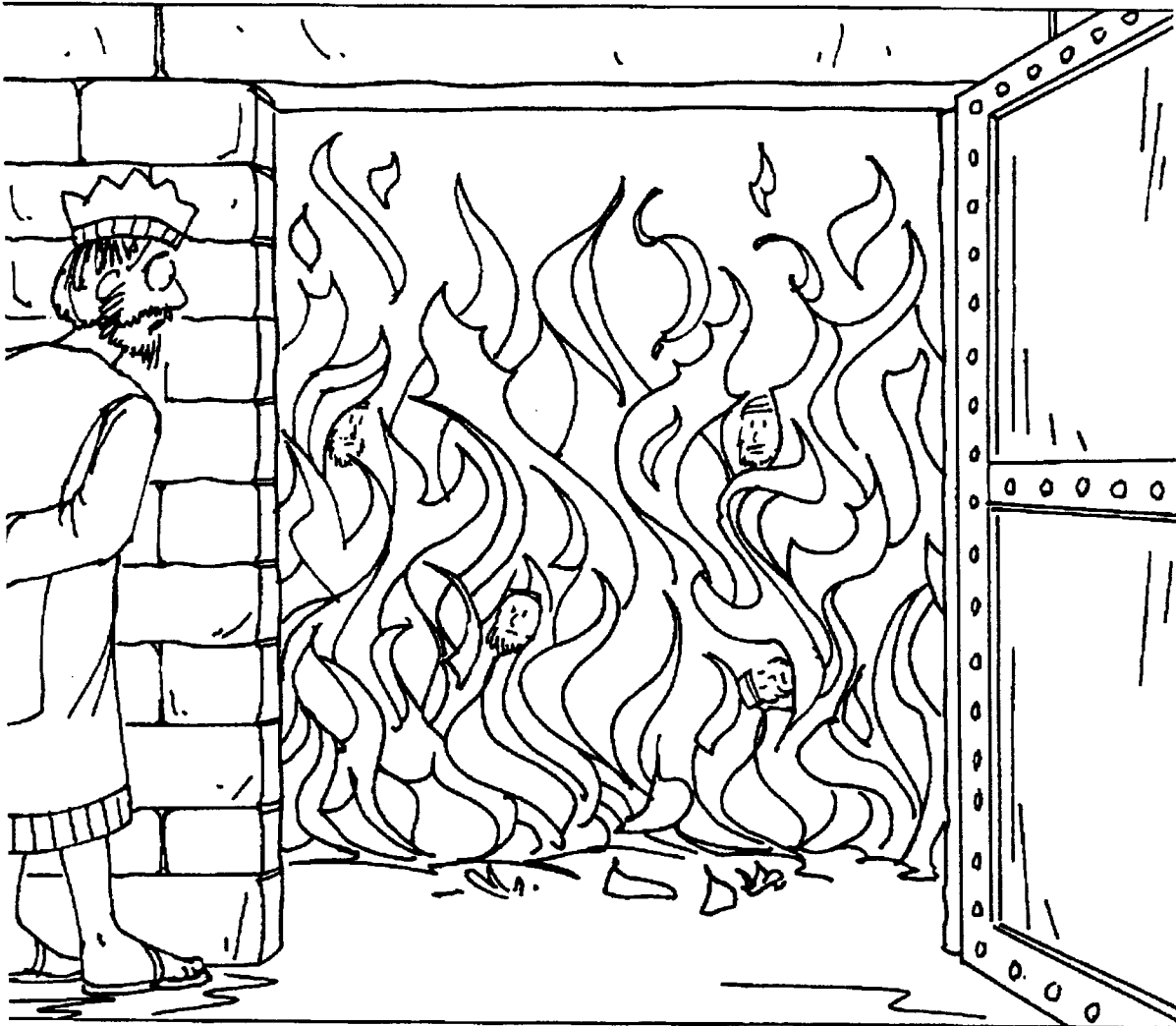


The Fiery Furnace

The king was angry! Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego would not worship the golden statue that he had built. He had them thrown into a blazing furnace!

How many men can you find in the furnace? Circle them. Circle the number: 1 2 3 4

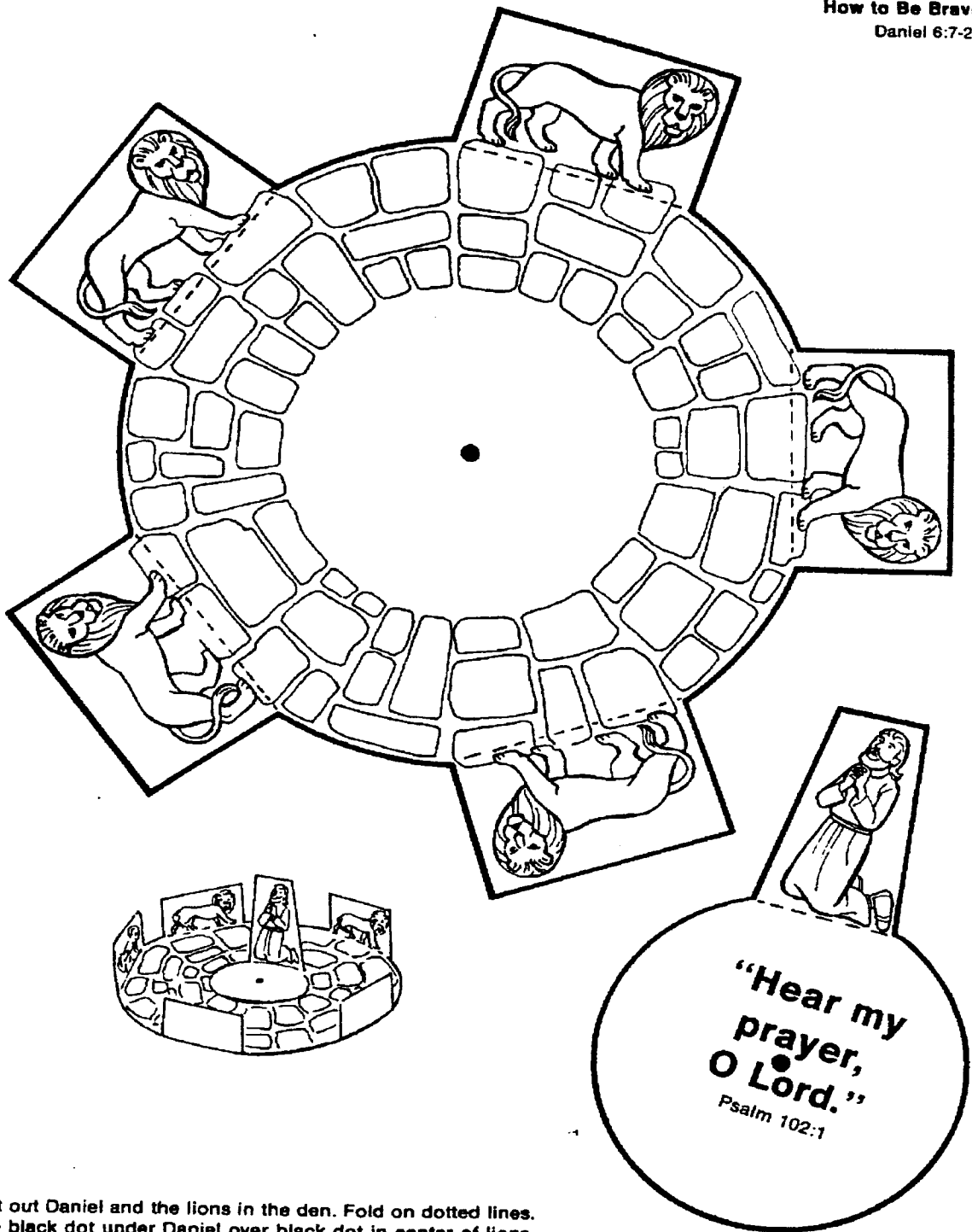
Color the picture.



The angel of the Lord was in the furnace with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

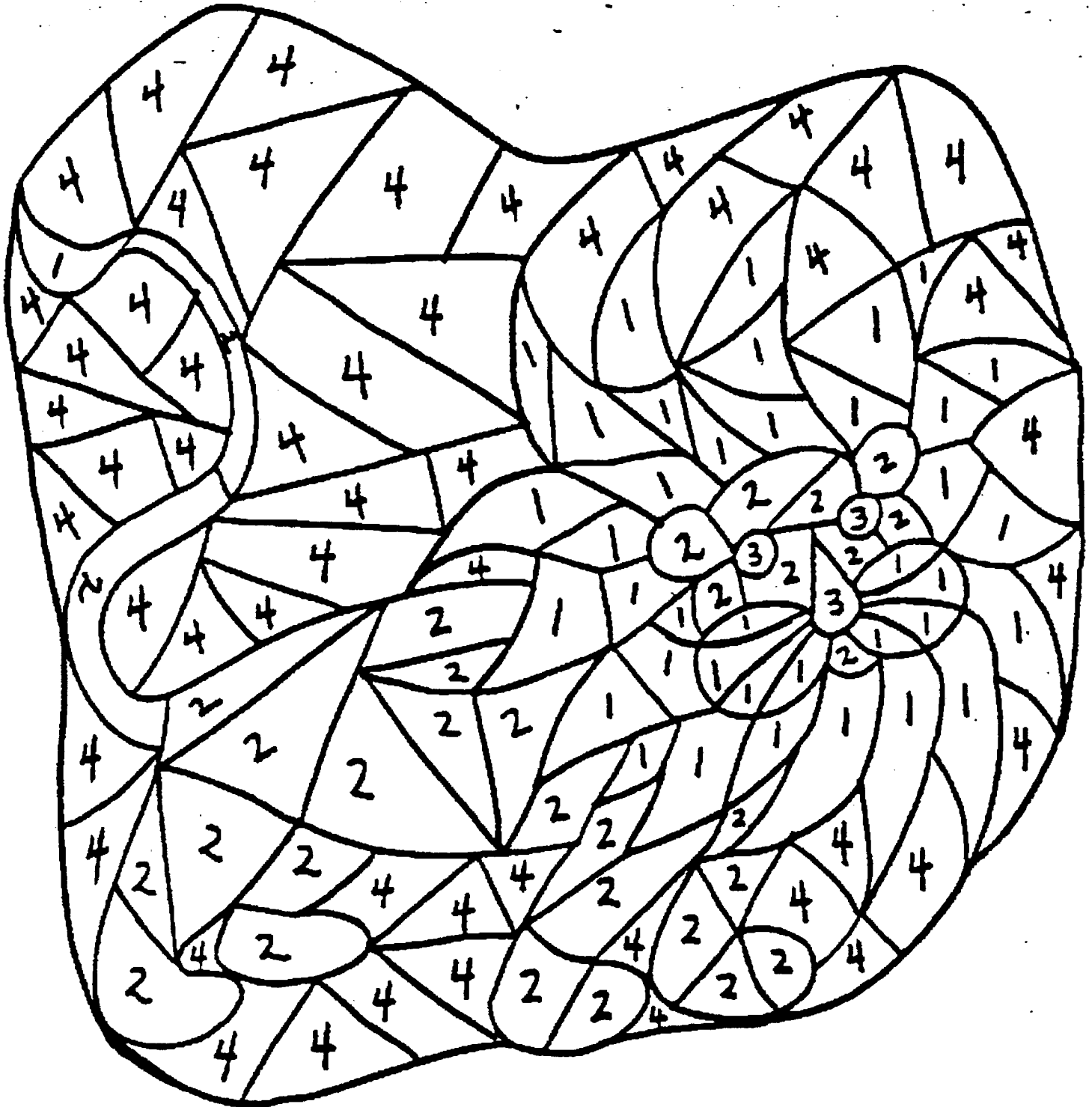
How to be Brave

How to Be Brave
Daniel 6:7-23



Cut out Daniel and the lions in the den. Fold on dotted lines. Place black dot under Daniel over black dot in center of lions. Punch hole through these dots and insert paper fastener. Hold Daniel with one hand and turn circle of lions with other hand.

LION



Daniel was thrown into the lion's den. To find a picture of the lion, fill in the numbered sections with the right colors.

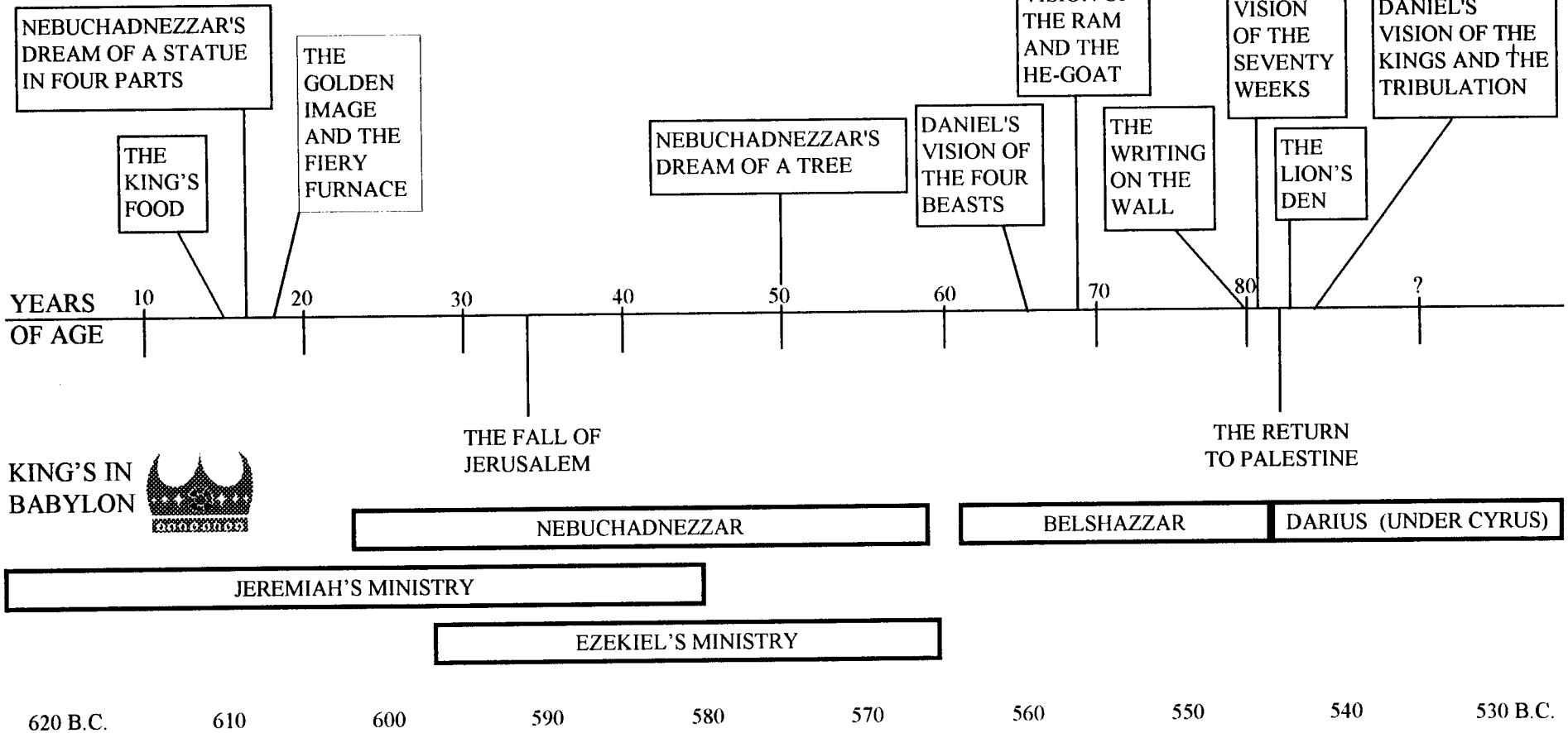
1 = Yellow

2 = Orange

3 = Black

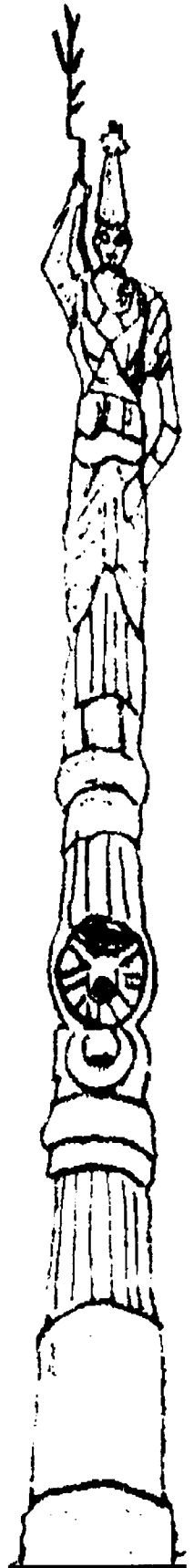
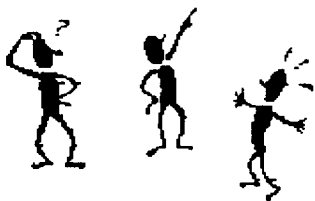
4 = Brown

THE LIFE OF DANIEL



A very **BIG** problem!!!

This is actually the size of Nebuchadnezzar's golden image compared to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.



3DAN37.GF12

Comparisons

These events are listed in order, but are mixed up between the two stories. Your teacher will tell you which story to work with. Circle the title and the correct events for the story assigned to you. Then trade papers with a group or individual that circled the other story. Use a marker or crayon to correct the paper you now have. Discuss the correct answers.

Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and the Golden Image

King Nebuchadnezzar made a very large image of himself and set it up.

The other satraps and administrators were jealous of Daniel and tried to find a way to get him in trouble.

The satraps and administrators suggested that the king sign a law which said that no-one could pray to anyone except the king for one month.

The penalty for disobedience was to be thrown into the fiery furnace.

When they heard the music, all the nations fell down and worshipped the golden image.

The officials caught Daniel praying toward Jerusalem just as he always did.

The king heard what Daniel had done and tried to think of a way to rescue him.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were tied up and thrown into the blazing furnace with all their clothes on.

The king and his advisors noticed a fourth man in the furnace.

First thing in the morning, the king hurried to the lion's den and called to Daniel.

Their hair and clothes were in perfect shape and they didn't even smell like smoke.

King Darius praised God and made a law that people throughout the kingdom must fear Him.

Daniel in the Lion's Den

King Darius planned to put Daniel in charge of the whole kingdom.

The king called all the government officials to come to the dedication of the image and they came.

The people were told that when they heard the musical instruments, they must fall down and worship the golden image.

The penalty for disobedience was to be thrown into the Lion's den.

The king put the law in writing so that it could not be changed.

The astrologers told the king that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were ignoring his law.

The king was furious when the three Jews refused to worship his image and he made the furnace seven times hotter.

Daniel was thrown into the lion's den and the entrance was sealed.

The king spent the night without eating and could not sleep.

The king shouted, "Servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!"

The men who had accused Daniel were thrown into the lion's den and were killed.

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Nebuchadnezzar's Face

Draw the expression on Nebuchadnezzar's face when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down and worship his golden image.

