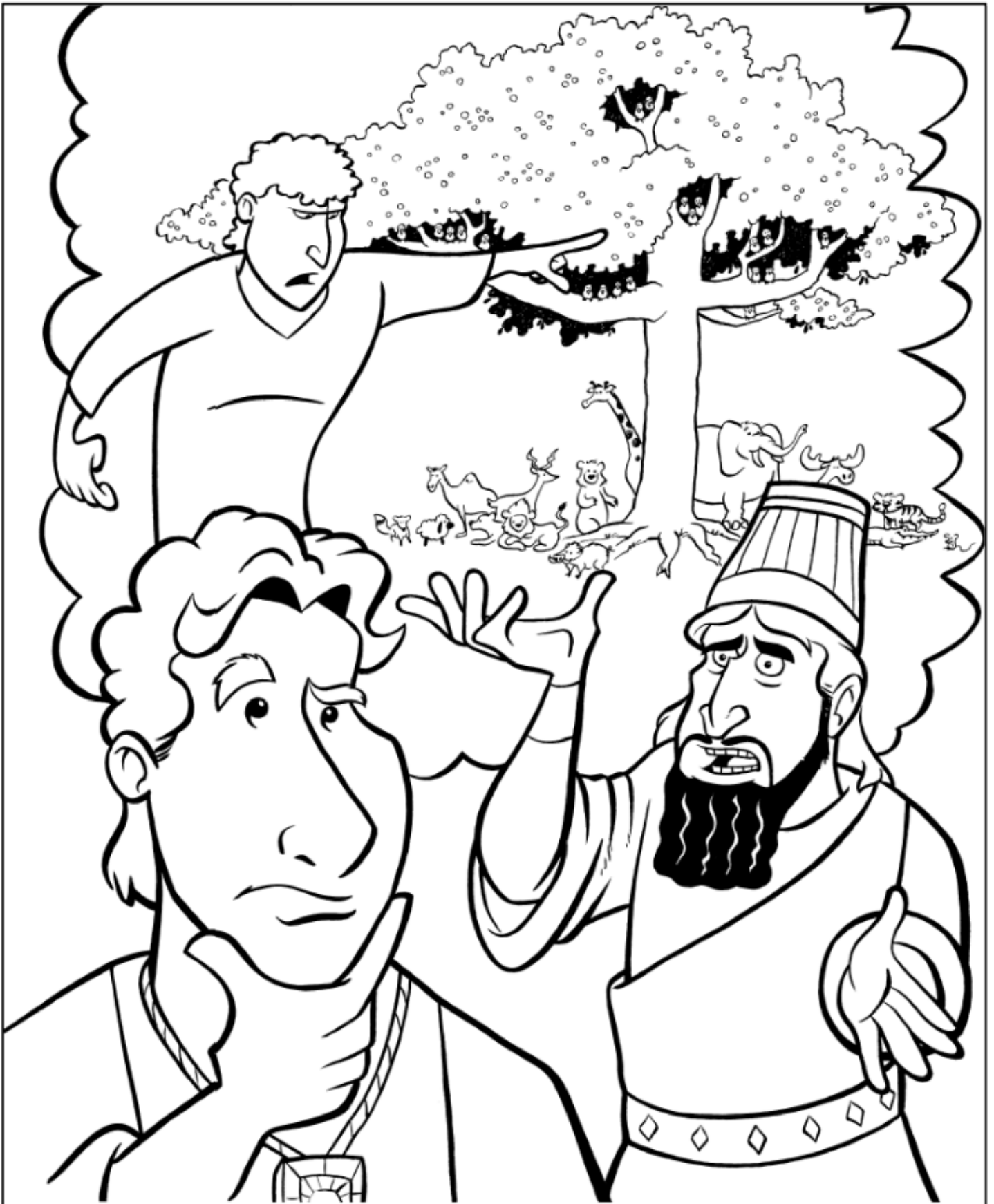


Lesson Three:
What Will It Take to
Get My Attention?

ACTIVITY SHEETS



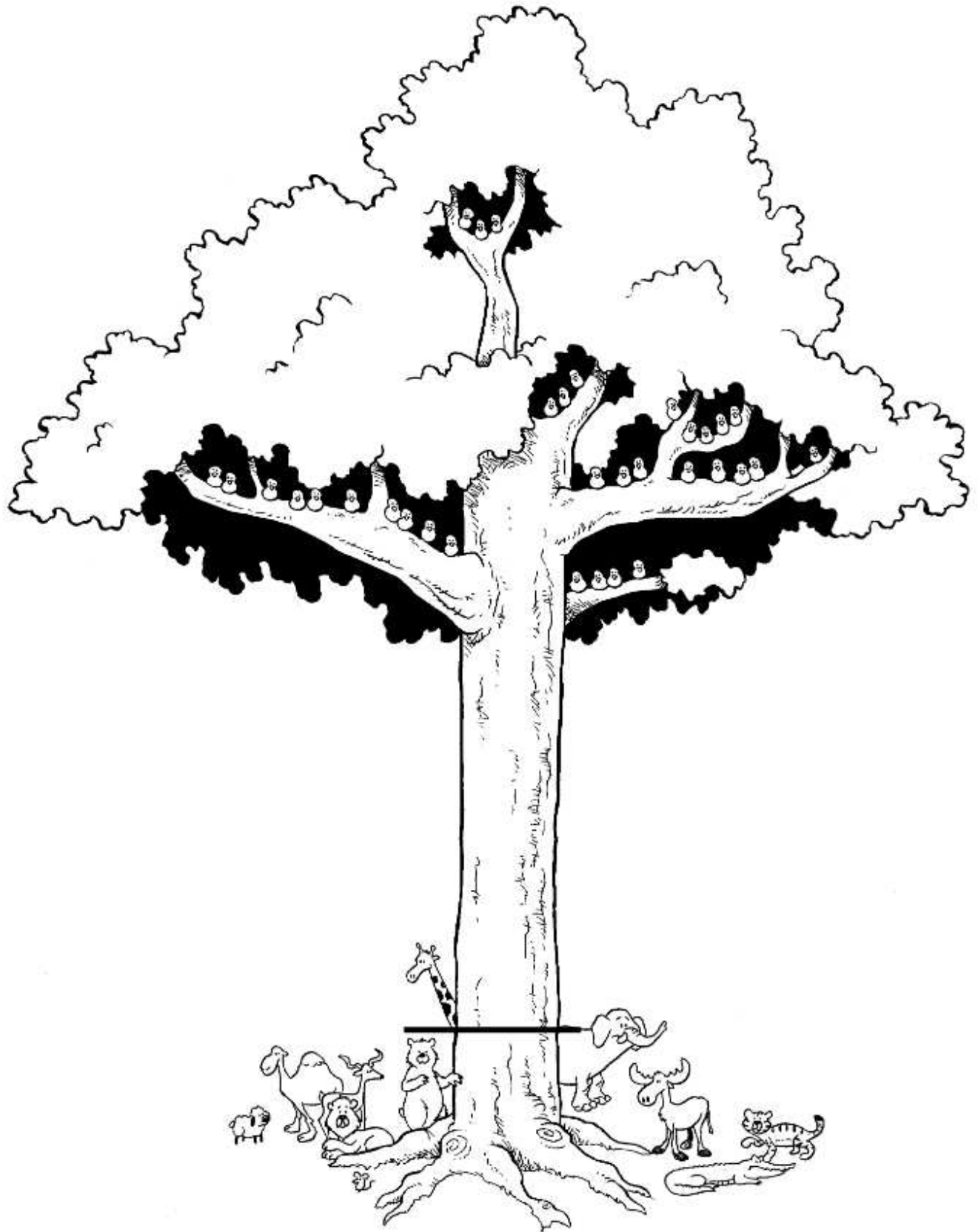
God used Daniel to interpret King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Because of Nebuchadnezzar's pride, God was going to punish him for seven years by driving him away from his kingdom and making his mind like an animal's (Daniel 4:23).

GOD WARNS THE KING IN A DREAM

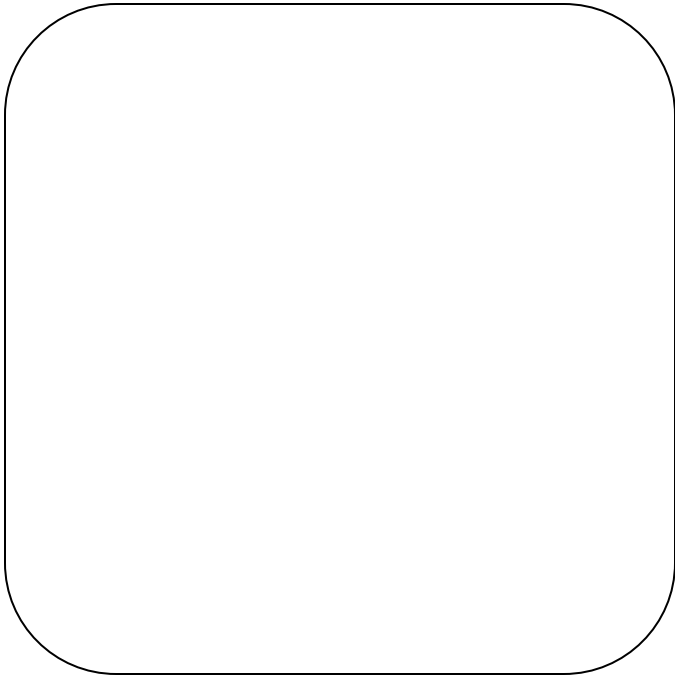
“These were the visions of my head while on my bed: I was looking, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth, and its height was great. The tree grew and became strong; its height reached to the heavens, and it could be seen to the ends of all the earth. Its leaves were lovely, its fruit abundant, and in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, the birds of the heavens dwelt in its branches, and all flesh was fed from it” (Daniel 4:10–12).

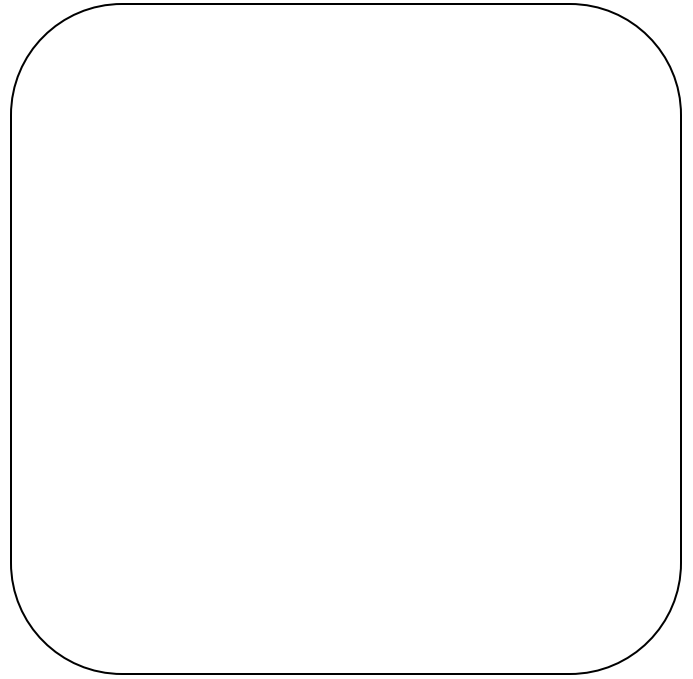


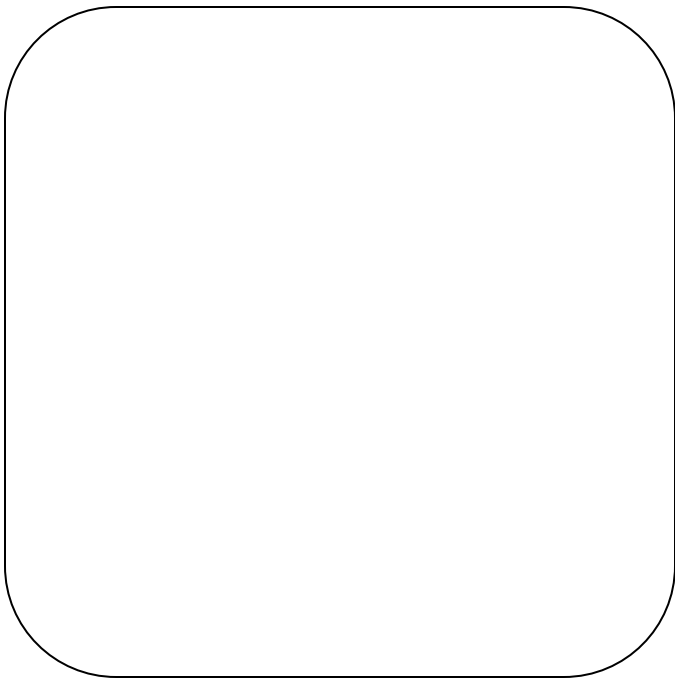
GOD WARNS THE KING IN A DREAM

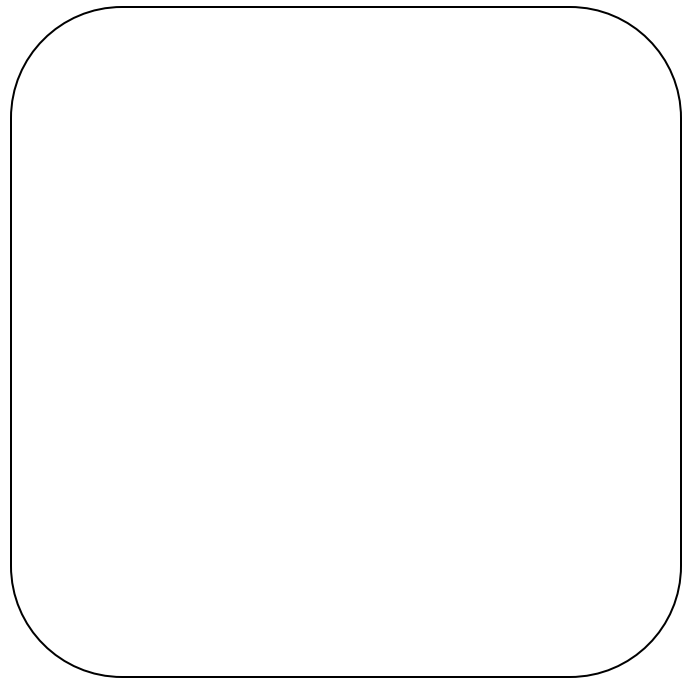


NEBUCHADNEZZAR STORY BOARD

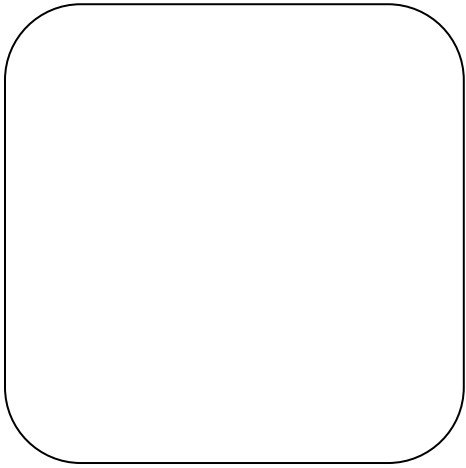


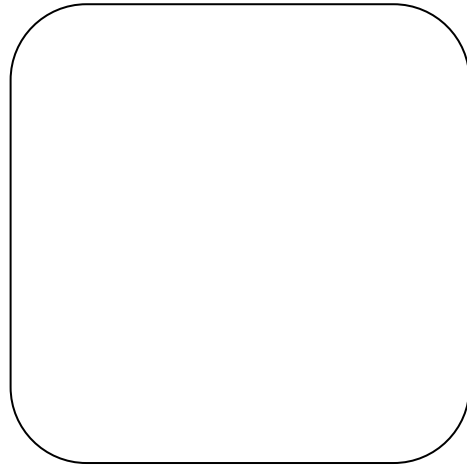


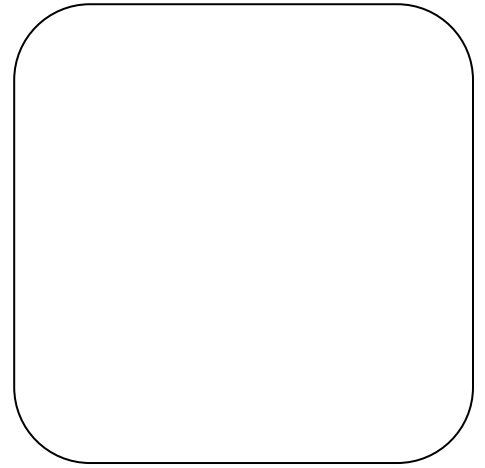


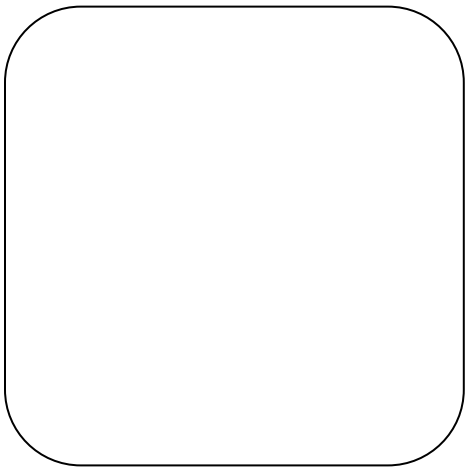


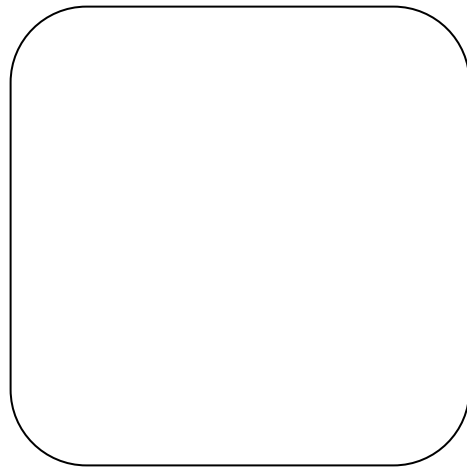
THE TALE OF TWO KINGS

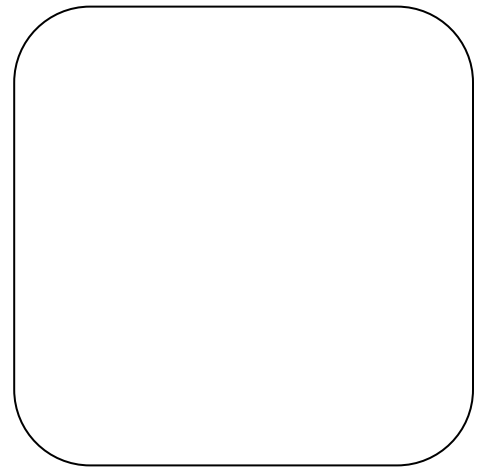


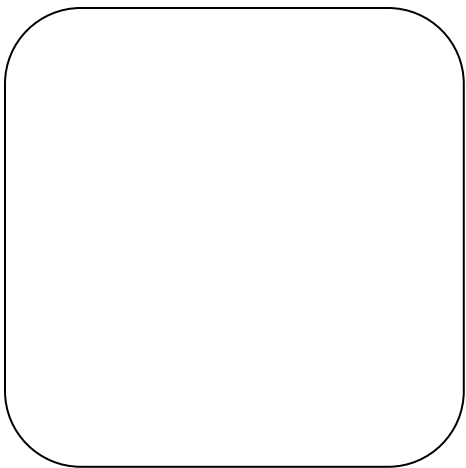


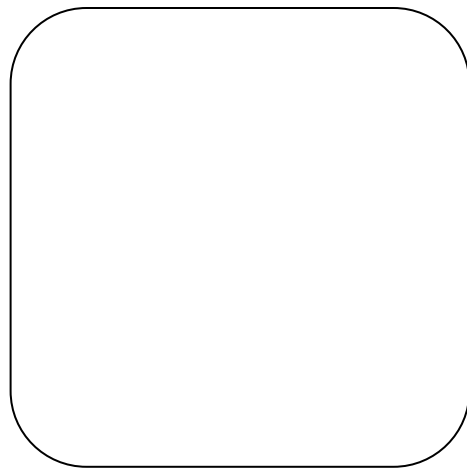


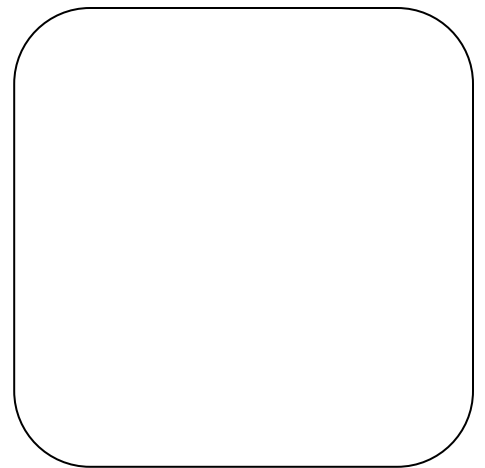


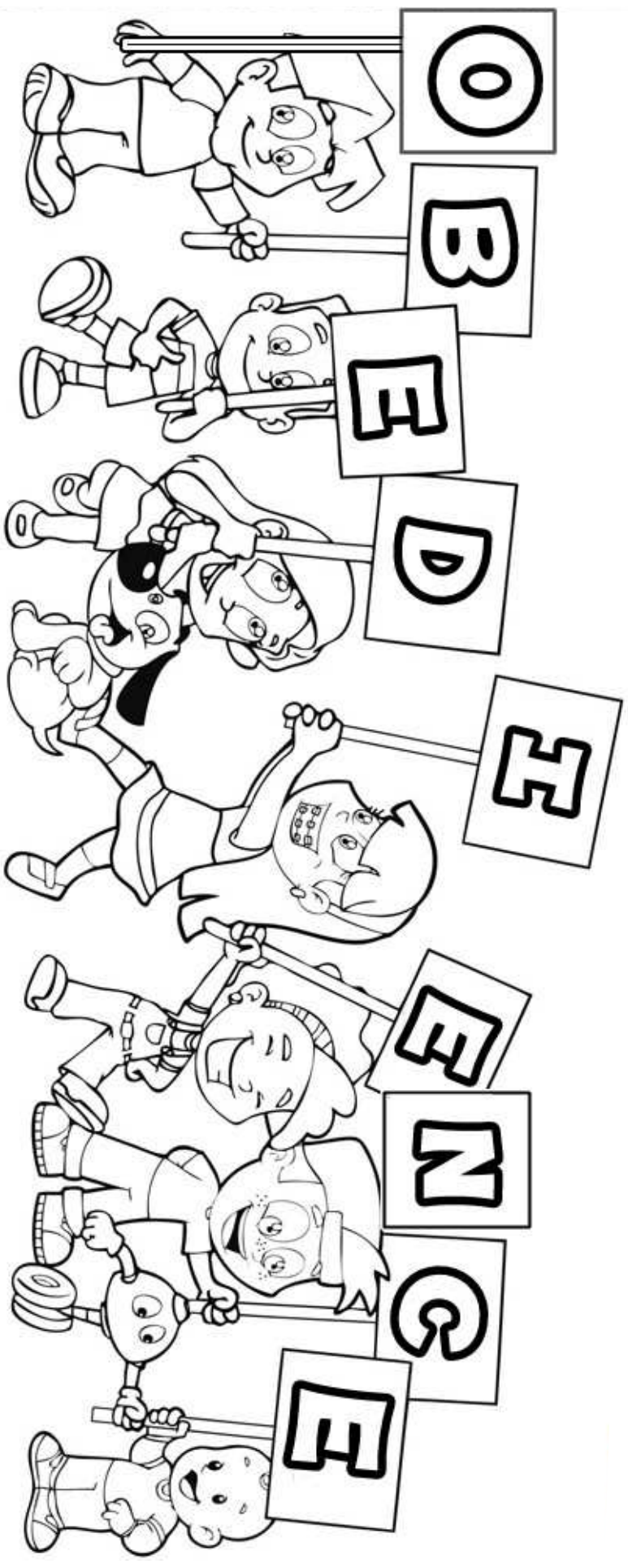












Make a clean break
with your sins and
invest in what is right.

Daniel 4:27

NEBUCHADNEZZAR WORD SEARCH

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

BABYLON

GRASS

PRIDE

BLESSED

HAIR

REASON

CLAWS

NEBUCHADNEZZAR

TRUTH

DEPARTED

OXEN



“That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven. He lived this way until his hair was as long as eagles’ feathers and his nails were like birds’ claws.” (Daniel 4:33)



“This is the message that was written: *Mene*, *mene*, *tekel*, and *Parsin*. This is what these words mean:

Mene means ‘numbered’—God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end.

Tekel means ‘weighed’—you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up.

Parsin means ‘divided’—your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”

Daniel 5:25-28

NEBUCHADNEZZAR WORD SEARCH

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

BABYLON

GRASS

PRIDE

BLESSED

HAIR

REASON

CLAWS

NEBUCHADNEZZAR

TRUTH

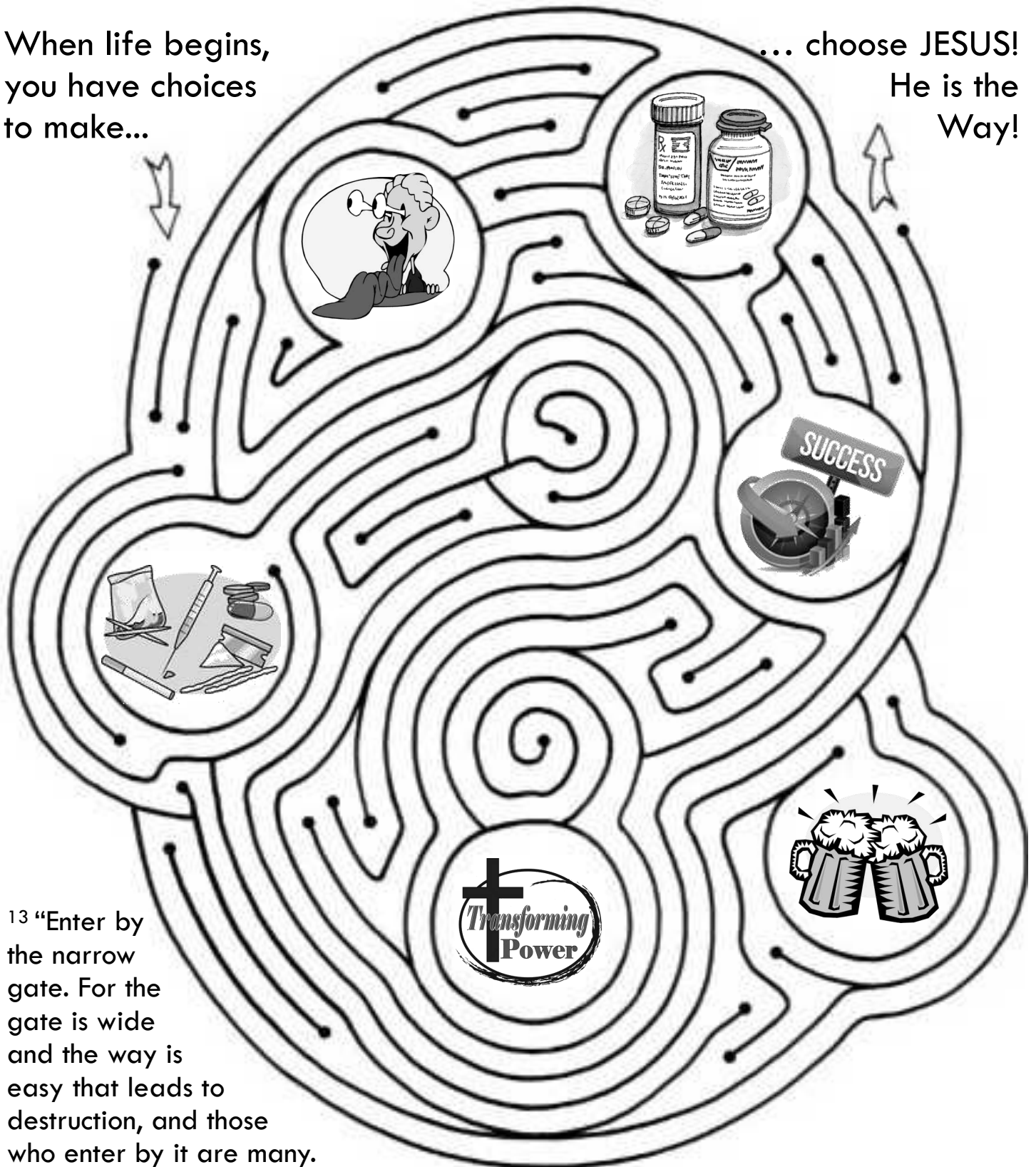
DEPARTED

OXEN

CHOOSE WISELY

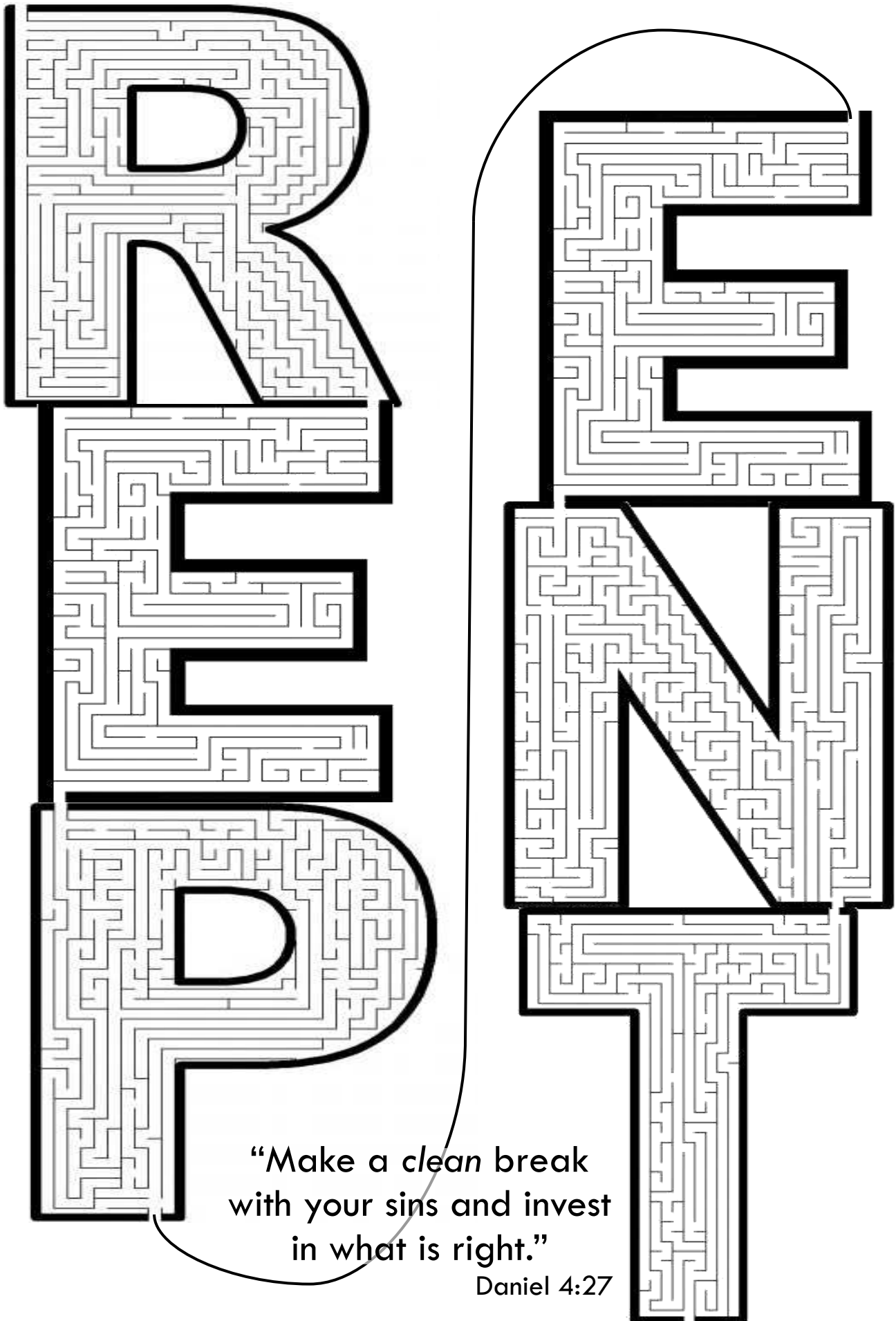
When life begins,
you have choices
to make...

... choose JESUS!
He is the
Way!



¹³ "Enter by
the narrow
gate. For the
gate is wide
and the way is
easy that leads to
destruction, and those
who enter by it are many.

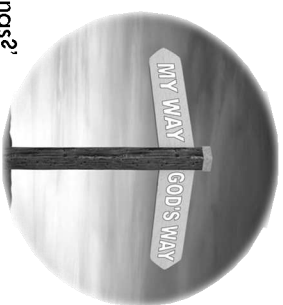
¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads
to life, and those who find it are few." (Matthew 7:13-14)



“Make a *clean* break
with your sins and invest
in what is right.”

Daniel 4:27

His rule is everlasting,
and his kingdom is eternal.
All the people of the earth
are nothing compared to him.
He does as he pleases
among the angels of heaven
and among the people of the earth.
No one can stop him or say to him,
'What do you mean by doing these things?'



"When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before.

"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud." (Daniel 4:34b-37)

When Nebuchadnezzar recognized God as the supreme ruler of all things, God restored him as the King over the Babylonian Empire. But there was even more to it than that! You see, Nebuchadnezzar recognized that before his seven years living like a wild animal, he was a very prideful person. The king realized that God was the one who humbled him and brought him to a point of repentance.

The Bible says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (Proverbs 3:34, James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5). The Bible also tells us that God hates a prideful attitude (Proverbs 6:16-17), and He will do whatever it takes to humble us and bring us to repentance!

What is it going to take in your life for God to get your attention?

When faced with this decision, will you choose your way or God's way?



A TALE OF TWO KINGS

A long time ago in a land far, far away called Babylon, there lived a king. This king's name was Nebuchadnezzar. King Nebuchadnezzar was the greatest king of one of the greatest kingdoms that ever existed. All this 'greatness' kind of went to the king's head. He became very proud of all he had accomplished.

One day, while Nebuchadnezzar was sleeping, God sent him a vision. He had a vision of a giant tree that was tall and green, and it provided shade and fruit for everyone—birds, animals and even people. But in his vision, a holy messenger commanded that the tree be chopped down, leaving only the stump to remind the people of the greatness of the tree.

One of the king's wise men, Daniel, explained the dream to the king. He said, "Here is what the dream means: the kingdom of Babylon will fall and you, O King, will live outside and eat grass like an animal for seven years. God is doing this to you so you will learn that He is the one who rules over the kingdoms of the world." Then Daniel begged the king, "Please take my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Show God that you've really changed and then maybe he will change His mind and let you remain as king."

The king did not change. In fact, a whole year went by and nothing ever happened. Then one day, as King Nebuchadnezzar was looking out from the roof of his palace, he said, "Look at what an awesome city I have built. Babylon is my creation. I built this by my own power. I built this as my royal home so everyone can see how awesome I am."

As the king was saying those words, a holy messenger came down and proclaimed, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, you are no longer the king of this kingdom. You will no longer live like a real person; you will live in the fields with the wild animals and eat



grass to keep you alive. For seven years, you will live like that. Then we will see if you have changed your attitude and recognize that God is the One who is really in control!”

And so it happened, just as the holy messenger said...

But this is a tale of two kings—King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar. King Belshazzar was a descendant of King Nebuchadnezzar. He too was the king of Babylon, and he too had the wrong idea of the origin of his power and authority. Here’s his story:

Belshazzar was an evil king who liked to have enormous parties where people behaved very badly. One night, the king was having a party for 1,000 of his upper class friends. Everyone was involved with lots of drinking and uncontrolled passion and pleasure. This was not the first time that Belshazzar had a party like this, but at this party he was thinking about doing something that he had never done before—using the sacred, golden cups from God’s Temple.

Many years earlier, about the time that Nebuchadnezzar became King of Babylon, the golden cups that were used to worship Jehovah



God in the Temple in Jerusalem were brought to Babylon. This happened at the same time that Daniel and his friends were taken as captives to Babylon. These cups were set apart for a holy purpose, but King Belshazzar wanted to use them for an evil purpose.

In both of our stories today, each of these kings had a choice to make—choose to honor God by obeying His command or choose to dishonor Him with their actions and attitudes.

So what did they choose?

King Belshazzar chose to dishonor God. He used the golden cups in his wild party and praised their idols made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone while he did it. As soon as he did, all the people at the

party saw the fingers of a human hand writing on the plaster wall of the king’s palace. When the king saw this, his face turned pale with fear, his knees knocked together and his legs gave way beneath him.

So what was the hand writing on the wall? It wrote these words in Aramaic:

“**Mene, mene, tekel upharsin.**” King Belshazzar

did not know what the words meant. Fortunately, Daniel was able to explain the meaning of these words. He said:

“**Mene** means ‘numbered’—God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end.

Tekel means ‘weighed’—you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up.

Parsin means ‘divided’—your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.” (Daniel 5:25-28)

With these four simple words, God declared that the Babylonian Empire would cease to exist. That very night, King Belshazzar was killed.

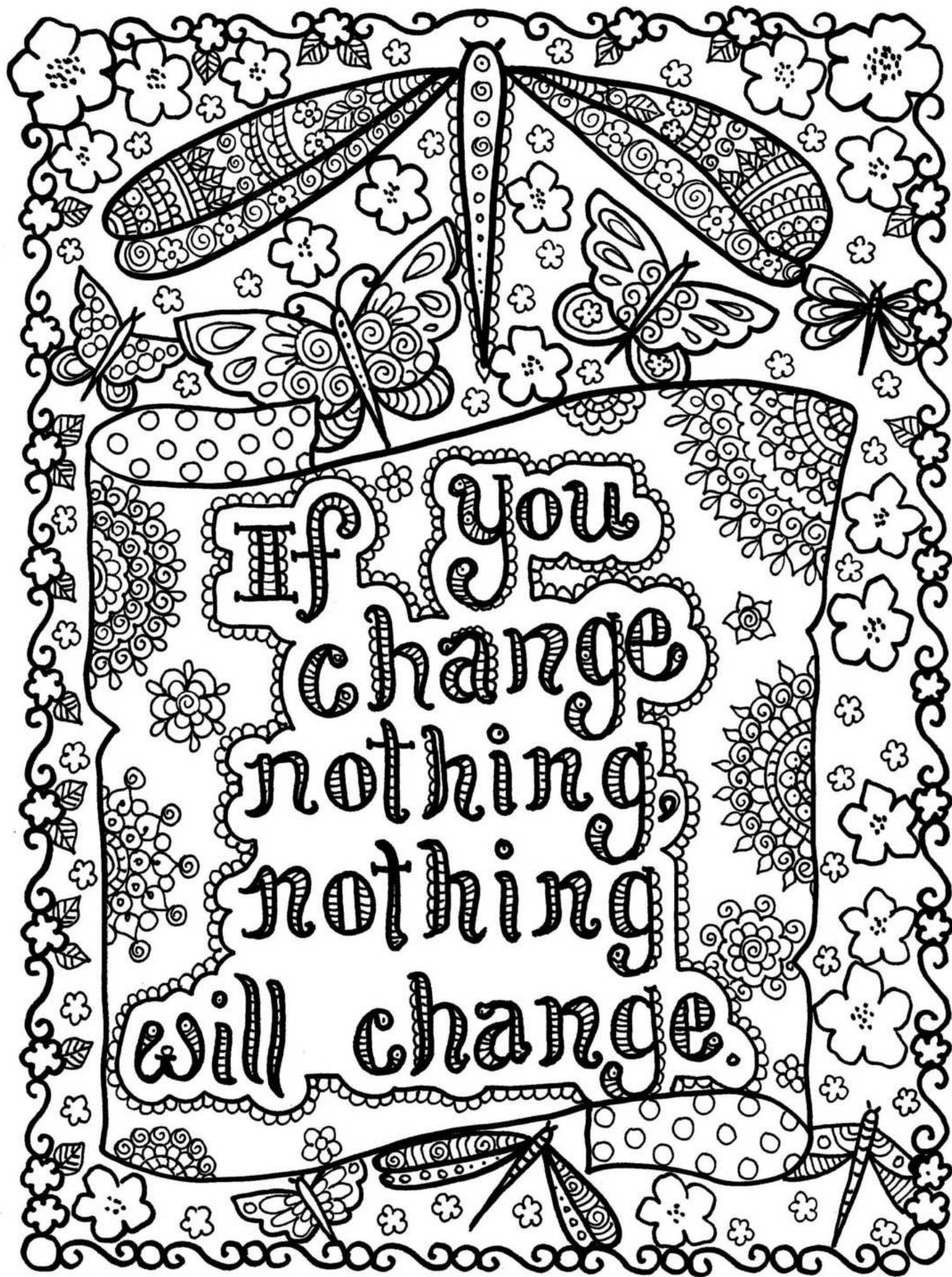
Belshazzar had a choice—honor God or dishonor God—and he chose poorly! The result of his choices not only brought about his death, but also brought about the end of one of the greatest empires in the history of the world. God tried to get his attention, but he chose to do what he wanted to do with no regard for God and His ways.

So what happened with King Nebuchadnezzar? I’m glad you asked!

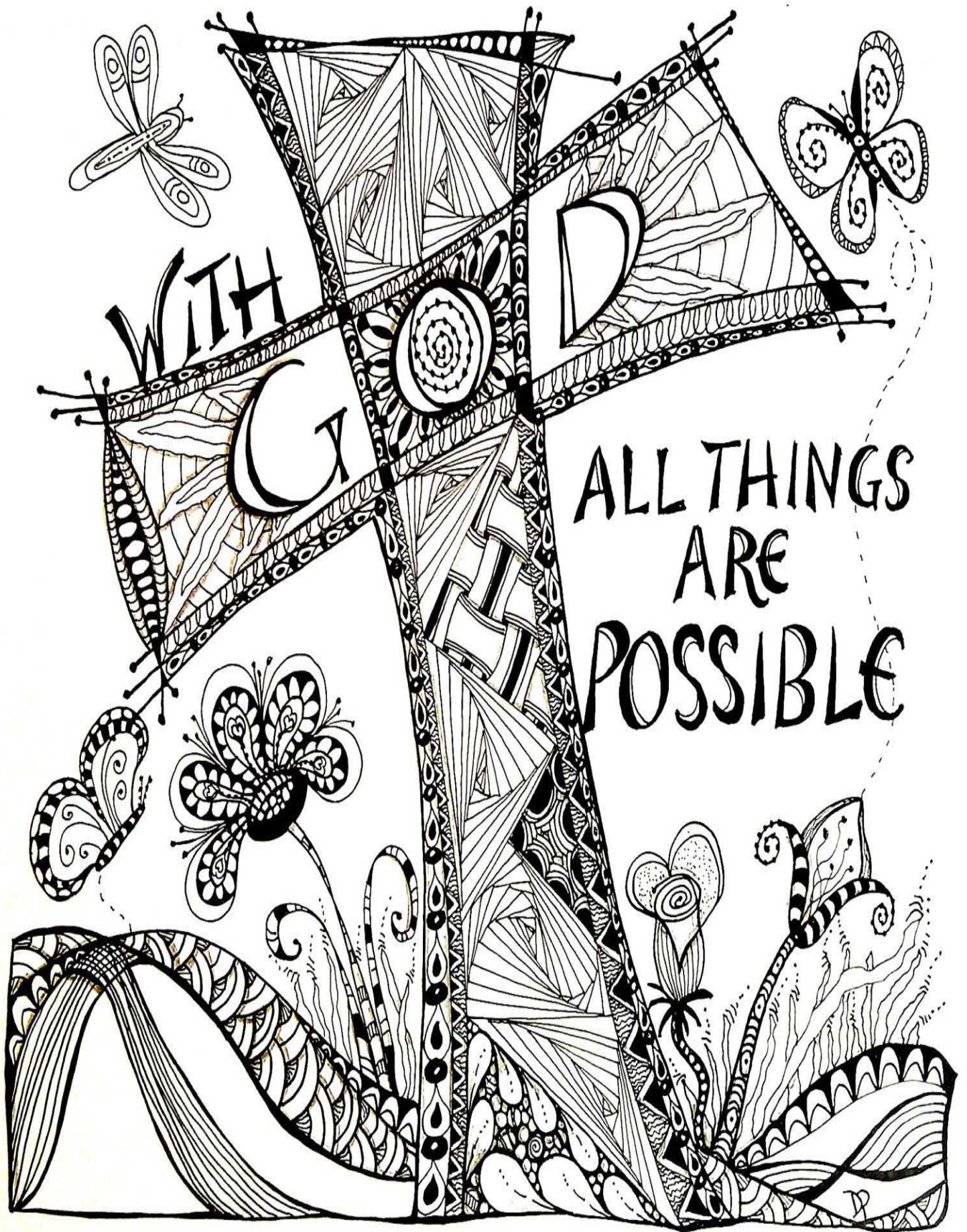
You see, King Nebuchadnezzar was also given a choice to honor and recognize God as the ruler over everything. Do you remember what had happened to him earlier? Just after declaring how great he was and how awesome the city of Babylon was, God declared that he would lose his kingship and live like an animal for seven whole years.

At the end of that seven years of living like an animal, the Bible tells us that Nebuchadnezzar looked up to heaven—his sanity restored—and he ‘praised and worshipped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever’ (Daniel 4:34a). In fact, Nebuchadnezzar went on to say this about God:





If you
change
nothing,
nothing
will change.



WITH

G

D

ALL THINGS
ARE
POSSIBLE