

# You Can Make A Difference

ACTIVITY	MINUTES	GRADE LEVEL	FOCUS	PITstops	*OTHER SUPPLIES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPENING ACTIVITY Super Christian	5	1-6		A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LESSON You Can Make A Difference	15			B-C	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEMORY VERSE	10	1-6		D-E	
REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITY (Choose One Option)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPTION 1 Step By Step	5	1-6			
<input type="checkbox"/> OPTION 2 Jesus Makes Me Different	5	1-6		A	
<input type="checkbox"/> WORSHIP PROGRAM With Jesus, I Can Make A Difference	10	1-6			
<input type="checkbox"/> LET'S DO IT! (LDI)					
Making A Difference	5	1-2			
The Difference	5	3-4			
Different Dreams	5	5-6			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIALOGUE FOLDER					
iSPEAK	5	1-2			
iSPEAK	5	3-4			
iSPEAK	5	5-6			

**INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME**  
 This lesson will help junior soldiers understand that as Christians they're different from the world, and they should make a difference in the world. This lesson will help junior soldiers strengthen their identities as Christians.

**YOU ARE HERE!**



Place the timeline marker on **601 B.C.** on the **Old Testament** timeline.

\*In addition to materials listed in this chart, you need Basic Classroom Supplies.

# You Can Make A Difference

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE LEADER

### BIBLE REFERENCES:

This lesson is based on the following Bible references:

Daniel 2

### UNIT AIM:

This unit will help junior soldiers develop a sense of empowerment through the Holy Spirit to stand firm in their beliefs, regardless of others' opinions. They'll develop stronger identities as Christians.

**DURING THE SECOND YEAR** of King Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Daniel (Belteshazzar), Hananiah (Shadrach), Mishael (Meshach), and Azariah (Abednego) graduated from their course of Babylonian training and were serving in the palace. Through everything they'd remained faithful to God, and God protected them.

One evening King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. He couldn't remember the dream, and was anxious about forgetting it. To the Babylonians, forgetting a dream meant that their god was angry with them. Nebuchadnezzar called his magicians, enchanters, sorcerers, and astrologers to tell him about the content and meaning of his dream. None of the wise men could tell the king about his dream. They told the king that only "divine beings" could accomplish what he asked. This made King Nebuchadnezzar furious. He ordered that all the wise men in the palace (including Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) be executed.

When the guards came to get Daniel for the execution, Daniel pleaded for more time. He prayed with his friends. In Daniel 2:19-24 we see that God revealed the content and meaning of the king's dream. Daniel praised God for the meaning of the dream, and asked the guard to take him to the king.

Daniel described the dream and its meaning to King Nebuchadnezzar. The king's dream was about a large statue. The head was made of pure gold, the chest and arms were silver, the belly and thighs were bronze, and the legs were iron. The feet of that statue were partially iron and partially baked clay. The statue wasn't a permanent object. It was struck on the feet by a rock and the whole statue crumbled and was blown away in the wind like chaff. After the statue crumbled, the rock that struck it grew into a huge mountain and filled up the earth.

After telling King Nebuchadnezzar what happened in the dream, he shared the meaning with the king. His dream represented the rise and fall of the empires to come. The kingdom of God would be established, grow, and ultimately triumph throughout the earth.

King Nebuchadnezzar paid honor to Daniel. He said, "I'm sure your God is the greatest God of all. He is the Lord of kings. He explains mysteries. That's why you were able to explain the mystery of my dream" (Daniel 2:47 NIV).

The king promoted Daniel to a high position on the royal court, and placed him in charge of all the wise men. Daniel asked the king to appoint Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego as administrators over the province of Babylon.



## LESSON 2

Use this lesson to teach your junior soldiers that they can make a difference. Even while serving as a slave in Babylon, Daniel trusted God. God protected Daniel in difficult and confusing situations. Junior soldiers need to understand that in this confusing and difficult world, God will be faithful to those who trust in Him.

### OPENING ACTIVITY

## Super Christian

As junior soldiers arrive, distribute copies of  A. Instruct junior soldiers to draw a picture of or write about their favorite super hero on the top of  A. On the bottom, instruct junior soldiers to list changes they'd like to make in the world, in their communities, in their schools, and at the corps. Allow time for junior soldiers to share their responses.

Say: **We have some good ideas of things we'd like to change. What do you think it'd take for us to make these changes?** (*Allow response.*) **When we ask Jesus to save us from sin, the Holy Spirit comes to live in our hearts. The Holy Spirit helps us make good choices, and follow God's will. When we trust in God, and let the Holy Spirit guide us, we have the power of God to help us make a difference in our world.**

**We can be super Christians if we trust in God!**

### LESSON

## You Can Make A Difference

Before class, make one copy of  B-C for each junior soldier. Distribute supplies to junior soldiers before you begin the lesson. Instruct junior soldiers to cut along the dotted lines. As you read the lesson, junior soldiers will place the eight pictures in order to create a "comic strip" of today's Bible story.

Say: **When Daniel and his friends were living in Judah, they were kidnapped. Do you remember the name of the king who kidnapped them?** (*Allow response—King Nebuchadnezzar.*)

Say: **Daniel and his friends went through three years of training to serve the king. During their training, Daniel and his friends were asked to do things they didn't believe in. Was it easy for Daniel and his friends to stand up for what they believed?** (*Allow response.*)

#### MATERIALS NEEDED:

-  A
- pencils/pens

#### MATERIALS NEEDED:

-  B-C
- scissors
- construction paper
- glue
- crayons/markers



Say: Daniel and his friends were very special. Because they loved God, and trusted Him, God protected them. At the end of their training, they were assigned to be wise men in the king's court.

Daniel was different, and God gave him the ability to understand visions and dreams. This special gift from God helped Daniel save the lives of all the wise men in King Nebuchadnezzar's royal court.

One night King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. *(Show junior soldiers 🎲🎲 B.)* The things he saw in his dream scared him. He called to his chief official and said, "Bring the magicians, sorcerers, enchanters, and astrologers to me."

When the wise men arrived, the king said, "I had a dream that troubles me and I want to know what it means." *(Show junior soldiers 🎲🎲 B.)*

Say: One of the wise man said, "O king, live forever. Tell us your dream and we'll tell you what it means."

King Nebuchadnezzar couldn't remember the dream, so he said, "I've decided that if you don't tell me what happened in my dream and what it means, I'll have you put to death."

The wise men told the king that no one on earth could tell him his dream and what it meant. King Nebuchadnezzar was furious. He ordered that all the wise men be put to death.

For some reason, Daniel and his friends weren't with the other wise men trying to interpret the king's dream. When Daniel heard that King Nebuchadnezzar ordered all the wise men be put to death, he went to see the king. *(Show junior soldiers 🎲🎲 B.)*

Say: Daniel said to the king, "Give me more time and I'll tell you your dream and what it means." The king gave Daniel more time.

Daniel rushed back to his house and told his friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego what happened. The four friends prayed to God to reveal the dream and its meaning. *(Show junior soldiers 🎲🎲 B.)*

Say: **What do you think happened?** *(Allow response.)*

Say: God revealed the dream and its meaning to Daniel. Right away Daniel and his friends prayed to God to thank Him for helping them. Daniel ran back to King Nebuchadnezzar and told him about the visions in his dream and what they meant. *(Show junior soldiers 🎲🎲 C.)*

Say: Daniel explained to the king that only God in heaven could explain the dream. Daniel told the king that God had revealed the meaning of the dream to him.



## LESSON 2

King Nebuchadnezzar's dream was about a big statue. The head of the statue was made of gold, the chest and the arms were silver, the belly and thighs were made of bronze, the legs were made of iron, and the feet were iron and clay. A big rock crushed the feet of the statue, and the statue broke into many pieces and was carried away by the wind. After the pieces were carried away, the rock grew into a huge mountain. (Show junior soldiers 🎲 C.)

Say: **What do you think a dream like this could mean?** (Allow response.)

Say: Daniel told King Nebuchadnezzar the meaning of his dream. Daniel said, "The statue represents the kingdoms that will follow yours. Your kingdom is like gold; it's strong. The kingdom that follows will be a little weaker, like silver. The third kingdom will be even weaker, like bronze. The fourth kingdom will be divided, that's why the feet were made of both iron and clay. The rock is the kingdom of God. It'll destroy all other kingdoms, and become great."

King Nebuchadnezzar was so grateful to Daniel and his God for interpreting the dream. Daniel and his friends were placed in high positions in the king's royal court. The king was so grateful that he praised Daniel and his God and said, "I'm sure your God is the greatest God of all. He is the Lord of kings" (Daniel 2:27 NIV). (Show junior soldiers 🎲 C.)

Say: **With God's help, Daniel was able to save the lives of all the wise men in Babylon. Because Daniel trusted God and prayed to Him for help and remembered to thank Him, he was able to make a difference. When we trust in God, and ask for His help, we can make a difference too!**





## MATERIALS NEEDED:

-  D-E
- tape
- scissors



The portion of the memory verse printed in *italics* is the portion of the verse for younger junior soldiers to memorize.

## MEMORY VERSE

Daniel 2:47 (Nlrv)  

"The king said to Daniel, 'I'm sure *your God is the greatest God of all. He is the Lord of kings.* He explains mysteries. That's why you were able to explain the mystery of my dream.'"

Before class, make one copy of  D-E. Cut along the dotted line, place each piece of the memory verse in an envelope, and hide the envelopes around the classroom.

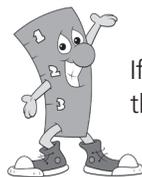
Say: **Before we can review our memory verse, we have to find it. Look around the room for the pieces of the memory verse. When you find one, open the envelope and tape the word to the board.**

After all pieces have been found and placed in order, review the verse several times with junior soldiers.



## TEACHER TIPS:

If your brigade is mostly 1st and 2nd graders, only put the italicized words in envelopes.



## SIZE WISE:

If you have a large brigade, make two copies of  D-E and divide the brigade into teams to complete this activity.



REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES  
(CHOOSE ONE OPTION)

# Step By Step (option 1)

Before class write the words to *Step By Step* (Song #8, *Great Big Praise for a Great Big God*) on poster board.

Say: **Daniel and his friends trusted God to help them while they were in Babylon. They didn't give into the temptation to do wrong things. They were faithful to God and His commandments.**

**Daniel and his friends praised God for keeping them strong and protecting them while they were in Babylon. Let's sing praises to God for keeping us safe.**

Lead junior soldiers in *Step By Step* (Track #8, *Great Big Praise* CD 1).

# Jesus Makes Me Different (option 2)

Using the responses on  A that junior soldiers completed during the opening activity, discuss how relying on the Holy Spirit will help them make a difference. Provide examples of how they can make a difference based on the things they wanted to change in the world, their communities, their schools, and the corps.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *Great Big Praise for a Great Big God* CD
- CD/Media player
- poster board



MATERIALS NEEDED:

-  A from the opening activity



## WORSHIP PROGRAM

**CHORUS:** Song #1: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"  
(Track #1, *Great Big Praise* CD 1)

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 Timothy 4:12 (NirV)

**CHORUS:** Song #13: "Praise You"  
(Track #13, *Great Big Praise* CD 1)

### DEVOTIONAL

## With Jesus, I Can Make A Difference

Say: **Daniel, with the help of God, became a leader. He was a good leader because he trusted God to guide him. He was faithful to God, and God was faithful to him.**

Throughout history God has used people of all ages to do great things. Daniel was only about 15 years old when he was taken captive in Babylon. But he was able to make a great difference, because he trusted God.

Read 1 Timothy 4:12.

Say: **You may think you're too young to make a difference, but with God's help you can. With God's love, Jesus in your heart, and the Holy Spirit as your guide you can make a big difference in our world, just like Daniel made a big difference in Babylon.**

### PRAYER



Remember to fill out  
the *What Do You Think*  
*Evaluation* on page 306.



**DRAW A PICTURE OF OR WRITE  
ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE SUPER HERO.**



**LIST CHANGES YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IN THE WORLD, IN  
YOUR COMMUNITY, IN YOUR SCHOOL, AND IN YOUR CORPS.**

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King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream.



King Nebuchadnezzar asked the wise men about his troubled dream.



Daniel went to King Nebuchadnezzar and asked for time.



Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego prayed to God to reveal the dream.





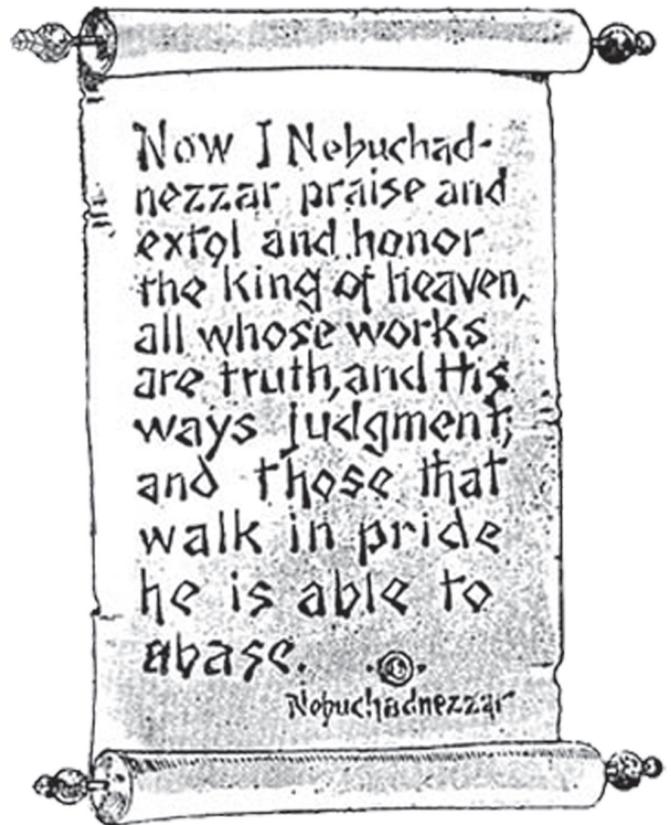
Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego prayed to God to thank Him for helping them.



Daniel described and explained the dream to King Nebuchadnezzar.



King Nebuchadnezzar praised Daniel and his God. He said, "Surely your God is the God of gods."

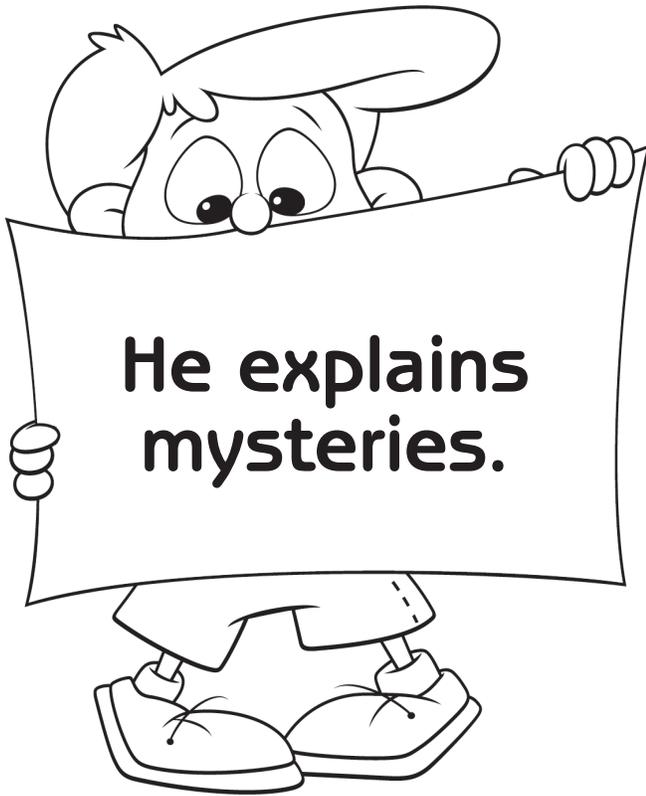


Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honor the king of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment; and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

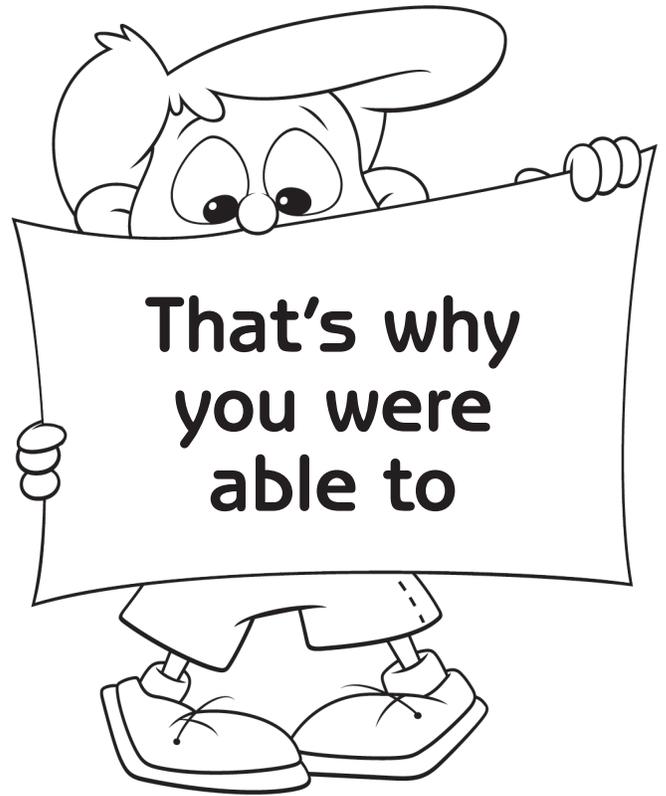
Nebuchadnezzar



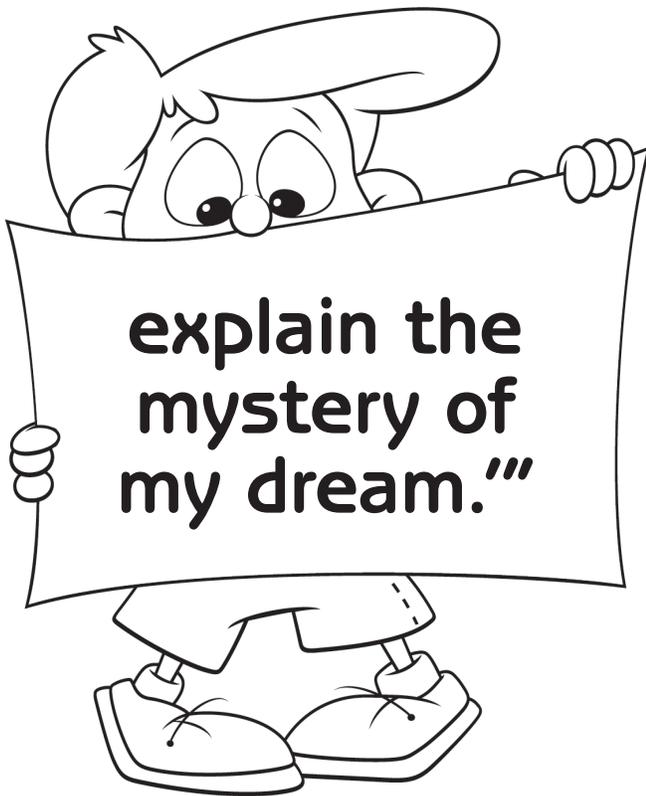




**He explains  
mysteries.**



**That's why  
you were  
able to**

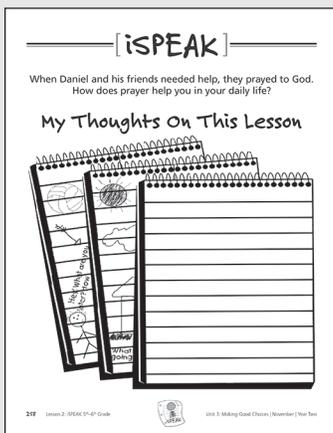
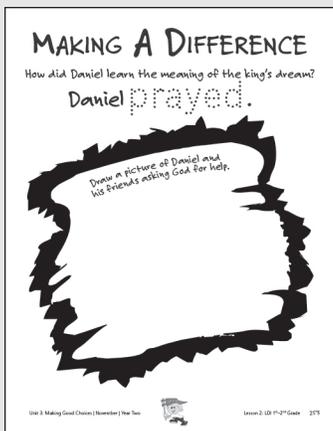


**explain the  
mystery of  
my dream."**



**Daniel 2:47  
(NirV)**





# LDI

- Grades 1 & 2 Making A Difference
- Grades 3 & 4 The Difference
- Grades 5 & 6 Different Dreams

# DIALOGUE FOLDER

- Grades 1 & 2 iSpeak
- Grades 3 & 4 iSpeak
- Grades 5 & 6 iSpeak

# TLC

As a result of this lesson, junior soldiers will:

- appreciate the difference of being a Christian,
- want to make a difference in the world, and
- ask God for strength and guidance.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

How did Daniel learn the meaning of the king's dream?

Daniel prayed.

Draw a picture of Daniel and his friends asking God for help.



# The Difference

If we want to make a difference, we need to learn many things. Use the key below to discover ways we learn to make a difference.

<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

9 22 26 23 2 12 6 9 25 18 25 15 22

26 7 7 22 13 23 2 12 6 9 24 12 9 11 8



11 9 26 2



20 12 7 12 8 6 13 23 26 2 8 24 19 12 12 15

15 18 5 22 15 18 16 22 17 22 8 6 8



# Different Dreams

Daniel and his friends prayed to God to help them interpret King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Circle the words in the word bank that relate to King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Find the words in the word search.

## (..... Word Bank .....)

KINGDOM	BRONZE	CATTLE	WIND	CLAY	PIGS
STATUTE	GOLD	OCEAN	IRON	ROCK	

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



# [ iSPEAK ]

Draw a picture of you making a difference in the world.

## My Thoughts On This Lesson



# [ iSPEAK ]

God wants you to be different so that you can make a difference in the world. How does God help you make a difference?

## My Thoughts On This Lesson



# [ iSPEAK ]

When Daniel and his friends needed help, they prayed to God.  
How does prayer help you in your daily life?

## My Thoughts On This Lesson



# [HOMEPAGE]

For families of junior soldiers

## THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

## You Can Make A Difference

### MEMORY VERSE:

Daniel 2:47 (NIV)

"The king said to Daniel, 'I'm sure *your God is the greatest God of all. He is the Lord of kings.* He explains mysteries. That's why you were able to explain the mystery of my dream.'"

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week. The portion of the memory verse printed in *italics* is the portion of the verse for younger junior soldiers to memorize.

### PARENT POINT:

Ask your child how praying helped Daniel. Tell them about a time when you prayed to God for help or guidance.



**THIS WEEK,** the second week of the unit "Making Good Choices," junior soldiers learned about how Daniel and his friends prayed to God for help during a difficult time.

During the second year of King Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Daniel (Belteshazzar), Hananiah (Shadrach), Mishael (Meshach), and Azariah (Abednego) graduated from their course of Babylonian training, and served in the palace. Through everything they'd remained faithful to God, and God protected them.

One evening King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. None of the wise men could tell the king about his dream. They told the king that only "divine beings" could accomplish what he asked. This made King Nebuchadnezzar furious. He ordered all the wise men in the palace (including Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) be executed.

When the guards came to get Daniel for the execution, Daniel pleaded for more time. He prayed with his friends. Daniel praised God for the meaning of the dream, and asked the guard to take him to the king.

After telling King Nebuchadnezzar what happened in the dream, Daniel shared the meaning with the king. King Nebuchadnezzar paid honor to Daniel. He said, "I'm sure your God is the greatest God of all. He is the Lord of kings. He explains mysteries. That's why you were able to explain the mystery of my dream" (Daniel 2:47 NIV).

The king promoted Daniel to a high position on the royal court, and placed him in charge of all the wise men. Daniel asked the king to appoint Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego as administrators over the province of Babylon.

### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers understand that as Christians they're different from the world, and they should make a difference in the world. This lesson helped junior soldiers strengthen their identities as Christians.

