

# Old Testament

Mission Arlington ◦ Mission Metroplex Curriculum ◦ 2011

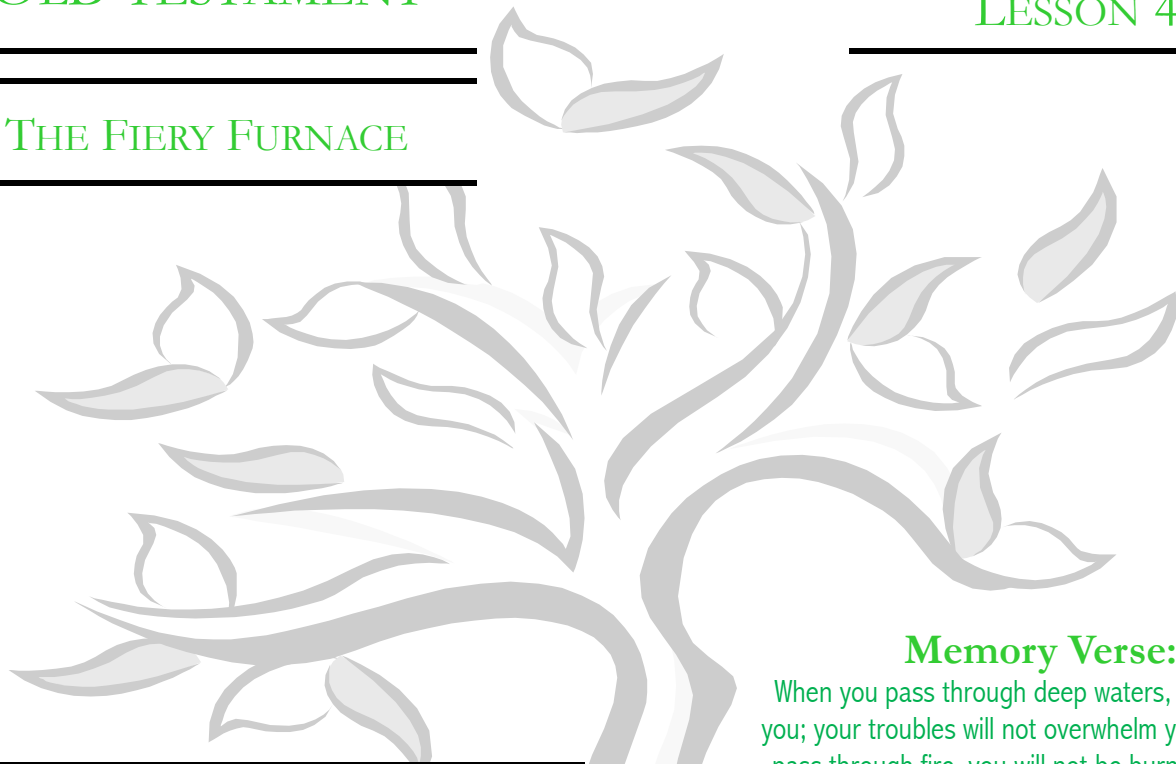
## One Year Plan



GOD'S WORD

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

THE FIERY FURNACE



DANIEL 3

**Memory Verse:**

When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you. When you pass through fire, you will not be burned; the hard trials that come will not hurt you.  
Isaiah 43:2

**Lesson Goals**

1. Understand that the king ordered everyone to bow down to a statue of gold.
2. Recognize that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow to the statue.
3. Learn that the three men were thrown into a furnace of fire.
4. See that God rescued them and they came out of the furnace unharmed.

**Prayer Time**

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

GOD'S WORD

## Read Daniel 3:16-18. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

### Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus died for us because He knew that there was no other way that we could be saved from our sins. Jesus knew that He could save us by dying for our sins. The best part is that He arose three days later to show that God is more powerful than death. When we trust Jesus, we have a future in Heaven with Him! If you would like to know more, talk to your teacher.

### Application

The three men had faith in God. They stood before the king and said that no matter what happened to them, they would not disobey their God to worship a statue. They were willing to die for what they believed. They knew their God was real. What about you? Do you have faith in God? He wants to help you to live for Him. He will give you the strength you need to stand up for Him!

### Begin With Prayer

Last time, we learned that Daniel and his friends chose to be different from the others. They did not eat the regular food the king served them. God blessed their obedience and made them stronger and wiser than all the other young men.

Daniel had three close friends named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They were also Israelite captives in Babylon. The king of Babylon was King Nebuchadnezzar. He had experienced the power of God when Daniel interpreted his dream. (Daniel 2) But he quickly forgot about that. He ordered a huge statue (ninety feet tall) to be made out of gold. When the statue was completed, the king requested that all of the leaders come for the dedication. He ordered that when everyone heard the instruments play music, they were to bow down to the statue. Anyone who refused to bow down to the statue would be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire!

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego heard the order. But they also knew that God, the true God, said that they should only worship Him and no other gods or idols. They knew that this huge gold statue was just that—a statue! It would be disobeying God to bow down to it. So, when the music played, everyone else bowed down to the statue, but Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego remained standing.

Some of the men around them noticed that the three men had not bowed to the statue, and they quickly ran and told King Nebuchadnezzar. He was furious! He had Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego brought in to him. He asked them if it was true that they had refused to bow down to the statue. He said he would give them one more chance to change their minds and bow down to the statue. If they didn't, they would be thrown into the fiery furnace. He asked, "What god will be able to rescue you from my power then?"

But the three men were not afraid. They responded, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if He doesn't, Your Majesty can be sure that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up." (Daniel 3:16-18)

Well, the king was so furious that he ordered the fire in the furnace to be heated SEVEN times hotter than normal! He had Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego tied up and thrown into the furnace. It was so hot that the guards who threw them into the furnace were burned up! But that was not the end of the three men in the furnace. God had a plan to rescue them.

As the king watched the furnace, suddenly he jumped up. He said, "Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?" His advisors assured him they had done that. The king shouted that there were now FOUR men in the furnace, untied, walking around, and the fourth one looked like the Son of God! He shouted for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to come out of the furnace. When the three men came out, they were not burned at all, and they didn't even smell like smoke! Wow! What a miracle!

King Nebuchadnezzar praised the God of the three men. He knew that only a real God could have rescued them from the fire. He realized how foolish he had been for having everyone bow to the statue. He ordered that no one should speak against the true God. And he gave the three men important positions in his kingdom.

### Review

1. **Who were Daniel's friends?** (Daniel's friends were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.)
2. **What did King Nebuchadnezzar tell them to do?** (The king told them to worship the gold statue.)
3. **What did Daniel's friends say?** (Our God is able to save us, but even if He does not, we will not worship your idol.)
4. **What happened next?** (God was with Daniel's friends in the fire and they were not burned.)

Planning for the next week:

Daniel and the Lions Den (Daniel 6)

## Memory Verse

When you pass through deep waters,  
I will be with you; your troubles will not  
overwhelm you. When you pass through  
fire, you will not be burned; the hard  
trials that come will not hurt you.

Isaiah 43:2

# Preschool Lesson

Read Daniel 3:16-18. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

**Teacher:** Bring a carpet runner or towel. Lay it on the floor. Cover the floor with tissue paper so that it will resemble fire. Tell the children to walk through the fire. Remind them that God walked with the three friends in the fire.

Three men loved God very, very much. Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men were important people. They worked for the king.

One day the king decided to make a huge golden statue. It was very, very big. (Look way up into the sky.) The king wanted everyone to bow down and worship the statue when beautiful music played. The king made a law that if someone did not bow down, they would be thrown into a fiery, hot furnace (like an oven).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew that the statue was not God, and they would not bow down to the statue. The other leaders saw that the three men did not bow down to the statue. So, they told the king what the three men did.

The king was furious! He couldn't believe that they would not bow to the statue. He had Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego brought into the palace. The king said, "Is it true that you did not bow down to my beautiful statue? I'll give you another chance. When the music plays again, if you bow down, then nothing will happen to you. But if you don't, then we'll see if your God can save you!"

The three men replied to the king, "King, our God whom we serve is able to save us, and He will rescue us from you. But, even if He doesn't, we want you to know that we will not serve your fake god statue."

The king was so angry that he ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than normal. He commanded the strongest men in the army to tie the three men up and throw them in.

Suddenly, the king rubbed his eyes. "What!" He said, "Didn't we throw three men into the fire? I can see four! The three are not tied with rope and the fourth looks like the Son of God!" The king also noticed that the men were not on fire!

The king went to the opening of the furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, come out!"

So, they came out. Do you know what? They didn't smell like smoke at all. (Make a sniffing sound.) Their clothes were not burned, and their hair wasn't even scorched!

The king praised God. He now knew that God was the only true and real God. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were given high positions in the king's court.

## Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.

## Preschool Memory Verse

When you pass  
through fire, you will  
not be burned; the  
hard trials that come  
will not hurt you.  
Isaiah 43:2

# Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Bring pictures of a flame. Write the memory verse at the bottom.

•**Test your memory** — Bring dolls to tell the story. Bring a doll to represent the king, the statue, etc. Use the toys as you tell the story. Allow the children to retell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Bring spicy chips or red hots for a snack.

•**Think about it**—The king said he saw someone who looked like the Son of God in the fire with Daniel's friends. Talk about how God may not keep us from problems, but He will walk with us.

The people were to bow down and worship the statue when they heard the music. Talk about how sounds and certain things remind us of traditions that we may need to leave behind.

•**Touch activity** — Bring coloring pages of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Create a flame around them using different colored tissue paper.

Bring a carpet runner or towel. Lay it on the floor. Cover the floor with tissue paper so that it will resemble fire. Tell the children to walk through the fire. Remind them that God walked with the three friends in the fire.

•**Run and play** — Play musical chairs.

Have a cake walk, but use cookies as the prize.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to worship Him only.

•**Sing** — Sing "Worship Him," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "I Will Praise You, O Lord," "Here I Am to Worship," 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 the handout 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 sending Jesus to die for us.  
Praise God and thank Him for always being with us.  
Pray that we will have the faith and strength to stand up for God.

## Read the Bible Daily

This week, read Daniel 2-4. Also, read a chapter out of Psalms and Proverbs each day.

## Think About It

The three men could have chosen to go along with the king's order and bow to the statue. But they knew that God would not be pleased with that. They were willing to die for what they believed. Do you have that kind of faith? If not, ask God to give you more faith.

## Change it

There may be areas of your life where you just "go along" with the crowd, even though you know what they are doing is wrong. Ask God to forgive you and to help you follow Him, no matter what the cost may be. Most likely, you will not be thrown into a fiery furnace! But you might be rejected by a friend or made fun of. Know that God will bless you for obeying Him.

## Tell About It

Share the Bible story with a friend. Discuss the faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Share the Bible verse (Isaiah 43:2). Talk about God's promise to be with us through good times and bad times.

## Study it

Attend Bible study this week. Read Hebrews 11, a list of those who had great faith in God.



Word Art

Trace the letters.

God was

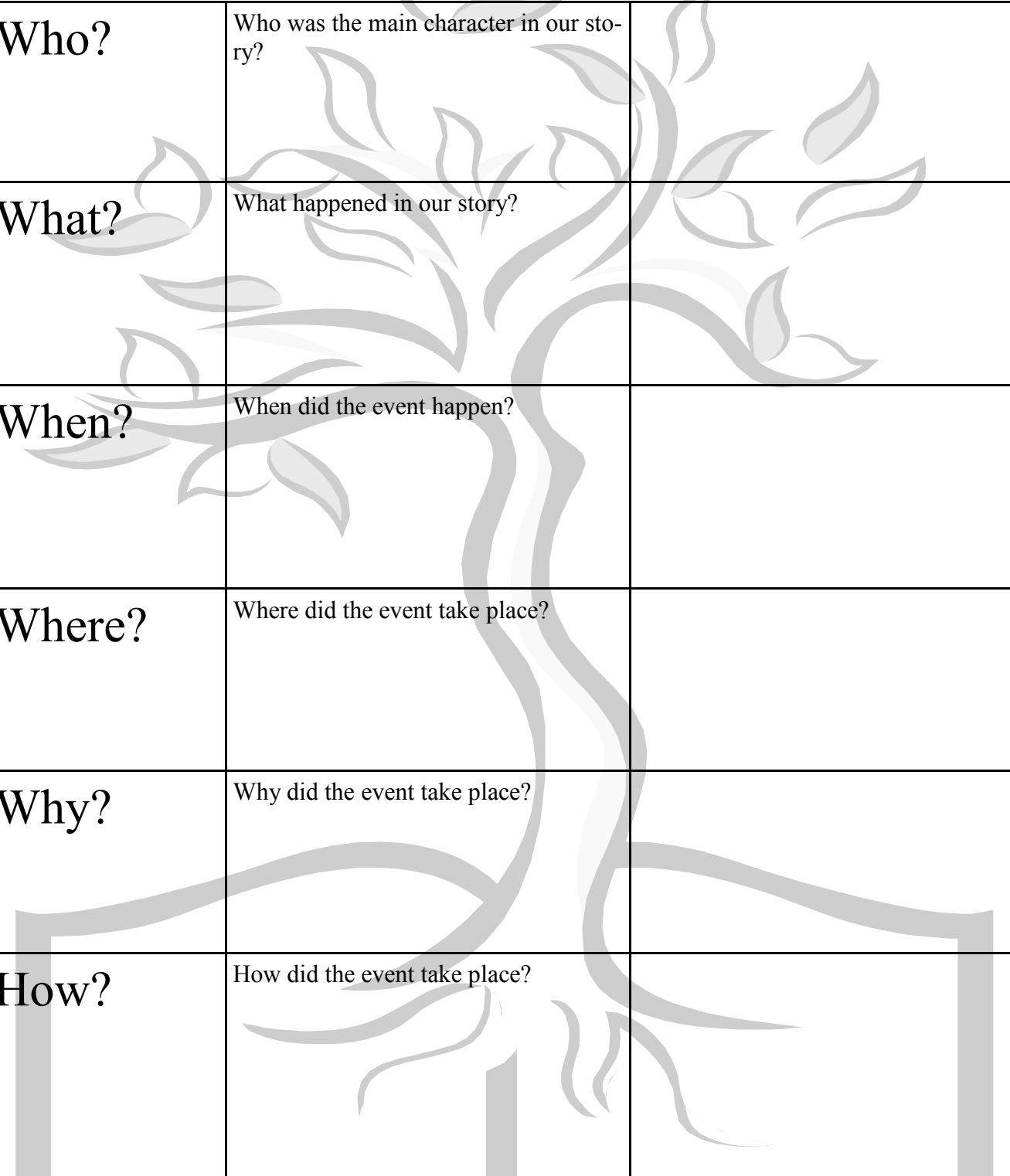
with them

in the

fire.

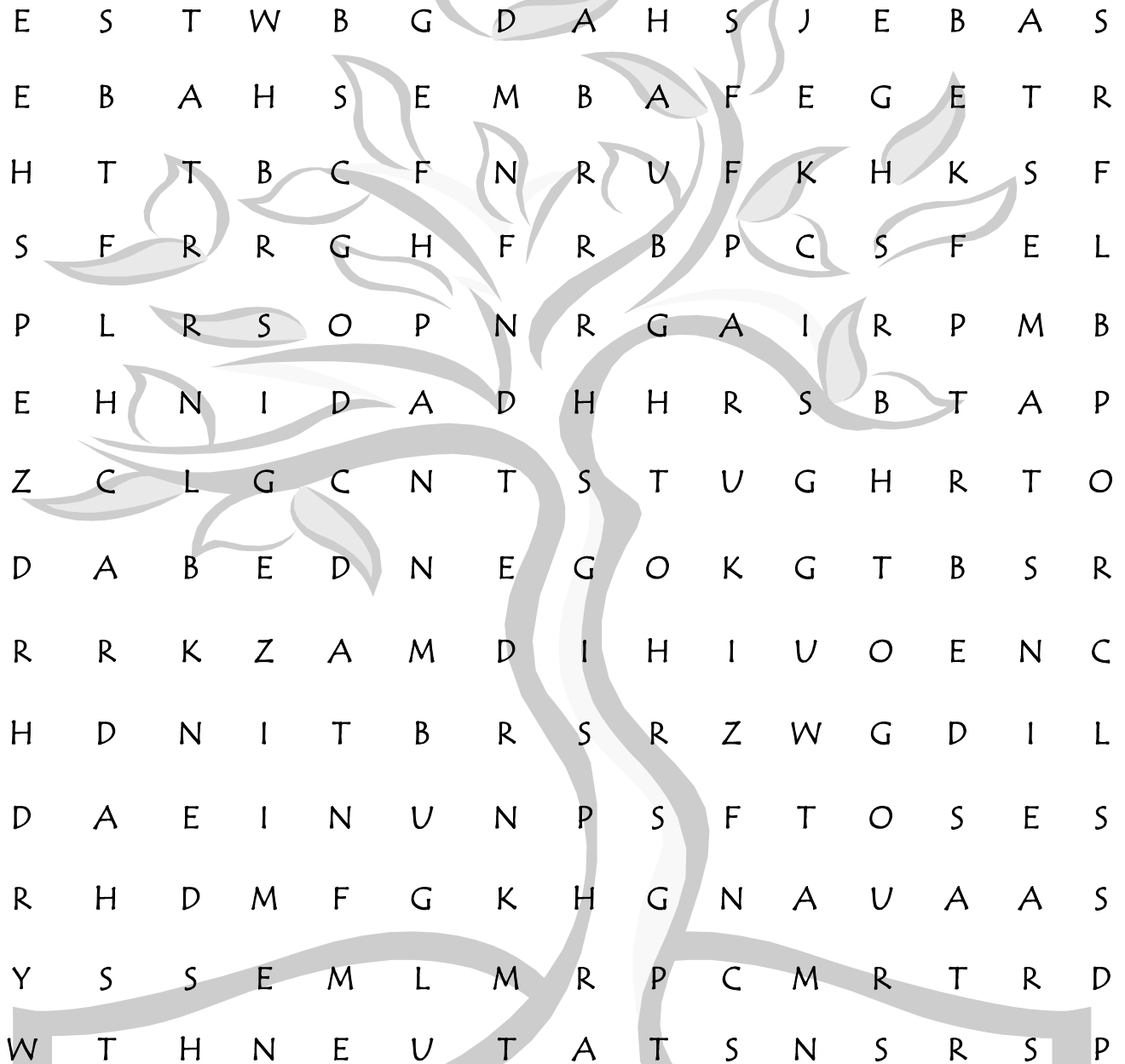
GOD'S WORD

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

FRIENDS  
KING  
MESHACH  
MUSIC

RIGHT  
FURIOUS  
SHADRACH  
STATUE

RISK  
BOW  
ABEDNEGO  
FURNACE

# Word Search Solution

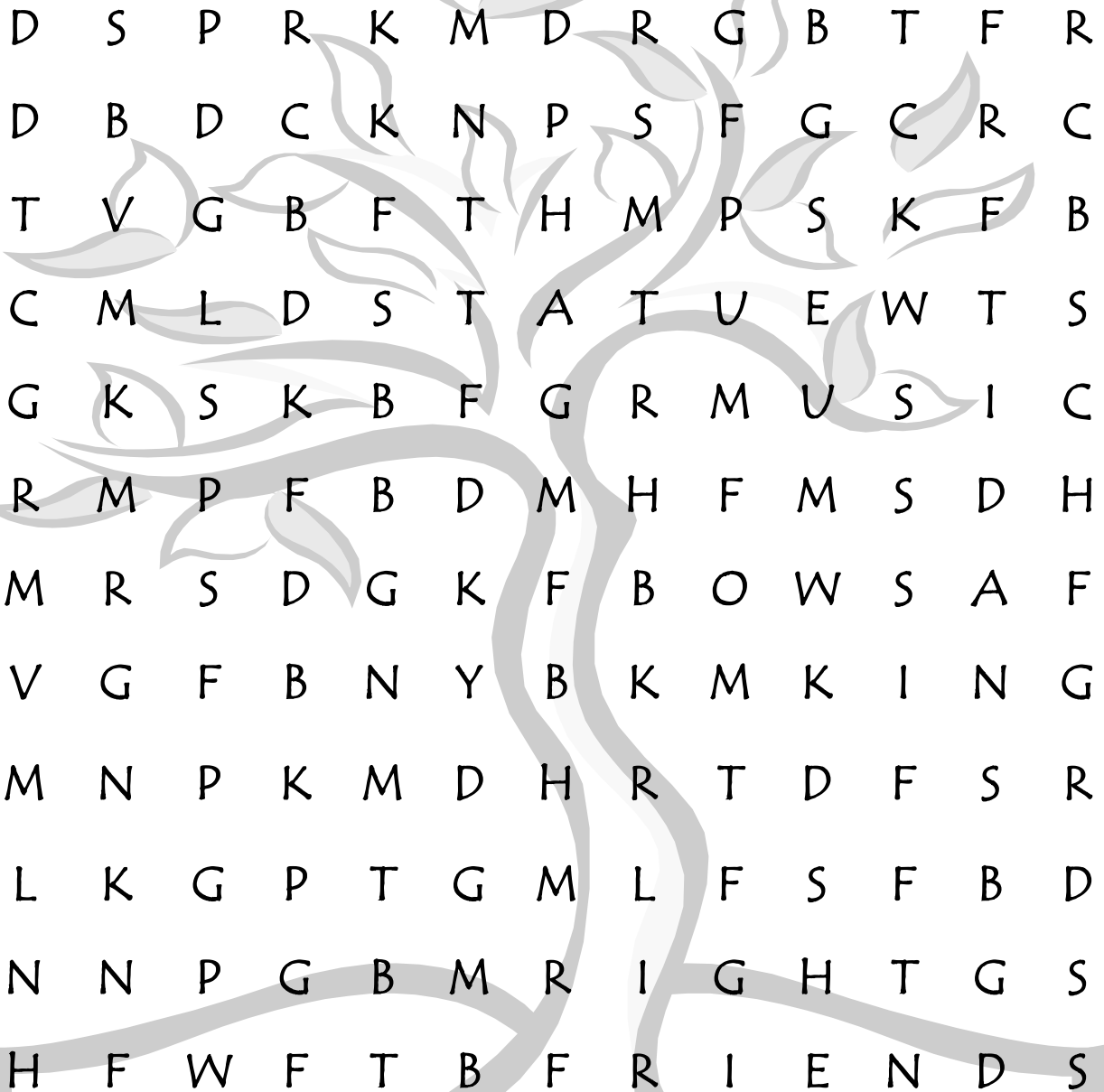
E	S	T	W	B	G	D	A	H	S	J	E	B	A	S
E	B	A	H	S	E	M	B	A	F	E	G	E	T	R
H	T	T	B	C	F	N	R	U	F	K	H	K	S	F
S	F	R	R	G	H	F	R	B	P	C	S	F	E	L
P	L	R	S	O	P	N	R	G	A	I	R	P	M	B
E	H	N	I	D	A	D	H	H	R	S	B	T	A	P
Z	C	L	G	C	N	T	S	T	U	G	H	R	T	O
D	A	B	E	D	N	E	G	O	K	G	T	B	S	R
R	R	K	Z	A	M	D	I	H	I	U	O	E	N	C
H	D	N	I	T	B	R	S	R	Z	W	G	D	I	L
D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

FRIENDS  
KING  
MESHACH  
MUSIC

RIGHT  
FURIOUS  
SHADRACH  
STATUE

RISK  
BOW  
ABEDNEGO  
FURNACE

# Preschool Word Search



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

FRIENDS  
BOW

RIGHT  
MUSIC

KING  
STATUE

# Preschool Word Search Solution

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

FRIENDS  
BOW

RIGHT  
MUSIC

KING  
STATUE

# Anagram

TUSATE

OBW NWDO

SMCUI

ARNFECU

ONT NDUBER

RESAIPD

CEAMSHH

CRAADSHH

BAEEDONG

GOD'S WORD

## Anagram Solution

STATUE

BOW DOWN

MUSIC

FURNACE

NOT BURNED

PRAISED

MESHACH

SHADRACH

ABEDNEGO

GOD'S WORD