

Being bold and making the right choices

Meet Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

(Read or listen to the story in the bible, Daniel chapter 1 verses 1- 21)

A new king came to Jerusalem near where Daniel and his friends lived and took over the city. He was King Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon. The King told Ashpenaz, his man in charge to bring some of the young men that were from Jerusalem to Babylon for three years of training. The young men had to be able to learn the language and be quick to understand new things. After the training, if they were right for the job, they would serve the king. Some of the young men who went to Babylon were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

Imagine how they felt leaving their families and being made to do everything the way the new king wanted them to do it. They were even given new names!

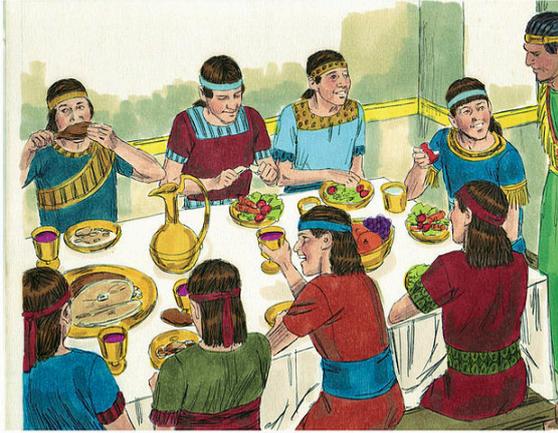


Daniel became Beltshazzar (but he is still called Daniel all through the bible), Hananiah became Shadrach, Mishael became Meshach, Azariah became Abed-Nego

Daniel and his friends were ordered to do something that wasn't right for God's people to do. The king gave them food and wine every day. This was the same kind of food that the king ate but they were not allowed to eat this kind of food.

How do you think Daniel and his friends felt about that? How would you feel? Would you eat the food anyway? Would you hope someone else said something?

Daniel decided not to eat the king's food and drink the wine because he believed that God did not want him to. So he asked Ashpenaz for permission to have their own food which was fruit, vegetables and water. Ashpenaz and the King's guard saw how healthy Daniel and his friends were and soon everyone was eating fruit and vegetables!



How do you feel when everything changes? Or when you are asked to do something you know is not right for you?

Speak to someone about these feelings and about what has changed for you recently. Have you had tough decisions to make?

The king talked to Daniel and his friends and he chose them as his servants.

Daniel and his friends had already decided to live how God wanted them to before they left their country. That decision helped them know what to do when the hard and tricky times came later.

The story shows us how important it is to stand up for what is right and to be bold. We can trust God to be with us, just like he was with Daniel and his friends.

Prayer: Dear God, please help us to be bold and to make the right choices. Help us to trust you, even when things seem not to go to plan. Thank you that you have the best plans for us. Amen

Activities

Design a menu for Daniel and his friends. Remember: Fruit and vegetables only!
Decorate your menu card to make it really eye catching!

Then complete the word search.

If you had to choose a new name for yourself or others what would they be?



Fruits & Veggies Word Search

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



- Orange
- Apple
- Cabbage
- Peach
- Banana
- Broccoli
- Carrots
- Cherry
- Coconut
- Tomatoes
- Potato
- Squash
- Turnip
- Radish
- Corn
- Grapes
- Eggplant
- Beans
- Watermelon
- Mango