

**YOU'RE A
BRAVE MAN,
DANIEL!**

**KAY ARTHUR
JANNA ARNDT**



HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS

EUGENE, OREGON

Scripture quotations in this book are taken from the New American Standard Bible[®], © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

DISCOVER 4 YOURSELF is a registered trademark of The Hawkins Children's LLC. Harvest House Publishers, Inc., is the exclusive licensee of the federally registered trademark DISCOVER 4 YOURSELF.

Illustrations © Steve Bjorkman

Cover by Left Coast Design, Portland, Oregon

YOU'RE A BRAVE MAN, DANIEL!

Copyright © 2007 by Precept Ministries International

Published by Harvest House Publishers

Eugene, Oregon 97402

www.harvesthousepublishers.com

ISBN-13: 978-0-7369-0147-5

ISBN-10: 0-7369-0147-7

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, digital, photocopy, recording, or any other—except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 / ML-SK / 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

CONTENTS

Studying God's Script—
A Bible Study You Can Do!

1. Welcome to Babylon...or Modern-Day Iraq	7
2. A King's Dream	37
3. A Fiery Furnace	55
4. A Vision of a Strong Tree	73
5. Handwriting on the Wall	93
6. Cast into the Lions' Den	111
Puzzle Answers	130
Observation Worksheets—Daniel 1-6	134



STUDYING GOD'S SCRIPT— A BIBLE STUDY YOU CAN DO!

Hey, guys! It's great to have you back on another great Bible adventure. We are on our way (Molly, Sam the great detective beagle, and me) to meet my Aunt Sherry in Hollywood, California. My name is Max. We are going to help out on the set of a brand-new television series that is being made on the Book of Daniel. Daniel is a very interesting, historical book in the Bible that shows us not only **WHAT** happened in the past, but also **WHAT** is going to happen in the future. Doesn't that sound *exciting*?

We are going to use God's script, the Bible, to find out **WHO** the main characters are in the Book of Daniel and **WHAT** happens to them as God's story unfolds. **HOW** do Daniel and his friends handle difficult situations? **WHAT** lessons can we learn about trusting God when bad things happen to us? **WHO** has visions and dreams? **WHAT** do these dreams mean? And **WHO** is in control of all Daniel's circumstances?

This is going to be one *awesome* television series with some unbelievable special effects to capture these special dreams and events! You can take part in creating this exciting series by studying God's Word, the Bible, the source of all truth, and by asking God's Spirit to lead and guide you. You also have this book, which is an inductive Bible study. That word *inductive* means you go straight to the Bible *yourself* to investigate what the Book of Daniel shows us about God and His plan for the future and a young man who is serious about God.

In inductive Bible study you discover for yourself what the Bible says and means.

Doesn't that sound like fun? Grab your script on Daniel as we take a look into the past so we can film this action-packed adventure that will take us into the future!

THINGS YOU'LL NEED

New American Standard Bible (Updated Edition)—
preferably the New Inductive Study Bible (NISB)

Pen or Pencil

A Dictionary

Colored Pencils

This Workbook

Index Cards



1

WELCOME TO BABYLON... OR MODERN-DAY IRAQ



DANIEL 1

It's great to have you here in sunny California! Molly and I are soooo excited about this new Bible adventure where we'll get to help on a brand-new television series. Miss Leslie, the producer of this series, is a friend of my Aunt Sherry, who developed the comic book on the life of Joseph called *Joseph—God's Superhero*.

Miss Leslie asked Aunt Sherry to come out to California to help her create and direct this fantastic television series on the life of Daniel. Aren't you excited? Not only do we get to learn all about Daniel and how to be like him, but we also get to learn how to create and shoot a television series. Are you ready to get started? Great! Then let's head over to the set and start reading God's script.



SCAN THE SCRIPT!

"Hey, guys, I see you made it!" Aunt Sherry said with a smile as we walked on the set. "Are you ready to start studying God's script, the Bible?"



"We sure are!" Max replied as he gave Aunt Sherry a hug.

"Great. Then grab your scripts and have a seat in those chairs."

"Look, Max," Molly exclaimed, "our chairs have our names on the back just like in the movies."

"That is so cool!" Max said with a smile. "Look, Sam! Aunt Sherry even has a chair just for you." Sam jumped up into his chair and sat on his haunches looking like Mr. Hollywood. Aunt Sherry, Max, and Molly cracked up laughing. "Okay, WHAT is the first thing you need to do before you open your script?" asked Aunt Sherry.

"Pray," Molly answered. "I'll pray and then we can get started reading our script."

Remember, Bible study should always begin with prayer. We need to ask God to help us understand what the Bible says and to direct us by His Holy Spirit, so we can make sure we understand His Word and handle it accurately.

All right! Now that we have prayed, did you know that Daniel is a book in the Bible that is both historical and prophetic? Since you study history in school, you know that history is about people and events. Prophecy is when God reveals to us what is going to happen in the future. Season One (*You're a Brave Man, Daniel!*) of our new television series will focus on the historical events in Daniel 1–6, while Season Two

(*Fast-Forward to the Future*) on Daniel 7–12 will show us what is going to happen in the future. Pretty cool, huh?

Now that you know what our television series is going to be about, let's scan our script to make sure we have just the right location to begin taping our television series. Your script is the Observation Worksheets located at the back of this book. These pages have the Bible text printed out for you to use.

Turn to page 134. Read Daniel 1:1-2. To discover the setting and characters for our new television series, we need to ask the 5 W's and an H. WHAT are the 5 W's and an H? They are the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, and HOW questions.

1. Since this book is both a historical and prophetic book, asking WHO is very important. Asking WHO helps you find out:

WHO are the main characters?

WHO is this prophecy about?

WHO is involved?

2. WHAT helps you understand:

WHAT are the main events taking place?

WHAT is God telling you?

3. In any historical event, WHERE is very important. And in prophecy it is also important to know WHERE it happens.

WHERE helps you learn:

WHERE did something happen?

WHERE did they go?

WHERE was this said?

When we discover a WHERE, we double-underline the WHERE in green.

4. WHEN tells us about time. We mark it with a green clock  or a green circle like this: .

WHEN tells us:

WHEN did this event happen or WHEN is it going to happen?

WHEN is so very important in history and prophecy. It helps us follow the order of events.

5. Looking at history, WHY asks questions like:

WHY did this event happen?

Looking at prophecy, WHY asks:

WHY is God telling us this is going to happen?

6. HOW lets you figure out things like:

HOW did something happen?

HOW did the people react to what happens?

HOW is something going to happen in the future?

HOW does it come to pass?

Now read your script and ask those 5 W's and an H.

Daniel 1:1 WHEN does this scene take place? Draw a green clock or green circle over this time phrase in Daniel 1:1 on page 134. Then circle the correct answer below.

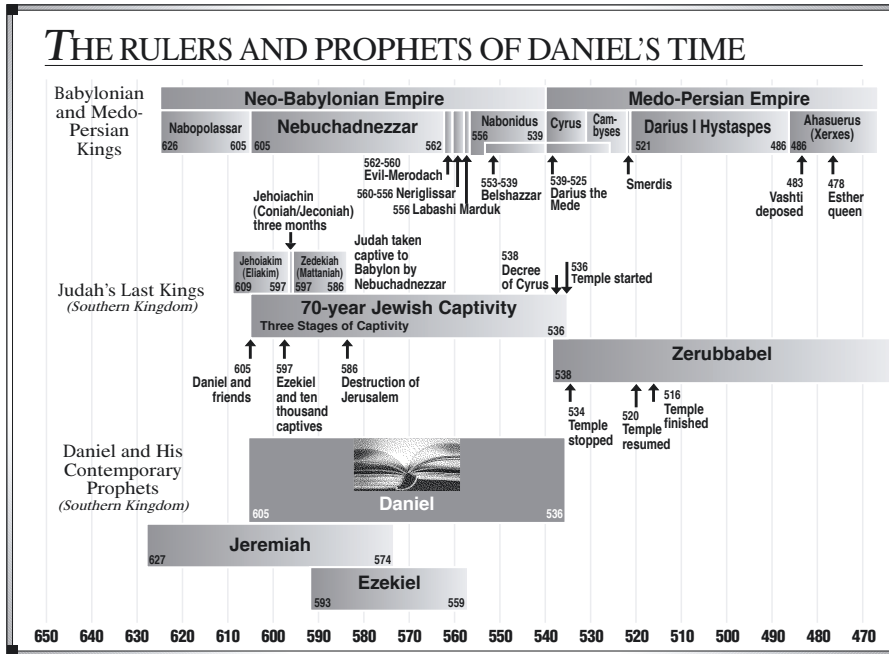
- the first year of the reign of Jehoiakim
- the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim
- the sixth year of the reign of Jehoiakim

WHO are two of the characters in our script?

_____, king of _____ and

_____, king of _____

Look at the chart "The Rulers and Prophets of Daniel's Time," and circle the names of these two rulers.



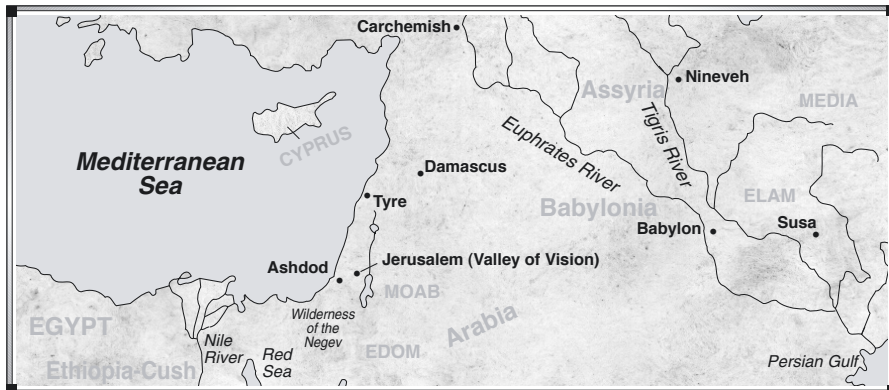
So WHERE are our two kings from?

Daniel 1:1 WHAT is the location of Jehoiakim, the king of Judah? WHERE does Nebuchadnezzar come to?

J _ _ _ _ _ m

Daniel 1:1-2 WHERE is King Nebuchadnezzar from?

King of B _ _ _ _ _ n, the land of _ _ _ _ _



To learn more about the special location King Nebuchadnezzar is from, take a look at the notes of Miss Anna, the production manager, below.



PRODUCTION MANAGER'S NOTES

BABYLON means "gate of God" and is one of the most important cities in the ancient world.

Babylon is located east of the Euphrates River, 56 miles south of present-day Baghdad in Iraq. It is in the fertile plain of Mesopotamia between two rivers: the Tigris and the Euphrates. It lies near the Garden of Eden, near the cradle of civilization.

The first mention of this ancient city in the land of Shinar is found in Genesis 10–11. In Genesis 11, the people of Babel (Babylon) sin by wanting to make a name for themselves instead of having God rule over them. From the beginning of time, this city has been in opposition to God.

Keep your eyes and ears open because Babylon not only plays an important part in history, but it will also play a part in the future. You can study more about Babylon and what happens to it in the future by studying the Book of Revelation in Max and Molly's Bible adventure *A SNEAK PEEK INTO THE FUTURE*.

Daniel 1:1 WHAT did Nebuchadnezzar come to Jerusalem to do?

Daniel 1:2 WHO wins this battle?

Daniel 1:2 WHO gave King Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, into King Nebuchadnezzar's hand? WHO was in control?

Wow! Are you surprised to see that God gave Jehoiakim into King Nebuchadnezzar's hand? WHY would God allow His chosen people, the sons of Israel, to be taken captive by their enemies? One way we can find out is by looking at some other passages of Scripture. This is called *cross-referencing*.

Look up and read Deuteronomy 28:1-7.

Deuteronomy 28:1 WHAT did the children of Israel need to do to be set high above all the nations of the earth?

“ _____ the LORD your God, being careful to _____ all His _____.”

Deuteronomy 28:7 WHAT would happen to Israel's enemies if Israel obeyed?

Israel's enemies will be _____.

Read Deuteronomy 28:15,25.

Deuteronomy 28:25 WHAT would happen if Israel did not obey? WHAT would the Lord cause the children of Israel to be?

_____ before your _____

Wow! Look at HOW important it was to God that the children of Israel obey Him! They would defeat their enemies if they obeyed, but if they disobeyed, then they would be defeated.

HOW about you? Do you think God expects you to obey Him?

WHY? _____

HOW are you going to know what God wants you to do? Would studying the Bible help you to know what God expects? HOW would studying the Bible help you?

HOW much do you obey God? Circle one of the answers below.

- a. all the time b. a lot of the time
c. sometimes d. not very often

WHICH answer should you circle? Write it out below:

Now that you have thought about what you do and what you should do, why don't you go to God and ask Him to help you change anything that you need to change, to help you obey Him?

Way to go! You have done some awesome research today. You went straight to God's book, the book of truth. You saw that there are two kings: the king of Judah who is king over God's chosen people, and the king of Babylon, king over a very wicked city who defeats the king of Judah and takes some of the sons of Israel into captivity.

You also saw by looking at other passages of Scripture that God told His people as long as they obeyed Him, they would defeat their enemies. Does that mean the sons of Israel didn't

obey God and His commandments since King Nebuchadnezzar takes God's chosen people into captivity? You'll find out tomorrow as you continue the research for our new television series. But before you leave the set today, you need to discover your memory verse for this week.

Did you know that the original language the Bible was written in was Hebrew with some Aramaic in the Old Testament, and Koine Greek in the New Testament? Since the Book of Daniel is written in both the Hebrew and Aramaic languages, we thought it would be fun if you discovered this week's verse by using a fun made-up language that kids like to use called "Pig Latin."

There are different ways to write Pig Latin depending on if a word begins with one consonant, multiple consonants, or a vowel. If a word begins with a single consonant, you take the consonant off the front of the word and put it at the end of the word, adding *ay* after it (such as, if I wanted to say *Daniel* in Pig Latin, I would say *anielday*).

Now if a word begins with two or more consonants, you would take the group of consonants off the front of the word and add them to the end, and then add *ay* to the end of the word. For an example, the word *choice* would become *oicechay*. And if a word starts with a vowel, you just add *ay* to the end of the word. For example, the word *up* would become *upay*.

Solve this week's verse by looking at the words on the next page that are in Pig Latin and writing the real word for this fun made-up language underneath each blank. Then find the reference for your verse in Daniel 1. Practice this verse by saying it in both Pig Latin and English three times in a row, three times today!

utbay anielDay ademay upay ishay indmay

atthay ehay ouldway otnay efileday imselfhay

ithway ethay ingskay oicechay oodfay oray

ithway ethay ineway ichwhay ehay ankdray;
 _____;

osay ehay oughtsay ermissionpay omfray ethay

ommandercay ofay ethay officialsay atthay ehay

ightmay otnay efileday imselfhsay.

Daniel 1: _____

You did it! We are so proud of you!



ON THE SET OF ISRAEL

“Look at that, Molly! Isn’t that set amazing?” Max asked as they walked onto the set with Aunt Sherry. “It looks just like the pictures I have seen of ancient Jerusalem.”

Aunt Sherry told the kids, “This is the set where we will shoot our opening scene as King Nebuchadnezzar comes up against King Jehoiakim to besiege the city.”

“Will we start filming today?” Max asked Aunt Sherry.

“Not yet. We need to finish casting our characters. But first you and Molly need to find out WHAT the sons of Israel did that caused God to let them be taken into captivity. After you do your research, you can help me, Miss Leslie, and Mr. Preston, the casting director, finish casting.”

“All right!” Molly exclaimed. “Let’s get started.”

Don’t forget to pray! Let’s find out WHAT the children of Israel did that caused God to allow them to be defeated. Start by looking at the production manager’s notes on the nation of Israel.



PRODUCTION MANAGER'S NOTES

The beginning of the nation of Israel is found in the Book of Genesis as God promises to make Abram (Abraham) a great nation in Genesis 12. This nation is to come through his son, Isaac (Genesis 17:19; Genesis 21:12), and through Isaac’s son Jacob (Genesis 28).

In Genesis 35:10, God changes Jacob’s name to Israel. Jacob (Israel) has 12 sons, whose descendants are known as the 12 tribes of Israel, God’s chosen people.

In 1 Kings, because of King Solomon’s divided heart, God divides the 12 tribes of Israel into two kingdoms: the north and the south.

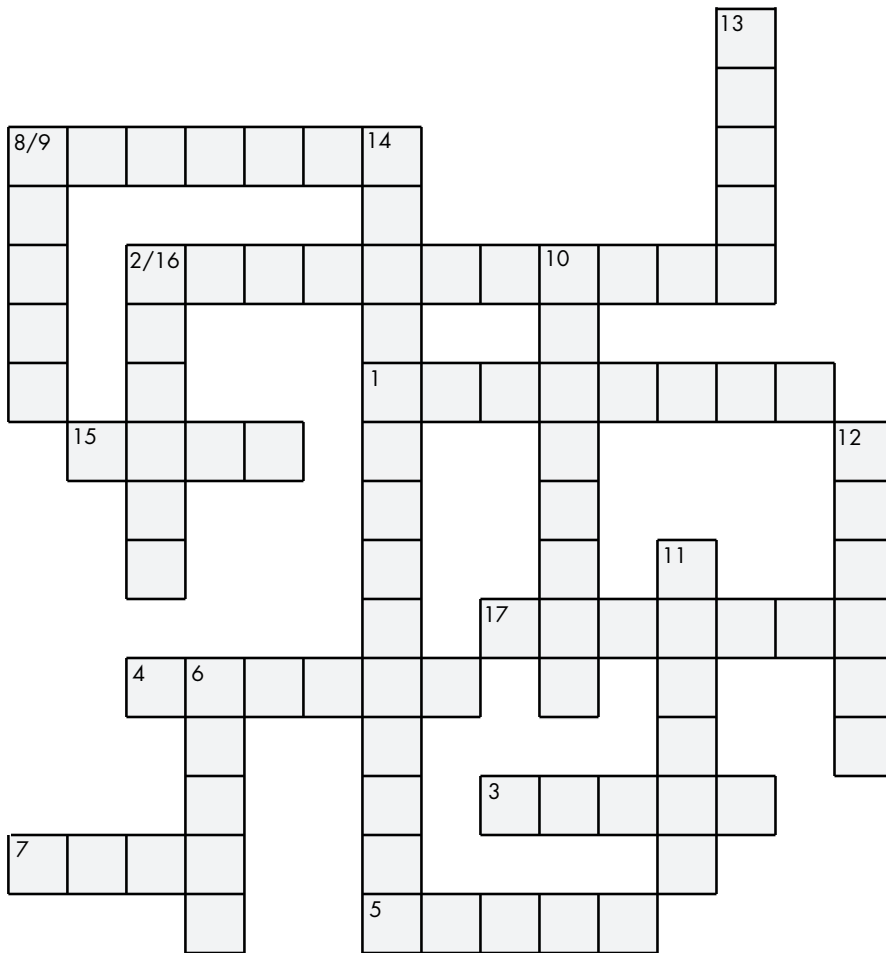
The northern kingdom of Israel is made up of 10 tribes of Israel. They settle in the north and claim Samaria as their capital.

The southern kingdom of Judah is made up of the remaining two tribes of Israel, Benjamin and Judah, who keep Jerusalem as their capital.

So which kingdom has King Nebuchadnezzar come after?

- a. the northern kingdom of Israel whose capital is Samaria
- b. the southern kingdom of Judah whose capital is Jerusalem

Look at Daniel 1:1 to see if you got the right answer. Let's solve the crossword puzzle below to find out what happens to both of these kingdoms. We need to see if either kingdom does what God tells them to do.



First let's find out what happens to the northern kingdom of Israel. Look up and read 2 Kings 17:5-7,12.

2 Kings 17:6 WHAT did the king of Assyria do?

1. **(Across)** He _____ Samaria and carried
2. **(Down)** _____ away into
3. **(Across)** _____ to Assyria.

WHY did this happen?

2 Kings 17:7 Because the sons of Israel had

4. **(Across)** _____ against the Lord their God.

2 Kings 17:9 The sons of Israel did things secretly which were not

5. **(Across)** _____ against the Lord their God.

2 Kings 17:12 They served

6. **(Down)** _____.

Now let's complete our puzzle by looking at the southern kingdom of Judah that King Nebuchadnezzar has come after. Look up and read 2 Chronicles 36:5-7.

2 Chronicles 36:5 WHAT did King Jehoiakim do?

7. **(Across)** He did _____ in the sight of the Lord his God.

2 Chronicles 36:6 WHAT happened when King Nebuchadnezzar came up against King Jehoiakim?

King Nebuchadnezzar

8. **(Down)** _____ him with bronze chains to take him to
9. **(Across)** _____.

2 Chronicles 36:7 WHAT else did King Nebuchadnezzar bring to Babylon?

10. (Down) Some of the _____ of the house of the Lord

WHERE did he put these articles of God?

11. (Down) In his _____ at Babylon

Look up and read Jeremiah 25:8-11.

Jeremiah 25:8 WHAT did the Lord of hosts tell them?

“You have not

12. (Down) _____

13. (Down) My _____.”

Jeremiah 25:9 WHAT is the Lord going to do?

14. (Down) “I will send to _____ king of Babylon, My servant, and bring them against this

15. (Across) _____ and against its

16. (Across) _____.”

Jeremiah 25:11 HOW long will they be in captivity and serve the king of Babylon?

17. (Across) _____ years

Can you believe it? Both of these kingdoms disobey God and are taken into captivity. The northern kingdom of Israel is taken into captivity by Assyria in 772 BC. Then the southern kingdom of Judah is taken into captivity by the Babylonians in three different sieges of Jerusalem, which begin in 605 BC with King Jehoiakim. Looking at both of these kingdoms, does God do exactly what He says He will do?

Yes! God always does what He says He will do. God told the nation of Israel in Deuteronomy 28 that if they obeyed God,

being careful to do all His commandments, they would be set high above all the nations of the earth and their enemies would be defeated. But as we have seen today, they didn't obey. They didn't listen to God. Instead they chose to do things God said were not right. They chose to serve idols instead of worshiping God. They sinned against God. James 4:17 says, *"Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin."*

That's why we're studying God's Word—so that we can know and do what God says is right. HOW can we apply WHAT we learned about these two kingdoms to our lives? Let's look at how you spend your time.

WHAT are some of the things that you do every week? Do you play sports, talk with friends on the Internet, or play a musical instrument? Name some of the things you do:

Do you talk to God during the day? Do you have time to study your Bible? Do you let God talk to you through the Bible about His commandments?

Israel got into trouble for worshiping idols. Idols are not just statues. Idols are anything in your life that you put *before* God, like watching television, playing sports, or playing video games. WHAT are some of the things that you put before God?

These activities and things we listed aren't wrong unless you put them in God's place. That's why we want you to check yourself to see how you're spending your time. If God is God, then He should be number one in your life!

Way to go! We are so proud of you for studying and applying God's Word! Now don't forget to practice your memory verse. This verse shows you something very important about our main character's character. Tomorrow we will find out what happens after King Nebuchadnezzar captures the city.



CASTING CALL

It's great to have you back on the set! Now that you have the historical background information for our television series, are you ready to help Aunt Sherry, Miss Leslie, and Mr. Preston finish casting our characters? Great! Also, Mr. Andy, the prop master, needs some help gathering the props for our first scene. Grab your script (page 134) and let's head back to Daniel 1. Don't forget to talk to God!

Read Daniel 1:1-7 and ask those 5 W's and an H.

Daniel 1:2 WHEN Jerusalem is besieged,
WHAT is taken from the house of God?
WHAT props do we need?

WHERE are these vessels taken?



Think about how God would feel about His holy vessels being taken from His house into the house of a false god. Does King Nebuchadnezzar have respect for God's holy vessels? _____

Even though it looks like Nebuchadnezzar and his gods are

more powerful since he has taken the city and the holy vessels,
WHO did we see was in control in Daniel 1:2? _____

Remember: Even when things look bad, God is still in control.

Now that we have our props, let's cast our characters.

Daniel 1:3 WHOM did King Nebuchadnezzar order the chief of his officials, Ashpenaz, to bring in?

Some of the _____ of _____

Daniel 1:3 WHOM did some of these include?

Some of the _____ and of the _____

Daniel 1:4 Describe these sons of Israel.

They were "y _____ s...who were _____, showing _____, endowed with _____ and discerning _____."

Daniel 1:4 WHAT did the king order Ashpenaz to teach them?



Daniel 1:5 WHAT did the king appoint them a daily ration of?

Daniel 1:5 HOW long were they to be educated?

WHAT was to happen to them after they were educated?

Did you notice that each one of these youths (teenagers) who are taken into captivity are considered the best of the best? They are smart, athletic, handsome, the finest in the land of Israel. They are taken from their homes, their language, and their beliefs and put in the king's royal school to be taught the king's language and beliefs.

Daniel 1:6 WHO are the four main characters taken from the sons of Judah?

_____, _____, _____, and

Daniel 1:7 WHAT did the commander of the officials assign to these sons of Israel?

Write out each one of the new names next to their original name.

Daniel: _____ Hananiah: _____

Mishael: _____ Azariah: _____

WHY were these four teenagers given new names? Did you know that in Bible times a person's name was very important because it showed the person's character and identity? Let's look at the meaning of these four guys' Hebrew names. *Daniel* means

“God is my judge,” *Hananiah* means “Jehovah has been gracious” (Jehovah and Yahweh are Hebrew names for God), *Mishael* means “Who is what God is” (in other words, there is nobody like God), and *Azariah* means “Yahweh has helped.” In each one of these boy’s Hebrew names, we see the name of God.

Now look at the meaning of their new Babylonian names. *Beltshazzar* means “Bel will protect,” *Shadrach* means “inspired of Aku,” *Meshach* means “belonging to Aku,” and *Abed-nego* means “servant of Nego.” Each one of these Babylonian names has a reference to a false god. Bel, Nego, and Aku were all names of the false gods of the Babylonians.



Since names showed a person’s character and identity, do you think that King Nebuchadnezzar changed these youths’ names to change their identity, to show his ownership over them now that they have been taken into captivity? _____

Daniel was about 15 years old when he was taken from his home into captivity. Can you imagine not only being taken from your home, but also being taken to a foreign city, a new school, having your name changed, and not even understanding the language?

HOW would you feel? Would you be scared, anxious, or confused? Would you think God didn’t love you, had forgotten you, or couldn’t protect you? Would you continue to trust and follow God in spite of what had happened to you? Write out HOW you would feel and WHAT you would do.

HOW would it feel to have the people who captured you brag that their god was stronger than your God, especially since you know it's not true?

HOW will Daniel and his friends handle being taken to a foreign country of a heathen king who doesn't know God and respect His holy vessels? Any hopes and dreams they had for their future have just been shattered. They are no longer free; they will never return home to see their families again. Will they become angry over their circumstances? Will they bend under the pressure? Will they change what they believe, or will they continue to love and trust God in spite of everything that has happened to them? We'll find out. You have done an awesome job at casting our characters! Don't forget to practice your memory verse.



CAMERA CHECK

"Hey, Max, why don't you and Molly come help me get these props ready for our camera check?" Mr. Andy asked as Max and Molly arrived on the set of Babylon.

"Sure, Mr. Andy. We'd love to help," Max said. "Oh man, these props are making me hungry. Look at all these great things to eat." Molly laughed. "So, Max, which would you rather have: the king's choice food or these yummy vegetables?"

Before Max could answer, Aunt Sherry walked onto the set. "The king's table looks great. Are you ready for us to do our camera check, Andy?"

"I think we're ready," replied Andy.

How about you? Let's grab our scripts and make sure Mr. Andy has all the props for our next scene. Pray and then turn to

page 135. Read Daniel 1:8-21. Ask the 5 W's and an H to prepare for our camera check.

Daniel 1:8 WHAT did Daniel do?

Daniel _____ his m_____.

Do you know what it means to make up your mind? Making up your mind is making a decision in your heart. It's like drawing a line in the sand and saying, "This is what I believe. This is what I will do. I will not cross over this line."

Daniel 1:8 WHAT did Daniel make up his mind about?

Daniel 1:8 WHAT did Daniel seek?

He sought _____ from the _____ of the _____ that he might not _____ himself.



To defile means to make unclean, dirty, or corrupt. WHY would eating the king's choice food and wine corrupt or make Daniel unclean? Did you know that God chose the nation of Israel to be a holy people set apart from all the other peoples on the face of the earth?

God gives the sons of Israel laws for their food that show

them what is clean and okay to eat, and what is unclean and not okay to eat. If you want to read about these laws, you can find them in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. Daniel knows God's law and chooses to honor God by what he eats and drinks.

Daniel 1:9 WHAT does God grant Daniel?

Daniel 1:10 WHY was the commander of the officials afraid to change Daniel's food and drink?

Daniel 1:11-12 WHAT did Daniel ask the overseer to do?

"To _____ your servants for _____ days"

Daniel 1:12 WHAT did Daniel ask for them to be given to eat and drink?

Daniel 1:15 WHAT happened after they were tested for 10 days?

Daniel 1:11-17 WHO took the test—all of the youths or just four of the youths (Daniel and his three friends)? Circle the correct answer.

- a. All of the youths
- b. Four of the youths: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah

Daniel 1:17 WHAT did God give these four youths?

_____ and _____ in every branch of _____ and _____

Daniel 1:17 WHAT did Daniel understand?

Daniel 1:18-20 WHAT happened to them when they were presented before Nebuchadnezzar?

Not _____ was found like _____, _____, _____, and _____; so they entered the _____.

HOW did these guys get to be so smart? Look back at Daniel 1:17 if you missed it.

Daniel 1:21 HOW long did Daniel continue?

Wow! Daniel and his friends are teenagers far away from home in a wicked city, where no one will ever know if they give in to temptation and follow the crowd. But instead of giving in when they are tested, they do what God says is right.

HOW about you? WHAT would you do if you knew no one would find out? Would you lie to your parents about where you are going and whom you are going to be with? Would you drink, smoke, inhale something to make you feel different, or take drugs? Or would you dare to go against the crowd and do what God says is right? Write out what you would do:

Look at how God honored these four teenagers' decision to do what He says is right. Their appearances were better than the other youths, and God gave them knowledge, intelligence,

and wisdom. They each entered into the king's personal service. Pretty cool, huh?

All right! Our camera check is finished and we are ready to start filming. Tomorrow we will get a close-up of God and one of our awesome teenagers.



ZOOMING IN

"All right, quiet on the set. We are ready to roll," Aunt Sherry called out. "Camera One, I want you to zoom in right after the opening sequence. Let's count it down, and...action."

Are you ready to "zoom in" and take a closer look at God and Daniel? Great! Don't forget to ask God for His help. Pull out your script and let's get a close-up on both God and Daniel.

One way you can uncover clues about the main events and characters in the Book of Daniel is to mark them in a special way so you can get a closer look at them. Today we are going to "zoom in" on our scripts and mark every place we see *God* and *Daniel*. We also need to mark each pronoun that refers to either God or Daniel. WHAT are pronouns? Check out Max and Molly's notes below.

Pronouns

Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns. A noun is a person, place, or thing. A pronoun stands in for a noun! Here's an example: "Molly and Max are excited about helping on the new television series on Daniel. They can't wait to discover what happens to Daniel now that he has been taken into captivity." The word *they* is a pronoun because it takes the place of Molly and Max's names in the

second sentence. It is another word we use to refer to Molly and Max.

Watch for these other pronouns when you are marking people's names:

I	you	he	she
me	yours	him	her
mine		his	hers
we	it		
our	its		
they	them		

Now that you know what pronouns are, turn to your Observation Worksheets on page 134. Read Daniel 1 and mark *God* and *Daniel* in a special way, just like we have listed below:

 God (draw a purple triangle and color it yellow)

 Daniel (color it blue)

All right! Now look in your script at each verse where you marked *God* in Daniel 1:2, 9, and 17. Let's find out what you learned about God from each of these verses. We want to make sure our television viewers know the truth about WHO God is and WHAT He does, so that they can get to know Him, too! Make a list of everything you learned about God in the box below.

WHAT I Learned About God

Daniel 1:2

Daniel 1:9

Daniel 1:17

Amazing! Stop and think about WHAT this list shows us about WHO God is, about His power, and about WHAT He can do.

In Daniel 1:2, the Lord gave the outcome of the battle. God is the One who allowed Jerusalem to be defeated by King Nebuchadnezzar and allowed Daniel and the other youths to be taken into captivity. God is the One in control of people. This shows us that God is sovereign. There is absolutely nothing that God doesn't have control over!

In Daniel 1:9, God is the One who got other people to show favor and compassion to Daniel. God loves us! He cares about what happens to us.

In Daniel 1:17, God gave the four youths knowledge, intelligence, and wisdom. What an *awesome* God! Would God do this for you?

Let's make a list on WHAT we know about Daniel by looking at where we marked his name on our script. Put the facts in the box below.



WHAT I Learned About Daniel

Wow! Would you like to be like Daniel? Let's do a character profile on Daniel to see if you could play Daniel's part.

CHARACTER PROFILE

Daniel

Daniel has faith.

Faith is believing God; it is taking Him at His Word. Faith is when you believe what God says in the Bible, and it shows by the way you act. You decide to do what God says is right. Daniel believes God. He does what God says is right. He chooses to trust God in a very hard and difficult situation.

Daniel has integrity.

Integrity is doing the right thing when no one is looking. Integrity is being trustworthy and sincere. A person with integrity has the highest standards and is honest, pure, and consistent.

Look at Daniel's integrity. He has the highest standards. Daniel makes up his mind not to defile himself. He keeps himself pure. He sets himself

Me

Do you have faith?

Have you placed your trust in Jesus Christ?

Yes _____ No _____

Do you do what God says is right? Name one thing you do that shows you love and trust God. Here are some examples: Do you read your Bible every day? Do you obey your parents? Do you want to please God? Do you listen and pay attention to His Word? Do you believe God means what He says and act like it? Do you ask God to help you not to lie, steal, gossip, or talk about other kids?

Write out one way that shows you have faith:

Do you have integrity?

Can your parents trust you to obey them when they are not around? Have you made up your mind to live God's way, to keep yourself pure? Name a standard that you have set for yourself, like waiting to get married before having sex, or deciding not to drink alcohol.

WHAT would you do if you spent

Daniel

apart from the world he is living in. Daniel dares to be different.

Daniel has courage.

Courage is boldness; it is taking a stand and doing what you know is right even though you are afraid. Daniel took a stand, even though he didn't know what would happen to him if he went against the king's command and refused the food from his table.

Me

the night with friends and they are watching things on TV or looking at things on the Internet that are wrong? Would you go along, or would you say, "This doesn't please God. I can't look at or be a part of this"? Write out what you would do:

WHAT if Mom or Dad were looking over your shoulder while you were on the Internet? Would you slip into code language, or do you have such integrity that Mom and Dad could read what you are writing?

Do you have courage?

Will you be brave like Daniel and stand up for what you know is right, even if it means you will not be cool or popular and that others will laugh at you? Write out one way you will have courage. Write out what you will do when someone tries to get you to do the wrong thing:

Daniel

Daniel has humility.

Humility is a lack of pride. Humility is knowing our weaknesses as well as our strengths. Daniel humbled himself before the commander of the officials. He asked for permission not to eat the king's food and wine. He submitted himself to his authority. He was respectful. How about you?

Daniel has self-discipline.

Self-discipline is learning to train and control your behavior. It is being able to turn away from temptation. It is choosing to do right even when it is hard and difficult. It is sticking with something, even though it is dull and boring. It requires determination and sacrifice. How tempting do you think it was for Daniel to look at the king's choice food and not eat it? Daniel disciplined himself. He did not give in to temptation. He chose to do what was right, even though it was hard and difficult.

Me

Are you humble?

Do you submit yourself to those who are in authority over you?

_____ Yes _____ No

Are you respectful? HOW do you treat your parents and your teachers?

HOW do you talk about them to your friends when they aren't around to hear you?

Do you have self-discipline?

WHAT do you eat? Do you choose healthy foods or junk foods?

Training yourself to eat healthy foods, playing sports or a musical instrument, memorizing God's Word, saving for something you want to buy, doing your homework, and cleaning your room without being asked are all things that take self-discipline. Name one thing you do that shows you have self-discipline:

What an *awesome* teenager! Look at how Daniel's character is revealed in these hard and difficult circumstances. Daniel dares to be different—he trusts God. Dare to be different. Ask God to help you be a Daniel in your world. Don't follow the crowd to be cool and popular. Make up your mind to honor and live for God!

How do you think Daniel developed such strong character? Could it be because he started learning God's Word when he was younger, like you? That's why we are so proud of you! You are learning to be like Daniel.

Don't forget to say your memory verse out loud to a grown-up this week. Ask the person to tell you something that he or she made up their mind about. Next week we will film a very interesting dream. WHO has this dream, and WHAT does it mean?

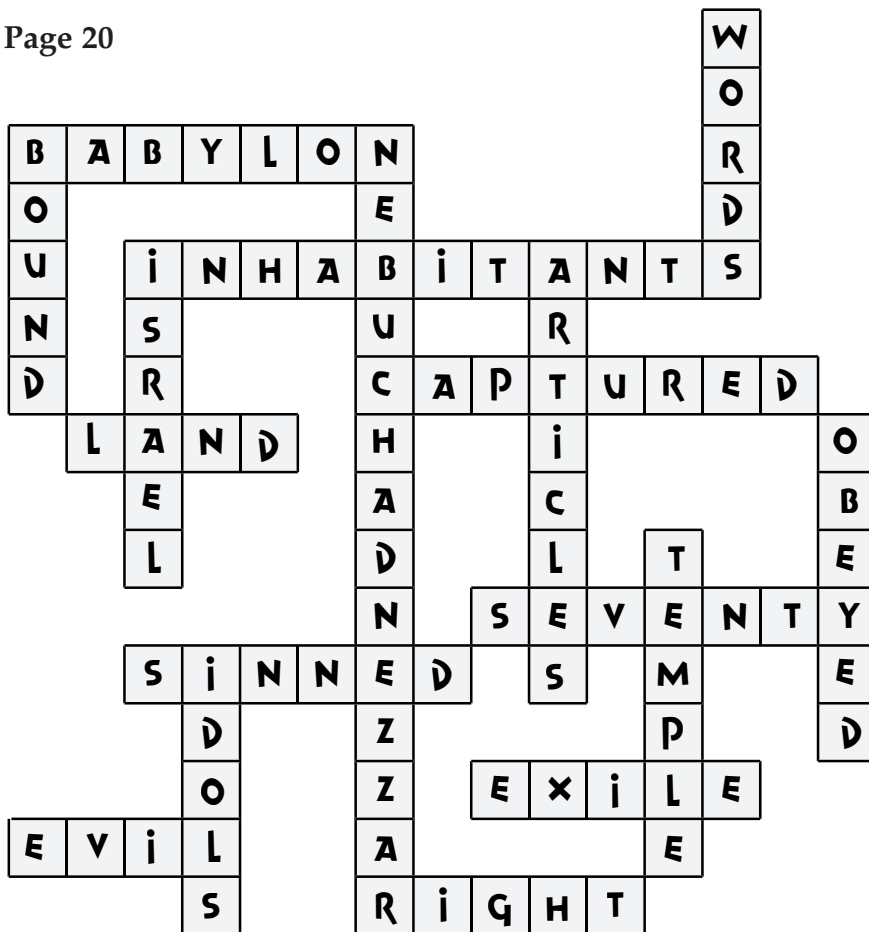
PUZZLE ANSWERS

Page 16

“But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king’s choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.”

Daniel 1:8

Page 20



OBSERVATION WORKSHEETS

DANIEL 1-6

Chapter 1

1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

2 The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god.

3 Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles,

4 youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

5 The king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service.

6 Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

7 Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to

Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abednego.

8 But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials,

10 and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king."

11 But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,

12 "Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink.

13 "Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king's choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see."

14 So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days.

15 At the end of ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food.

16 So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables.

17 As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams.

18 Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar.

19 The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service.

20 As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm.

21 And Daniel continued until the first year of Cyrus the king.

Chapter 2

1 Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him.

2 Then the king gave orders to call in the magicians, the conjurers, the sorcerers and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king.

3 The king said to them, "I had a dream and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream."

4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic: " O king,

live forever! Tell the dream to your servants, and we will declare the interpretation.”

5 The king replied to the Chaldeans, “ The command from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be torn limb from limb and your houses will be made a rubbish heap.

6 “But if you declare the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts and a reward and great honor; therefore declare to me the dream and its interpretation.”

7 They answered a second time and said, “Let the king tell the dream to his servants, and we will declare the interpretation.”

8 The king replied, “I know for certain that you are bargaining for time, inasmuch as you have seen that the command from me is firm,

9 that if you do not make the dream known to me, there is only one decree for you. For you have agreed together to speak lying and corrupt words before me until the situation is changed; therefore tell me the dream, that I may know that you can declare to me its interpretation.”

10 The Chaldeans answered the king and said, “There is not a man on earth who could declare the matter for the king, inasmuch as no great king or ruler has ever asked anything like this of any magician, conjurer or Chaldean.

11 “Moreover, the thing which the king demands is difficult, and there is no one else who could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling place is not with mortal flesh.”

12 Because of this the king became indignant and very furious and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

13 So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them.

14 Then Daniel replied with discretion and discernment to Arioch, the captain of the king's bodyguard, who had gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon;

15 he said to Arioch, the king's commander, "For what reason is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch informed Daniel about the matter.

16 So Daniel went in and requested of the king that he would give him time, in order that he might declare the interpretation to the king.

17 Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, about the matter,

18 so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

19 Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven;

20 Daniel said,

"Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever,
For wisdom and power belong to Him.

21 "It is He who changes the times and the epochs;
He removes kings and establishes kings;
He gives wisdom to wise men

And knowledge to men of understanding.

22 "It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things;

He knows what is in the darkness,

And the light dwells with Him.

23 "To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise,

For You have given me wisdom and power;

Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You,

For You have made known to us the king's matter."

24 Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon; he went and spoke to him as follows: "Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon! Take me into the king's presence, and I will declare the interpretation to the king."

25 Then Arioch hurriedly brought Daniel into the king's presence and spoke to him as follows: "I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can make the interpretation known to the king!"

26 The king said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen and its interpretation?"

27 Daniel answered before the king and said, "As for the mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians nor diviners are able to declare it to the king.

28 "However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what

will take place in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed.

29 "As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place.

30 "But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me for any wisdom residing in me more than in any other living man, but for the purpose of making the interpretation known to the king, and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind.

31 "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome.

32 "The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze,

33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.

35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

36 "This was the dream; now we will tell its interpretation before the king.

37 "You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of

heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory;

38 and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.

39 "After you there will arise another kingdom inferior to you, then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth.

40 "Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.

41 "In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay.

42 "As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle.

43 "And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.

44 "In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.

45 "Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy."

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and did homage to Daniel, and gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense.

47 The king answered Daniel and said, "Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery."

48 Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts, and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon.

49 And Daniel made request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego over the administration of the province of Babylon, while Daniel was at the king's court.

Chapter 3

1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits and its width six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon.

2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent word to assemble the satraps, the prefects and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates and all the rulers

of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

3 Then the satraps, the prefects and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates and all the rulers of the provinces were assembled for the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

4 Then the herald loudly proclaimed: "To you the command is given, O peoples, nations and men of every language,

5 that at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe and all kinds of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up.

6 "But whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire."

7 Therefore at that time, when all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe and all kinds of music, all the peoples, nations and men of every language fell down and worshiped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

8 For this reason at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and brought charges against the Jews.

9 They responded and said to Nebuchadnezzar the king: "O king, live forever!

10 "You, O king, have made a decree that every man who hears the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, and bagpipe

and all kinds of music, is to fall down and worship the golden image.

11 “But whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire.

12 “There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the administration of the province of Babylon, namely Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego. These men, O king, have disregarded you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image which you have set up.”

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in rage and anger gave orders to bring Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego; then these men were brought before the king.

14 Nebuchadnezzar responded and said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up?

15 “Now if you are ready, at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery and bagpipe and all kinds of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, very well. But if you do not worship, you will immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire; and what god is there who can deliver you out of my hands?”

16 Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego replied to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter.

17 “ If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king.

18 “ But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

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

20 He commanded certain valiant warriors who were in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego in order to cast them into the furnace of blazing fire.

21 Then these men were tied up in their trousers, their coats, their caps and their other clothes, and were cast into the midst of the furnace of blazing fire.

22 For this reason, because the king’s command was urgent and the furnace had been made extremely hot, the flame of the fire slew those men who carried up Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego.

23 But these three men, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, fell into the midst of the furnace of blazing fire still tied up.

24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded and stood up in haste; he said to his high officials, “Was it not three men we cast bound into the midst of the fire?” They replied to the king, “Certainly, O king.”

25 He said, “Look! I see four men loosed and walking about in the midst of the fire without harm, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods!”

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the furnace

of blazing fire; he responded and said, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego came out of the midst of the fire.

27 The satraps, the prefects, the governors and the king's high officials gathered around and saw in regard to these men that the fire had no effect on the bodies of these men nor was the hair of their head singed, nor were their trousers damaged, nor had the smell of fire even come upon them.

28 Nebuchadnezzar responded and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, who has sent His angel and delivered His servants who put their trust in Him, violating the king's command, and yielded up their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God.

29 "Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation or tongue that speaks anything offensive against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego shall be torn limb from limb and their houses reduced to a rubbish heap, inasmuch as there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way."

30 Then the king caused Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego to prosper in the province of Babylon.

Chapter 4

1 Nebuchadnezzar the king to all the peoples, nations, and men of every language that live in all the earth: "May your peace abound!"

2 "It has seemed good to me to declare the signs and wonders which the Most High God has done for me.

3 "How great are His signs
And how mighty are His wonders!
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom
And His dominion is from generation to generation.

4 "I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and flourishing in my palace.

5 "I saw a dream and it made me fearful; and these fantasies as I lay on my bed and the visions in my mind kept alarming me.

6 "So I gave orders to bring into my presence all the wise men of Babylon, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.

7 "Then the magicians, the conjurers, the Chaldeans and the diviners came in and I related the dream to them, but they could not make its interpretation known to me.

8 "But finally Daniel came in before me, whose name is Belteshazzar according to the name of my god, and in whom is a spirit of the holy gods; and I related the dream to him, saying,

9 'O Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, since I know that a spirit of the holy gods is in you and no mystery baffles you, tell me the visions of my dream which I have seen, along with its interpretation.

10 'Now these were the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed: I was looking, and behold, there was a tree in the midst of the earth and its height was great.

11 'The tree grew large and became strong

And its height reached to the sky,
And it was visible to the end of the whole earth.

12 'Its foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant,
And in it was food for all.

The beasts of the field found shade under it,
And the birds of the sky dwelt in its branches,
And all living creatures fed themselves from it.

13 'I was looking in the visions in my mind as I lay on my
bed, and behold, an angelic watcher, a holy one, descended
from heaven.

14 'He shouted out and spoke as follows:

“ Chop down the tree and cut off its branches,
Strip off its foliage and scatter its fruit;
Let the beasts flee from under it
And the birds from its branches.

15 “Yet leave the stump with its roots in the ground,
But with a band of iron and bronze around it
In the new grass of the field;
And let him be drenched with the dew of heaven,
And let him share with the beasts in the grass
of the earth.

16 “Let his mind be changed from that of a man
And let a beast's mind be given to him,
And let seven periods of time pass over him.

17 “This sentence is by the decree of the angelic watchers
And the decision is a command of the holy ones,
In order that the living may know

That the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind,
And bestows it on whom He wishes
And sets over it the lowliest of men.”

18 ‘This is the dream which I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, Belteshazzar, tell me its interpretation, inasmuch as none of the wise men of my kingdom is able to make known to me the interpretation; but you are able, for a spirit of the holy gods is in you.’

19 “Then Daniel, whose name is Belteshazzar, was appalled for a while as his thoughts alarmed him. The king responded and said, ‘Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation alarm you.’ Belteshazzar replied, ‘My lord, if only the dream applied to those who hate you and its interpretation to your adversaries!’

20 ‘The tree that you saw, which became large and grew strong, whose height reached to the sky and was visible to all the earth
21 and whose foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant, and in which was food for all, under which the beasts of the field dwelt and in whose branches the birds of the sky lodged—
22 it is you, O king; for you have become great and grown strong, and your majesty has become great and reached to the sky and your dominion to the end of the earth.

23 ‘In that the king saw an angelic watcher, a holy one, descending from heaven and saying, “Chop down the tree and destroy it; yet leave the stump with its roots in the ground, but with a band of iron and bronze around it in the new grass of the field, and let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him

share with the beasts of the field until seven periods of time pass over him,”

24 this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king:

25 that you be driven away from mankind and your dwelling place be with the beasts of the field, and you be given grass to eat like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven; and seven periods of time will pass over you, until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes.

26 ‘And in that it was commanded to leave the stump with the roots of the tree, your kingdom will be assured to you after you recognize that it is Heaven that rules.

27 ‘Therefore, O king, may my advice be pleasing to you: break away now from your sins by doing righteousness and from your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor, in case there may be a prolonging of your prosperity.’

28 “All this happened to Nebuchadnezzar the king.

29 “ Twelve months later he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon.

30 “The king reflected and said, ‘Is this not Babylon the great, which I myself have built as a royal residence by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty?’

31 “While the word was in the king’s mouth, a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: sovereignty has been removed from you,

32 and you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwell-

ing place will be with the beasts of the field. You will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over you until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes.'

33 "Immediately the word concerning Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled; and he was driven away from mankind and began eating grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

34 "But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.

35 "All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
But He does according to His will in the host of heaven
And among the inhabitants of earth;
And no one can ward off His hand
Or say to Him, 'What have You done?'

36 "At that time my reason returned to me. And my majesty and splendor were restored to me for the glory of my kingdom, and my counselors and my nobles began seeking me out; so I was reestablished in my sovereignty, and surpassing greatness was added to me.

37 "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride."

Chapter 5

1 Belshazzar the king held a great feast for a thousand of his nobles, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.

2 When Belshazzar tasted the wine, he gave orders to bring the gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem, so that the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines might drink from them.

3 Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God which was in Jerusalem; and the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines drank from them.

4 They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.

5 Suddenly the fingers of a man's hand emerged and began writing opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, and the king saw the back of the hand that did the writing.

6 Then the king's face grew pale and his thoughts alarmed him, and his hip joints went slack and his knees began knocking together.

7 The king called aloud to bring in the conjurers, the Chaldeans and the diviners. The king spoke and said to the wise men of Babylon, "Any man who can read this inscription and explain its interpretation to me shall be clothed with purple and have

a necklace of gold around his neck, and have authority as third ruler in the kingdom.”

8 Then all the king’s wise men came in, but they could not read the inscription or make known its interpretation to the king.

9 Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, his face grew even paler, and his nobles were perplexed.

10 The queen entered the banquet hall because of the words of the king and his nobles; the queen spoke and said, “O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts alarm you or your face be pale.

11 “There is a man in your kingdom in whom is a spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of your father, illumination, insight and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods were found in him. And King Nebuchadnezzar, your father, your father the king, appointed him chief of the magicians, conjurers, Chaldeans and diviners.

12 “This was because an extraordinary spirit, knowledge and insight, interpretation of dreams, explanation of enigmas and solving of difficult problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Beltshazzar. Let Daniel now be summoned and he will declare the interpretation.”

13 Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke and said to Daniel, “Are you that Daniel who is one of the exiles from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?

14 “Now I have heard about you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that illumination, insight and extraordinary wisdom have been found in you.

15 “Just now the wise men and the conjurers were brought in before me that they might read this inscription and make its

interpretation known to me, but they could not declare the interpretation of the message.

16 “But I personally have heard about you, that you are able to give interpretations and solve difficult problems. Now if you are able to read the inscription and make its interpretation known to me, you will be clothed with purple and wear a necklace of gold around your neck, and you will have authority as the third ruler in the kingdom.”

17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, “ Keep your gifts for yourself or give your rewards to someone else; however, I will read the inscription to the king and make the interpretation known to him.

18 “O king, the Most High God granted sovereignty, grandeur, glory and majesty to Nebuchadnezzar your father.

19 “Because of the grandeur which He bestowed on him, all the peoples, nations and men of every language feared and trembled before him; whomever he wished he killed and whomever he wished he spared alive; and whomever he wished he elevated and whomever he wished he humbled.

20 “But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit became so proud that he behaved arrogantly, he was deposed from his royal throne and his glory was taken away from him.

21 “He was also driven away from mankind, and his heart was made like that of beasts, and his dwelling place was with the wild donkeys. He was given grass to eat like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven until he recognized that

the Most High God is ruler over the realm of mankind and that He sets over it whomever He wishes.

22 “Yet you, his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this,

23 but you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them; and you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which do not see, hear or understand. But the God in whose hand are your life-breath and your ways, you have not glorified.

24 “Then the hand was sent from Him and this inscription was written out.

25 “Now this is the inscription that was written out: ‘MENĒ, MENĒ, TEKĒ L, UPHARSIN.’

26 “This is the interpretation of the message: ‘MENĒ’—God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it.

27 “‘TEKĒ L’—you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient.

28 “‘PERĒ S’—your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.”

29 Then Belshazzar gave orders, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a necklace of gold around his neck, and issued a proclamation concerning him that he now had authority as the third ruler in the kingdom.

30 That same night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain.

31 So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two.

Chapter 6

1 It seemed good to Darius to appoint 120 satraps over the kingdom, that they would be in charge of the whole kingdom, 2 and over them three commissioners (of whom Daniel was one), that these satraps might be accountable to them, and that the king might not suffer loss.

3 Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom.

4 Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him.

5 Then these men said, "We will not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel unless we find it against him with regard to the law of his God."

6 Then these commissioners and satraps came by agreement to the king and spoke to him as follows: "King Darius, live forever!

7 "All the commissioners of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the high officials and the governors have consulted together that the king should establish a statute and enforce an

injunction that anyone who makes a petition to any god or man besides you, O king, for thirty days, shall be cast into the lions' den.

8 "Now, O king, establish the injunction and sign the document so that it may not be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which may not be revoked."

9 Therefore King Darius signed the document, that is, the injunction.

10 Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.

11 Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and supplication before his God.

12 Then they approached and spoke before the king about the king's injunction, "Did you not sign an injunction that any man who makes a petition to any god or man besides you, O king, for thirty days, is to be cast into the lions' den?" The king replied, "The statement is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which may not be revoked."

13 Then they answered and spoke before the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the injunction which you signed, but keeps making his petition three times a day."

14 Then, as soon as the king heard this statement, he was deeply

distressed and set his mind on delivering Daniel; and even until sunset he kept exerting himself to rescue him.

15 Then these men came by agreement to the king and said to the king, "Recognize, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no injunction or statute which the king establishes may be changed."

16 Then the king gave orders, and Daniel was brought in and cast into the lions' den. The king spoke and said to Daniel, "Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver you."

17 A stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet rings of his nobles, so that nothing would be changed in regard to Daniel.

18 Then the king went off to his palace and spent the night fasting, and no entertainment was brought before him; and his sleep fled from him.

19 Then the king arose at dawn, at the break of day, and went in haste to the lions' den.

20 When he had come near the den to Daniel, he cried out with a troubled voice. The king spoke and said to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you constantly serve, been able to deliver you from the lions?"

21 Then Daniel spoke to the king, "O king, live forever!

22 "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths and they have not harmed me, inasmuch as I was found innocent before Him; and also toward you, O king, I have committed no crime."

23 Then the king was very pleased and gave orders for Daniel

to be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den and no injury whatever was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

24 The king then gave orders, and they brought those men who had maliciously accused Daniel, and they cast them, their children and their wives into the lions' den; and they had not reached the bottom of the den before the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.

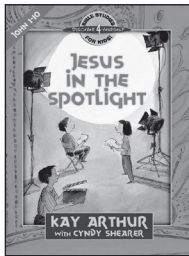
25 Then Darius the king wrote to all the peoples, nations and men of every language who were living in all the land: "May your peace abound!

26 " I make a decree that in all the dominion of my kingdom men are to fear and tremble before the God of Daniel; For He is the living God and enduring forever, And His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed, And His dominion will be forever.

27 "He delivers and rescues and performs signs and wonders In heaven and on earth, Who has also delivered Daniel from the power of the lions."

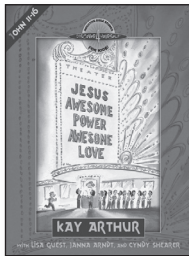
28 So this Daniel enjoyed success in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

DISCOVER 4 YOURSELF!®



Kay Arthur and Cyndy Shearer
Kids “make” a movie to discover who Jesus is and His impact on their lives. Activities and 15-minute lessons make this study of John 1–10 great for all ages!

ISBN 978-0-7369-0119-2



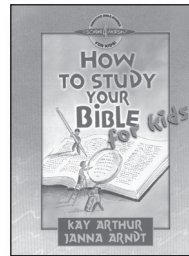
Kay Arthur, Janna Arndt, Lisa Guest, and Cyndy Shearer
This book picks up where *Jesus in the Spotlight* leaves off: John 11–16. Kids join a movie team to bring the life of Jesus to the big screen in order to learn key truths about prayer, heaven, and Jesus.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0144-4



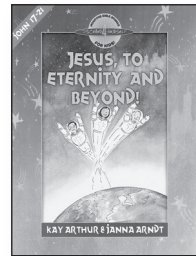
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
As “advice columnists,” kids delve into the book of James to discover—and learn how to apply—the best answers for a variety of problems.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0148-2



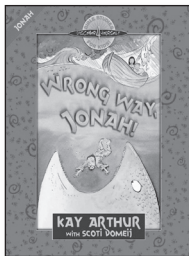
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
This easy-to-use Bible study combines serious commitment to God’s Word with illustrations and activities that reinforce biblical truth.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0362-2



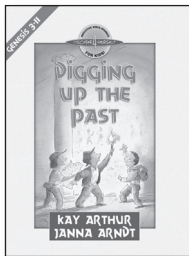
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Focusing on John 17–21, children become “directors” who must discover the details of Jesus’ life to make a great movie. They also learn how to get the most out of reading their Bibles.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0546-6



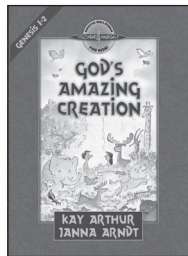
Kay Arthur and Scoti Domeij
As “reporters,” kids investigate Jonah’s story and conduct interviews. Using puzzles and activities, these lessons highlight God’s loving care and the importance of obedience.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0203-8



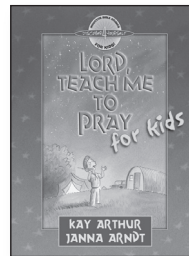
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Kids become archaeologists to uncover how God deals with sin, where different languages and nations came from, and what God’s plan is for saving people (Genesis 3–11).

ISBN 978-0-7369-0374-5



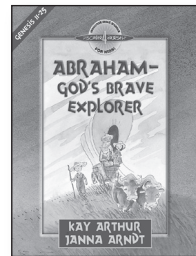
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
God’s Amazing Creation covers Genesis 1–2—those awesome days when God created the stars, the world, the sea, the animals, and the very first people. Young explorers will go on an archaeological dig to discover truths for themselves!

ISBN 978-0-7369-0143-7



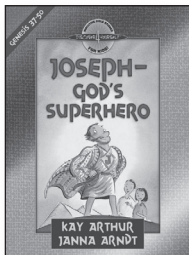
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
The Lord’s Prayer is the foundation of this special basic training, and it’s not long before the trainees discover the awesome truth that God wants to talk to them as much as they want to talk to Him!

ISBN 978-0-7369-0666-1



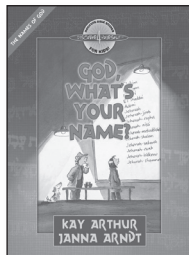
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Readers head out on the rugged Oregon Trail to discover the lessons Abraham learned when he left his home and moved to an unknown land. Kids will face the excitement, fears, and blessings of faith.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0936-5



Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Using examples from Joseph’s life, games, puzzles, and inductive activities, kids see how God chooses and equips ordinary people to become His superheroes.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0739-2



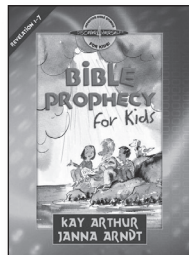
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Kids journey to God’s heart using the inductive study method and the wonder of an adventurous spy tale.

ISBN 978-0-7369-1161-0



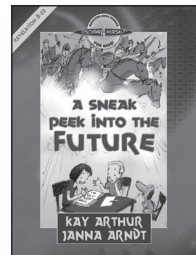
Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
This engaging, high-energy study examines the journeys of Isaac, Jacob, and Esau and reveals how God outfits His children with everything they need for life’s difficulties, victories, and extreme adventures.

ISBN 978-0-7369-0937-2



Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Kids explore the Bible Discovery Museum and solve the great mysteries about the future using the inductive study method and Revelation 1–7.

ISBN 978-0-7369-1527-4



Kay Arthur and Janna Arndt
Kids tackle Revelation 8–22 in this active and fun Bible study that explores what’s to come and the importance of knowing Jesus.

ISBN 978-0-7369-2036-0