

Old Testament

Mission Arlington ◦ Mission Metroplex Curriculum ◦ 2011

One Year Plan



GOD'S WORD

Created for use with young, unchurched learners Adaptable for all ages.

DANIEL MAKES GOOD CHOICES



DANIEL 1

Memory Verse:
Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to Him.
Romans 12:2

Lesson Goals

1. Understand that Daniel and his friends were captive.
2. Recognize that Daniel and his friends chose to be different.
3. Learn that Daniel asked for a test.
4. Understand that God helped Daniel and his friends.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us from sin.
3. Ask God to help you follow Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to be delivered from sin.

GOD'S WORD

Read Daniel 1:1-16. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Do You Know Jesus?

God sent Jesus to help us make good choices. Jesus came to die for our sins, but He rose from the dead. He provided us a way to live with Him forever. If we ask Him to forgive us, He will. If we invite Him to be a part of our lives, He will. If you would like to do that, talk to your teacher.

Application

God helped Daniel and his friends make right choices. They followed God instead of doing what everyone else was doing. God blessed them for it. God wants us to know Him. He sent Jesus to help us know Him and to help us choose to do what is right.

Begin With Prayer

Nebuchadnezzar was a king that ruled Babylon. One day he had his warriors attack the land of Judah. They took over the town and the people. They even took things from God's house and put them in the king's house of his false god. It was not the real God.

The king ordered his helpers to find young men in the town who could be trained. He asked for handsome, strong men that were willing to learn. Daniel and three of his friends were taken to serve in the king's palace along with other men.

Have you ever been in a strange place? Have you ever been in a place where you didn't know the language? Have you ever been in a place where the food was different from what your mom makes? Well, that is exactly what happened to Daniel and his friends.

The Bible says, "God helping you, take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering... Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking." (Romans 12:1 The Message). No matter what is happening to us, God wants us to live for Him.

The king gave the young men the best of everything. They learned the language, and they were served the best, most delicious foods. The king even served them wine. Daniel knew that these foods were not what God wanted him or his friends to eat.

Daniel could have done what everyone else was doing. But he and his friends chose to be different. The Bible says, "Fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you." (Romans 12:2 The Message)

Daniel quietly went to the king's helper and asked for permission to eat only vegetables and drink only water. God had caused the official to be kind and friendly to Daniel. But the king's helper became afraid. He told Daniel that the king would do away with him if they looked skinny or malnourished.

Daniel had an idea. He explained that he and his friends would test the idea to see if it worked. For ten days, they would eat only vegetables and drink water. The king's helper agreed. So for ten days they ate vegetables and drank water. What kind of vegetables would you eat if you were Daniel?

At the end of ten days, the king's helper compared Daniel and his friends to the other young men. Sure enough, Daniel and his friends looked healthier and they were better nourished. So, the guard let the men eat the diet of vegetables and water. At the end of three years, the king talked to all the young men. He found that Daniel and his three friends were ten times smarter than the other men. The king appointed them to his staff of advisers, or wise counselors.

Review

- 1. What did King Nebuchadnezzar take?** (Nebuchadnezzar took things from God's temple.)
- 2. What did King Nebuchadnezzar ask his helpers to do?** (Nebuchadnezzar asked his helpers to bring young men who were willing to learn to serve in his palace.)
- 3. What did Daniel and his friends request?** (Daniel and his friends asked that they be allowed to eat vegetables and drink water for ten days.)
- 4. What happened?** (Daniel and his friends were healthier.)

Planning for the next week:

Elijah at Mt. Carmel — I Kings 18:16-39

Memory Verse

**Don't be like the people of
this world, but let God
change the way you think.
Then you will know how to do
everything that is good and
pleasing to Him.
Romans 12:2**

Preschool Lesson

Read Daniel 1:11-14. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Begin With Prayer

Teacher: Bring toy dishes and toy food for the children to play with.

Nebuchadnezzar was a king that ruled Babylon. One day he had his warriors attack the land of Judah. They took over the town and the people. They even took things from God's house and put them in the king's house of his false god. It was not the real God.

The king ordered his helpers to find young men in the town who could be trained. He asked for handsome, strong men that were willing to learn. Daniel and three of his friends were taken to serve in the king's palace along with other men.

Have you ever been in a strange place? Have you ever been in a place where you didn't know the language? Have you ever been in a place where the food was different from what your mom makes? Well, that is exactly what happened to Daniel and his friends.

The king gave the young men the best of everything. They learned the language, and they were served the best, most delicious foods. The king even served them wine. Daniel knew that these foods were not what God wanted him or his friends to eat.

Daniel quietly went to the king's helper and asked for permission to eat only vegetables and drink only water. God had caused the official to be kind and friendly to Daniel. But the king's helper became afraid. He told Daniel that the king would do away with him if they looked skinny or weak.

Daniel had an idea. He explained that he and his friends would test the idea to see if it worked. For ten days, they would eat only vegetables and drink water. The king's helper agreed. So for ten days they ate vegetables and drank water. What kind of vegetables would you eat if you were Daniel?

At the end of ten days, the king's helper compared Daniel and his friends to the other young men. Sure enough, Daniel and his friends looked healthier and they were better nourished. So, the guard let the men eat the diet of vegetables and water. At the end of three years, the king talked to all the young men. He found that Daniel and his three friends were ten times smarter than the other men. The king appointed them to his staff of advisers, or wise counselors.

Sing this song to the tune of "Mary had a little lamb."

Daniel had a choice to make, choice to make, choice to make.

Daniel had a choice to make, what would Daniel do?

Daniel chose to eat good food, eat good food, eat good food.

Daniel chose to eat good food to make him strong and healthy.

For ten days they ate good food, ate good food, ate good food

For ten days they ate good food and they were very strong.

Everyone should eat good food, eat good food, eat good food,

Everyone should eat good food, and then they will be strong

Preschool Memory Verse

**Don't be like the
people of this world,
but let God change
the way you think.
Romans 12:2**



Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Bring coloring pages of fruit that can be colored and cut out. Write a word or phrase from the Bible verse on each fruit.

•**Test your memory** — For ten days Daniel and his friends ate only fruit and drank only water. Write the numbers one through ten on index cards. As you tell the story put the cards on the wall or on a poster board to emphasize a key event. Allow the children to retell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Bring fruits, vegetables, and zucchini bread (if possible) for the snack today.

Bring dried fruit for a snack.

•**Think about it** — Daniel and his friends were captive in Babylon. They had to learn a new language, a new culture, etc. They did not allow the new place to change their beliefs. Talk about the importance of following God instead of the “crowd.”

Daniel and his friends chose to do right. Talk about the importance of choosing to do right.

•**Touch activity** — Bring toy dishes and toy food for the children to play with.

Bring a coloring page of a food pyramid.

Daniel asked for a test. Write down things that help us grow stronger. Use the food pyramid. Talk about drinking water, getting enough sleep, having a routine, etc.

•**Run and play** — Play follow the leader. But have two leaders. Choose four children to be Daniel and his friends. Don't tell the leader, but instruct Daniel and his friends not to follow the leader. Let the others take turns being Daniel and his friends.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to choose to do what is right.

•**Sing** — Sing “Obedience,” “Trust and Obey,” or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids who did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver coloring pages with the Bible verse to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Rooted and Grounded



Pray

Thank God for giving us His Word to help us know how to live.
Thank God for sending Jesus to make a way for us to be forgiven.
Pray for those who need to know Jesus.

Read the Bible Daily

This week, read Daniel 1. Also, read a chapter out of Psalms and Proverbs each day.

Think About It

It would have been very easy for Daniel and his friends to “go along” with what everyone else was doing. But they knew that they needed to follow God’s laws about what to eat and what to do. We may be tempted to “go along” with the crowd and do something that we know is wrong. But remember, God knows what is best for us, and He gives us rules for a reason. He wants to protect us.

Do It

Make a list of the places or situations when it is tempting to follow the crowd to do something wrong. Then pray and ask God to show you how to avoid those situations or give you the strength to say no to temptation.

Tell About It

Share the Bible story with a friend.

Study it

Attend Bible study this week.

Word Art

Trace the letters.

Daniel

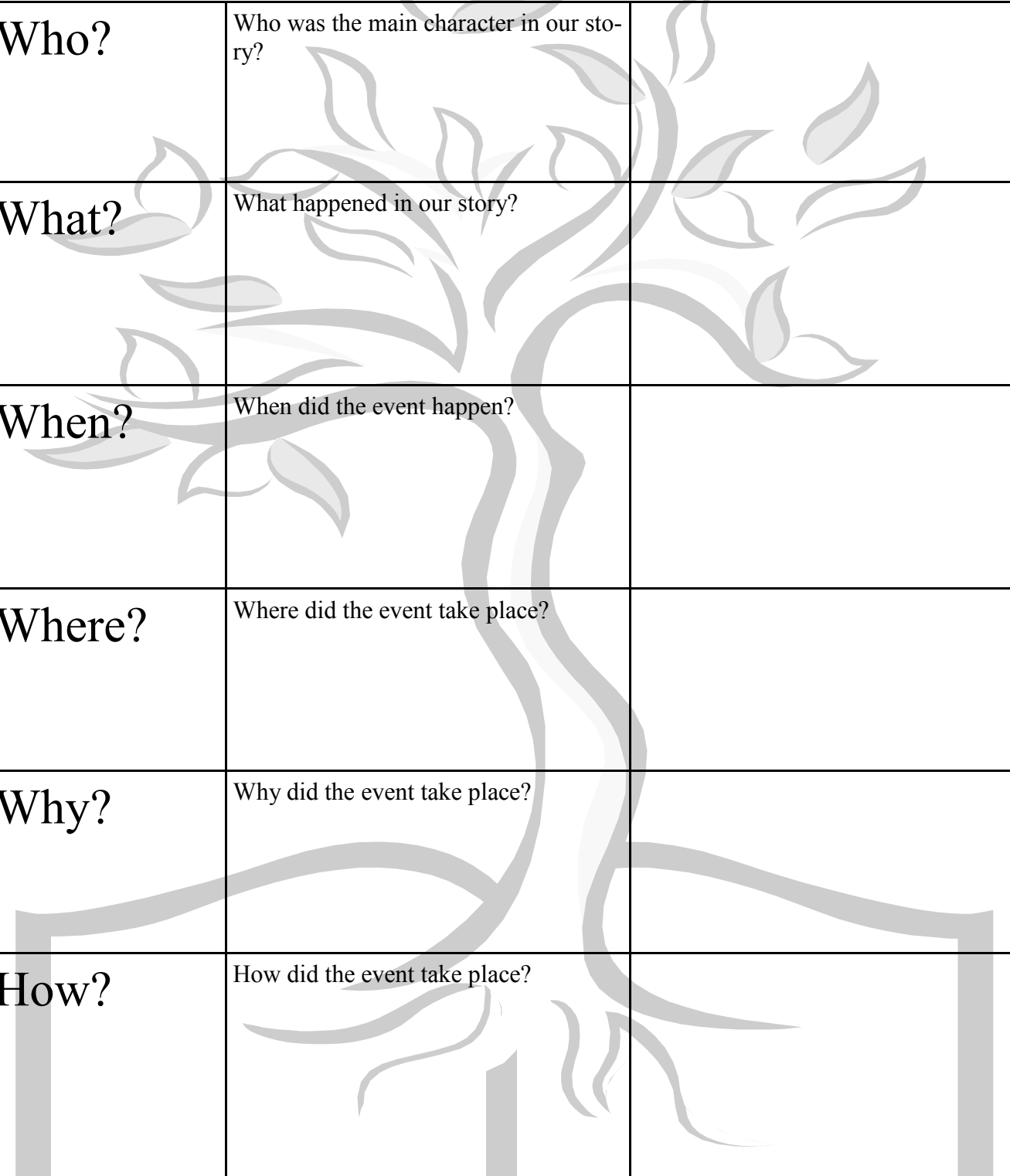
chose

to do

right

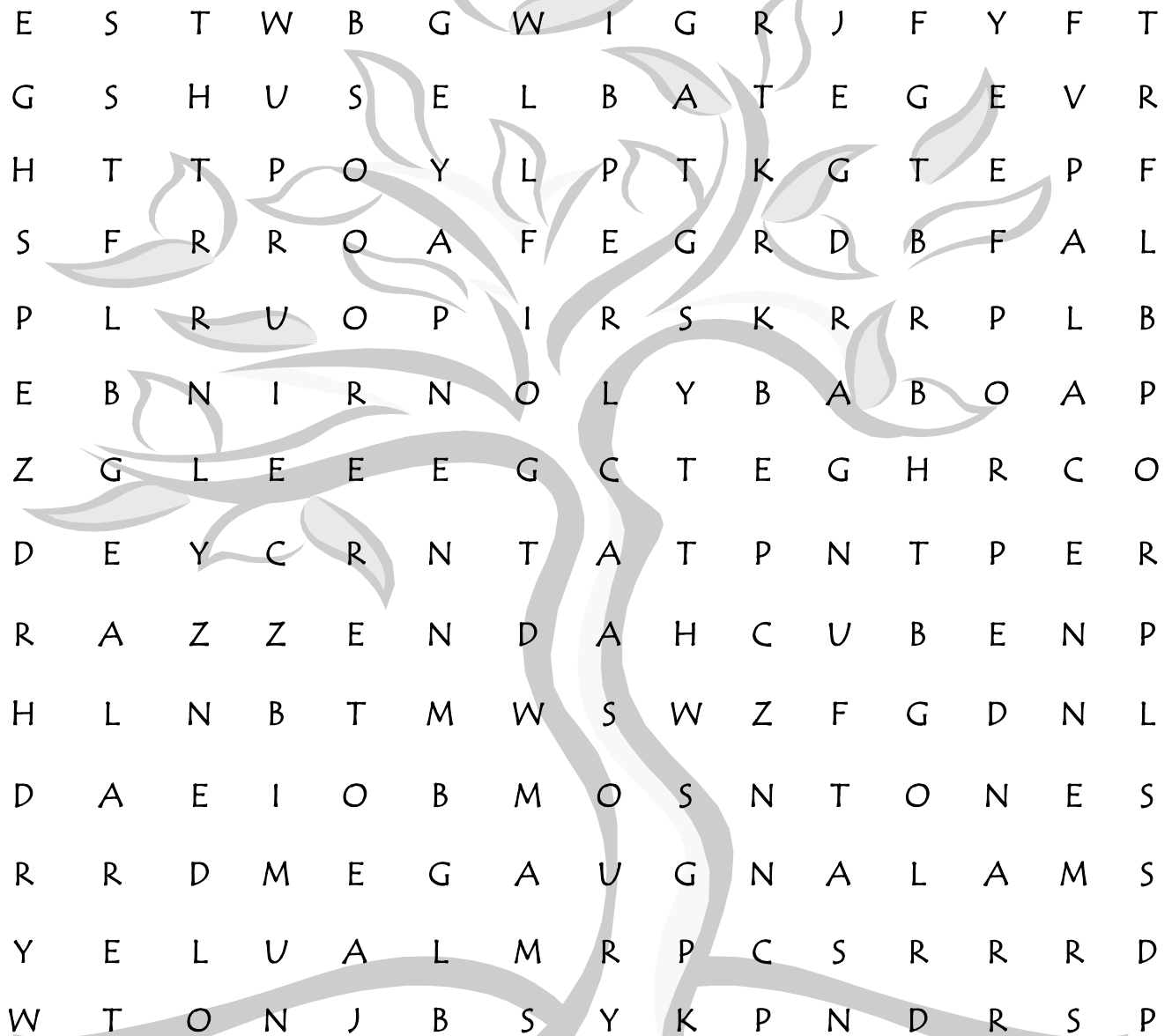
GOD'S WORD

Learning the Facts



Who?	Who was the main character in our story?	
What?	What happened in our story?	
When?	When did the event happen?	
Where?	Where did the event take place?	
Why?	Why did the event take place?	
How?	How did the event take place?	

Word Search



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

NEBUDCHADNEZZAR

BABYLON

JUDAH

YOUNG

STONG

LEARN

DANIEL

FRIENDS

PALACE

LANGUAGE

VEGETABLES

WATER

Word Search Solution

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

NEBUDCHADNEZZAR

BABYLON

JUDAH

YOUNG

STONG

LEARN

DANIEL

FRIENDS

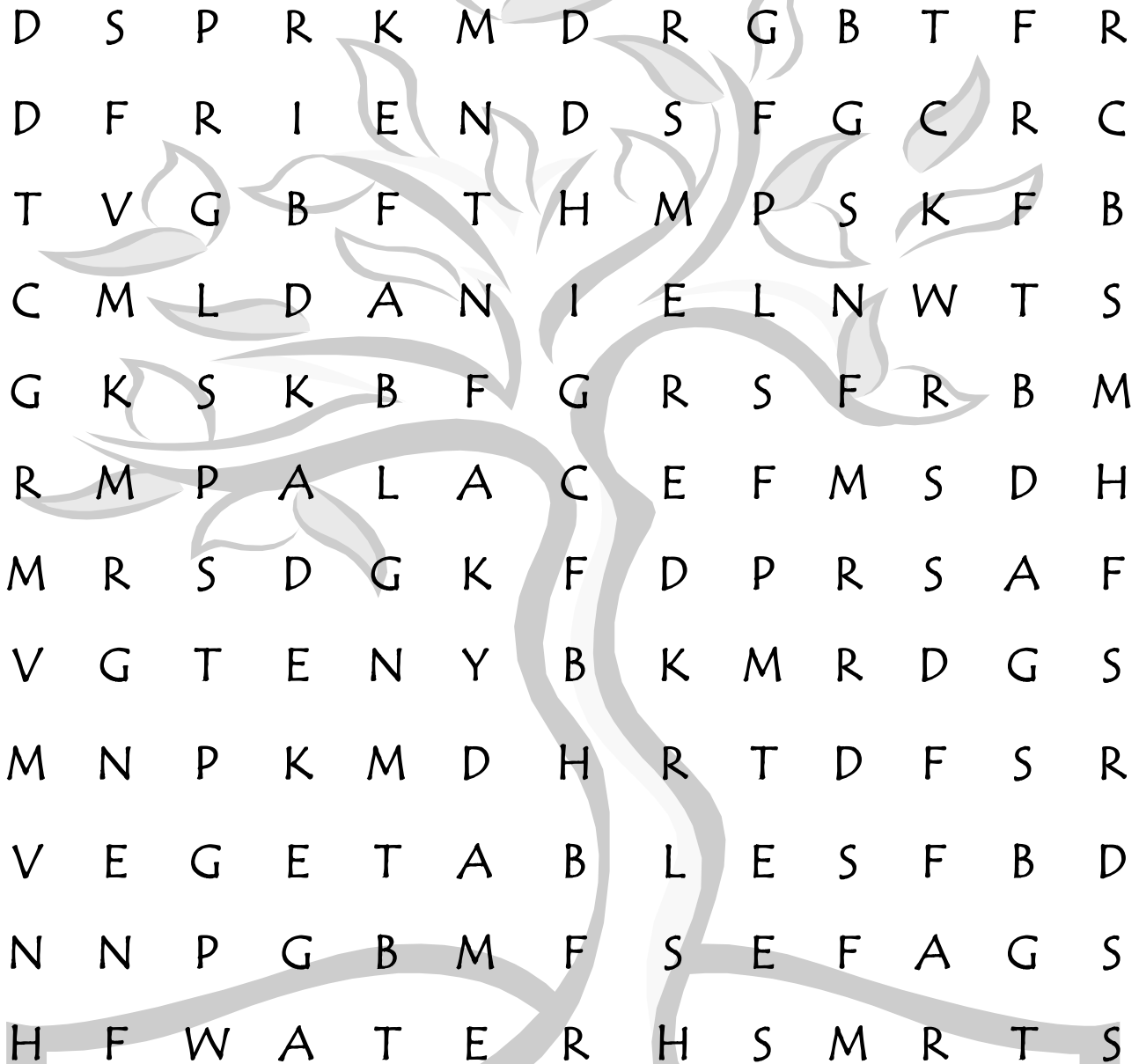
PALACE

LANGUAGE

VEGETABLES

WATER

Preschool Word Search



D S P R K M D R G B T F R
D F R I E N D S F G C R C
T V G B F T H M P S K F B
C M L D A N I E L N W T S
G K S K B F G R S F R B M
R M P A L A C E F M S D H
M R S D G K F D P R S A F
V G T E N Y B K M R D G S
M N P K M D H R T D F S R
V E G E T A B L E S F B D
N N P G B M F S E F A G S
H F W A T E R H S M R T S

WATER

VEGETABLES

TEN

PALACE

DANIEL

FRIENDS

Preschool Word Search Solution

D S P R K M D R G B T F R
D F R I E N D S F G C R C
T V G B F T H M P S K F B
C M L D A N I E L N W T S
G K S K B F G R S F R B M
R M P A L A C E F M S D H
M R S D G K F D P R S A F
V G T E N Y B K M R D G S
M N P K M D H R T D F S R
V E G E T A B L E S F B D
N N P G B M F S E F A G S
H F W A T E R H S M R T S

WATER

VEGETABLES

TEN

PALACE

DANIEL

FRIENDS

Anagram

NEADIL

ZUBAERCNEADHZN

YABNLBO

EBAVSAETGEL

TRAEW

LEYTHAH

RMSETAR

ECOHSIC

SWEI

GOD'S WORD

Anagram Solution

