

DANIEL AND THE KING'S FOOD

Daniel 1:3-21

Daniel 1

³Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring in some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility—⁴young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. ⁵The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

⁶Among these were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ⁷The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Beltshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

⁸But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. ⁹Now God had caused the official to show favor and sympathy to Daniel, ¹⁰but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

¹¹Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, ¹²"Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and

water to drink. ¹³Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." ¹⁴So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

¹⁵At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. ¹⁶So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

¹⁷To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

¹⁸At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. ²⁰In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

²¹And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) How long did Daniel train to be in the king's service?
5		2.) What did Daniel decide not to do?
5		3.) What did Daniel eat instead of the royal food?
5		4.) What did the king think of Daniel and his friends?

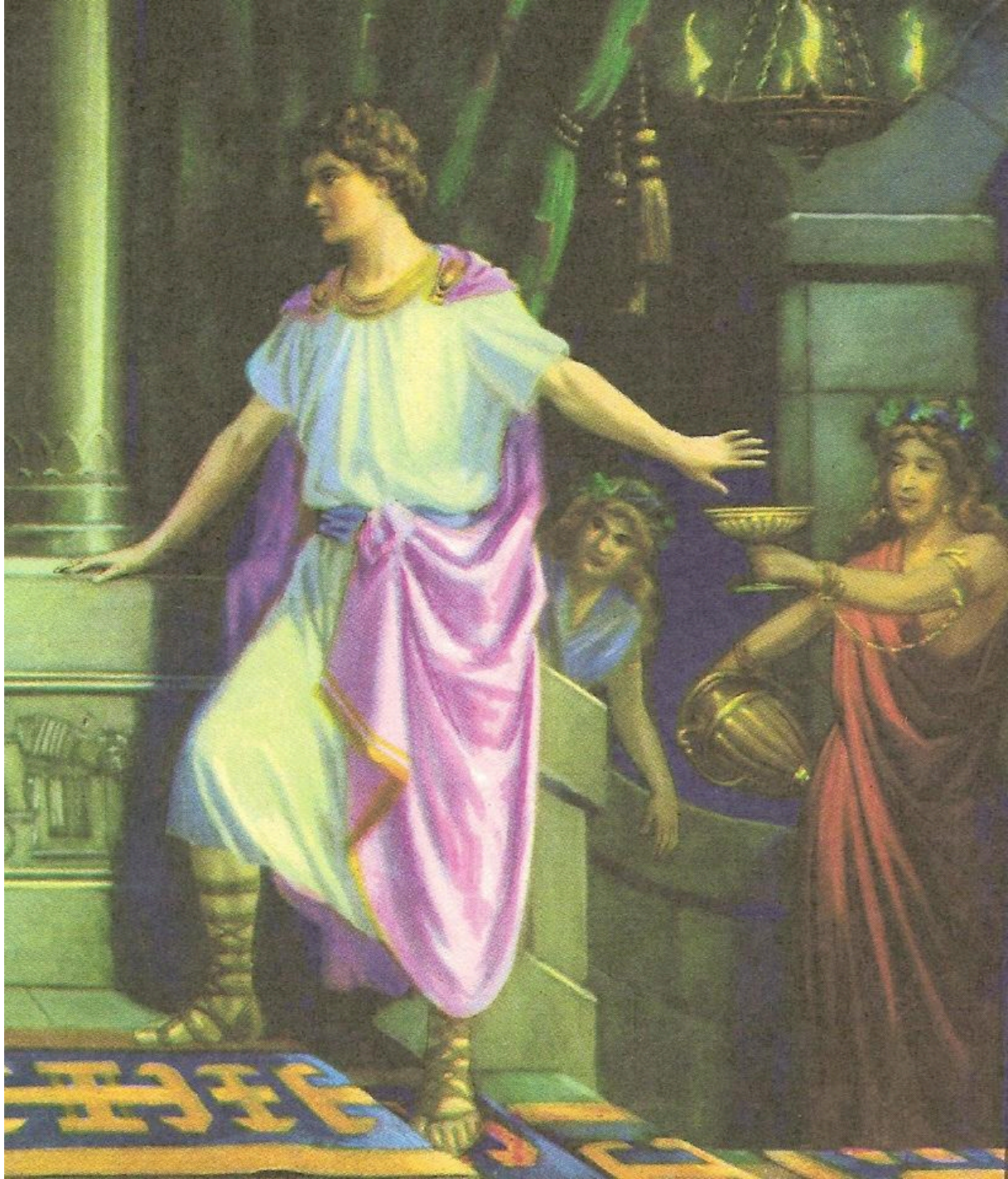
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not...”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Romans 14:3</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

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Daniel and his friends would not eat the king's food

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CRAFT/ACTIVITY: FOOD MOBILES

Students will make mobiles to recall key events from the story.

MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Mobile Pattern (two pages)
3. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
4. Scissors
5. Yarn
6. Hole Punch



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the mobile patterns onto 67lb. cardstock for each student (two pages per student).
2. Have students color each piece of the mobile with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Have students cut out the pieces on the solid black lines.
4. Punch holes in each piece of the mobile through the black holes.
5. Attach mobile pieces with yarn.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their mobiles, remind them that Daniel and his friends did not want to eat the royal food. Their request was honored and they were later chosen to enter the king's service.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

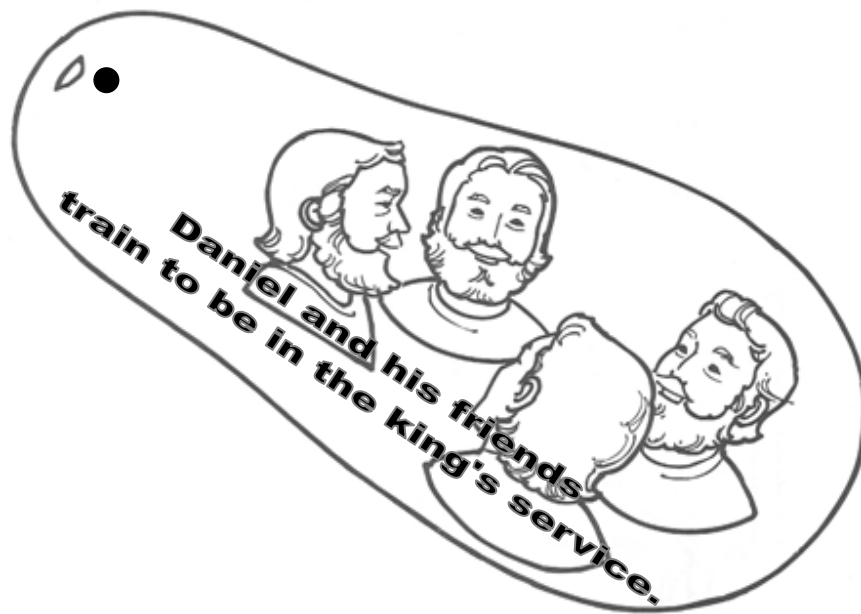
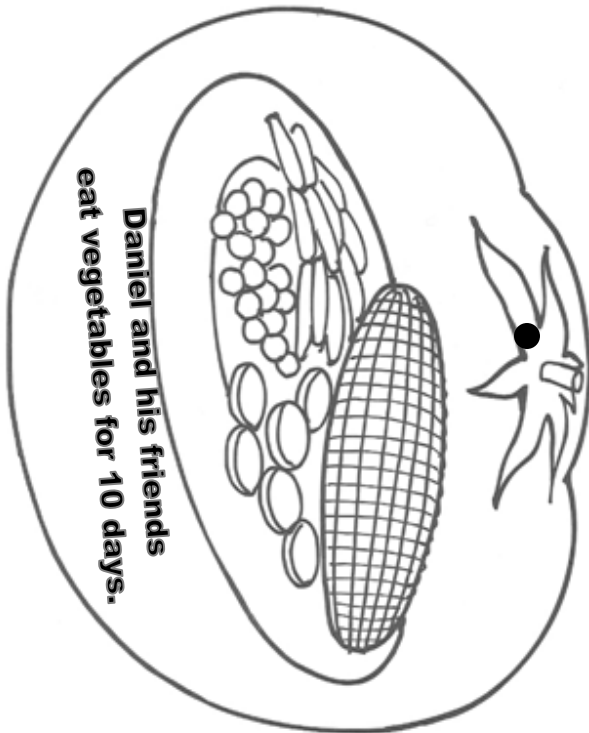
MEMORY VERSE

"The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not..."
Romans 14:3

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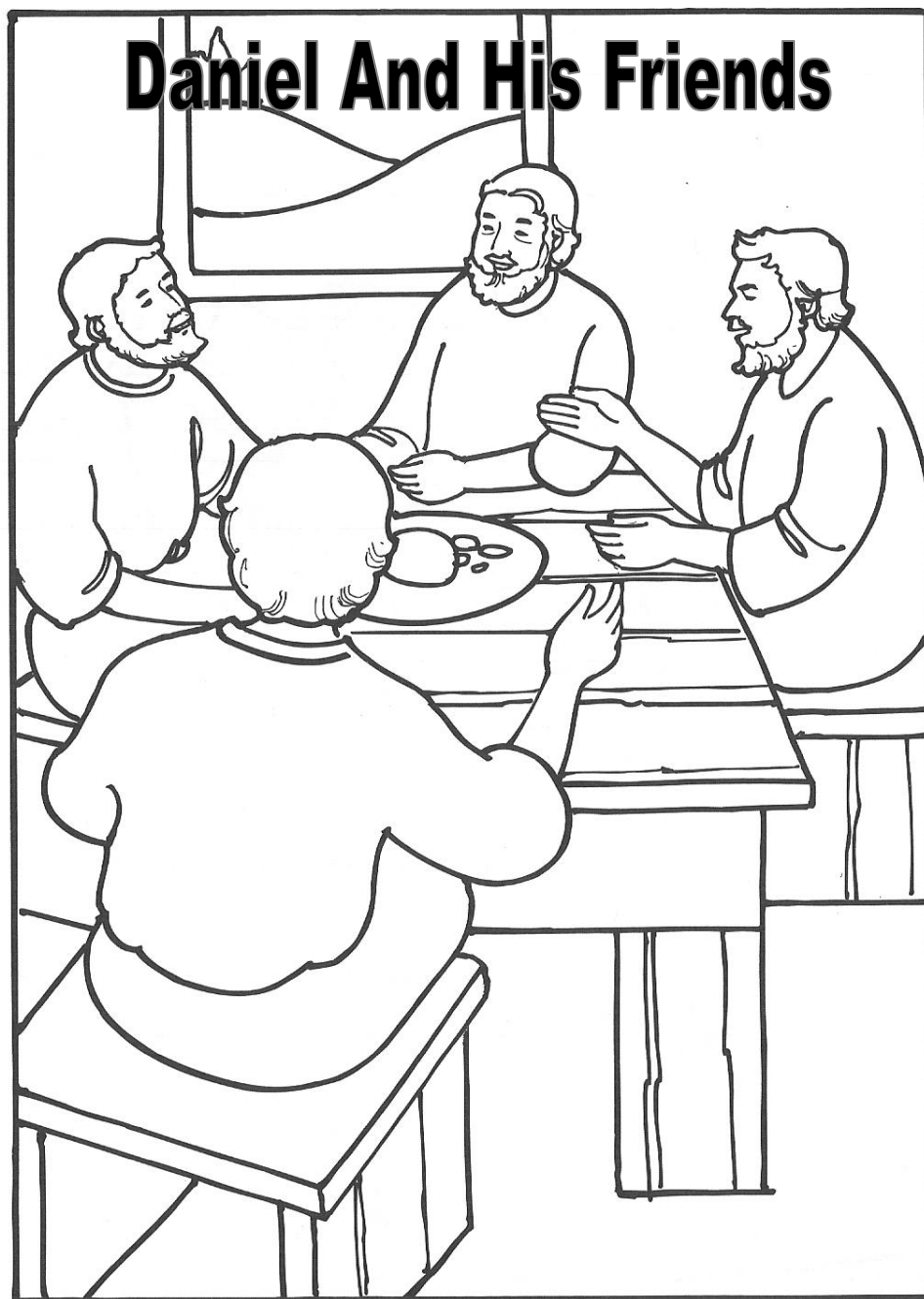
MOBILE PATTERN



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Daniel 1:3-21

MOBILE PATTERN CONTINUED

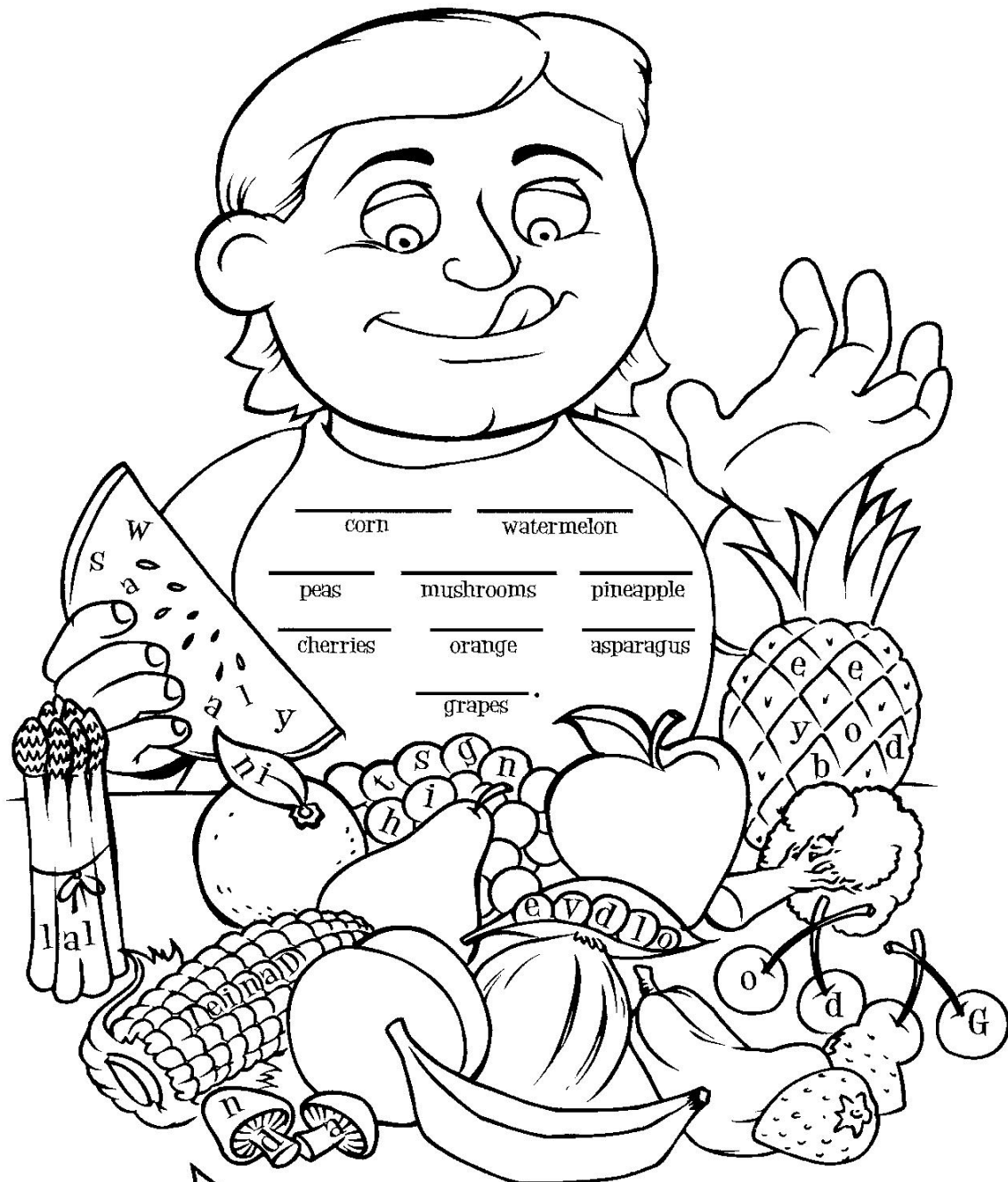


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The Challenge

When Daniel first came to Babylon, he ate only fruit and vegetables. Unscramble the words in the foods and write them in the matching blanks. When you are done, you'll read about Daniel's life.



The Super Challenge

Look at the picture for 30 seconds. Then turn over your paper and write down all the fruits and vegetables you can remember.

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON DANIEL 1:3-21

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The king ordered the chief of his court officials to find some special men to serve in the king's palace.

The king gave them food and wine from his own table. The men were trained for three years before entering the king's service.

Daniel was one of the men chosen to serve in the king's palace. Daniel decided not to defile himself by drinking the king's wine or eating the king's food. Daniel asked that he and some of the other men eat only vegetables for ten days. After ten days Daniel and his three friends looked even healthier than the other men who ate the king's food.

God gave Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego special knowledge and understanding and they entered the king's service. The king found these four men to be 10 times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

Daniel was given the ability to understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

For additional details about this story, please read Daniel 1:3-21 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. How long did Daniel train to be in the king's service?
2. What did Daniel decide not to do?
3. What did Daniel eat instead of the king's food?
4. What did the king think of Daniel and his friends?

MEMORY VERSE

“The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not...”

Romans 14:3

FINISH THE PICTURE

