



Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd Dream Story

Supplies Needed

You will need the following:

17 Sheets of [Cardstock](#) (8.5" x 11")

17 3 mil Laminating [Film](#)

Directions

- Print pages 2-35 two-sided on cardstock. Laminate the pages.
- Hold up the pictures while you read the story.



Before holding up the picture:

What did we learn about in our last lesson? *(Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace)*

Why didn't they worship the king's golden image? *(Because idol worship is against God's law)*

Who was the fourth man in the fiery furnace with them? *(an angel)*

What did King Nebuchadnezzar do after Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fiery furnace unharmed? *(He praised God and promoted them to higher positions in his kingdom)*

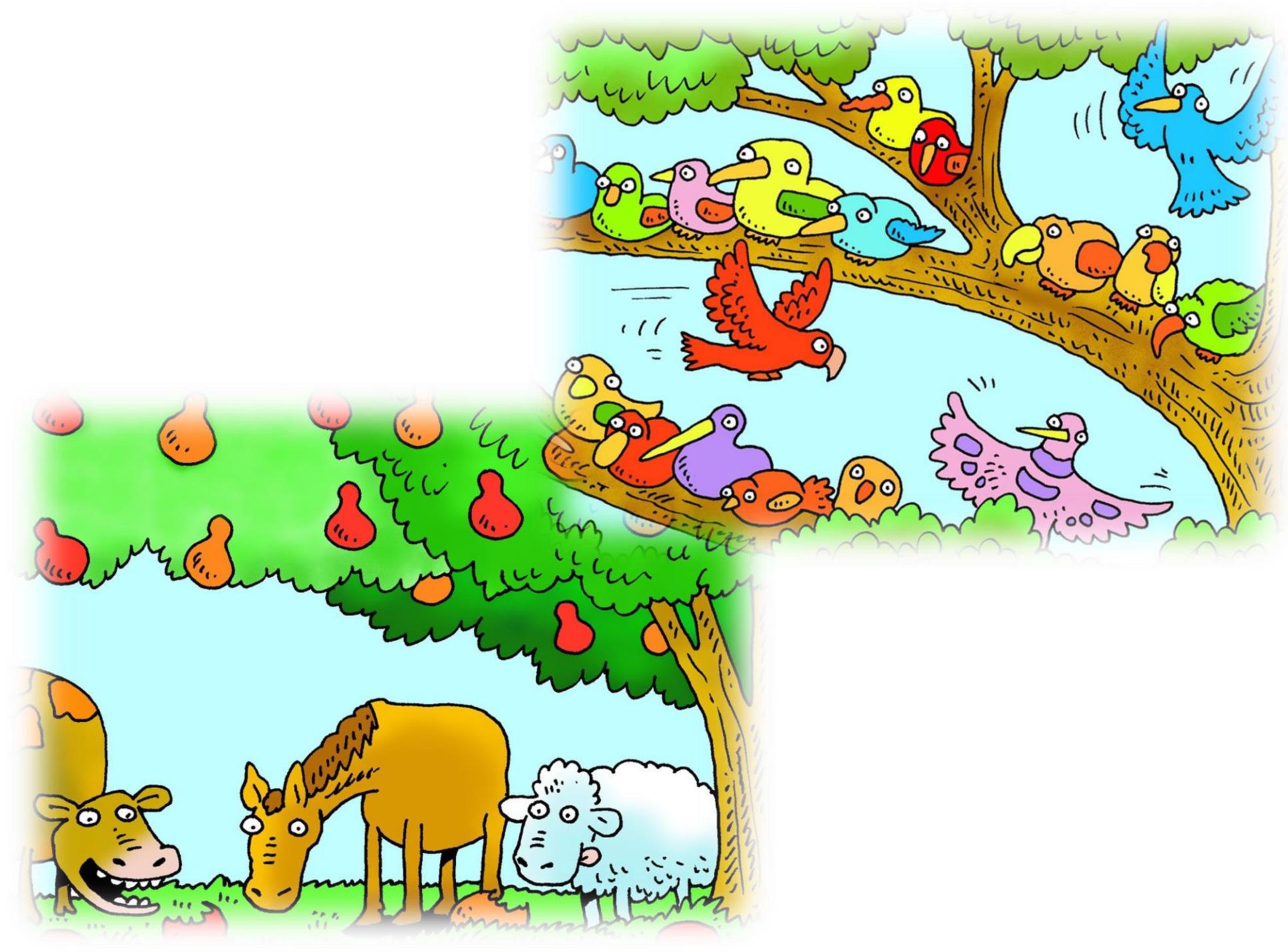
Hold up picture:

Unfortunately, King Nebuchadnezzar's praise for God didn't last long. God had allowed him to win many battles to become the ruler of the most powerful empire in the world. But all that success went to King Nebuchadnezzar's head and he became proud and boastful. What does it mean to be proud and boastful? *(to think you're better than everyone else)* Nebuchadnezzar was not willing to give God the glory.



Hold up picture:

One night, King Nebuchadnezzar had a strange dream that frightened him. In his dream, he saw a very large tree. It was so big that it grew right up into the heavens and its leaves could be seen from anywhere on earth.



Hold up picture:

The tree was full of fruit which fed all the animals that gathered beneath it. There were also many kinds of birds that lived in its branches.



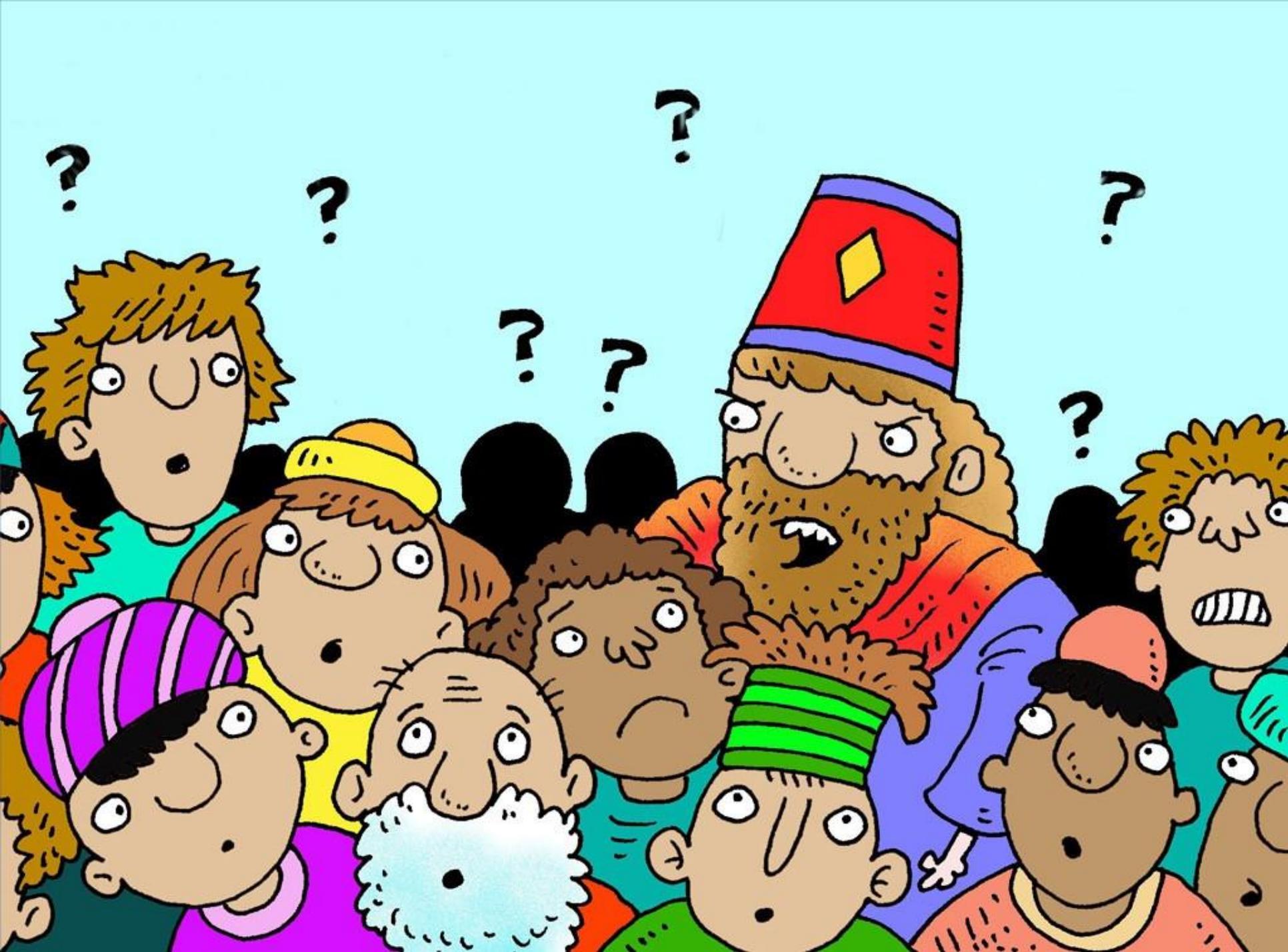
Hold up picture:

While the king was looking at the tree, an angel came down and ordered, “Cut down the tree and cut off its branches. Shake off the leaves and scatter the fruit. Drive the animals and birds away! Leave just the stump and the roots in the ground, but fix an iron and bronze band around it.”



Hold up picture:

Then the king heard the angel say, “Let grass grow on him, and rain fall on him, and let him live like an animal. He will live like an animal for seven years.” Then the angel explained that this would all happen “in order that the living might know that the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men and gives it [*the kingdom*] to whomever He wishes.” In other words, God controls the kingdoms of earth, not man.



Hold up picture:

When the king woke up, he ordered all his wise men in his kingdom to come to him. “Tell me what my dream means!” he demanded. But just like with his first dream, none of the wise men, magicians or advisors could explain what King Nebuchadnezzar’s dream meant. So, who do you think the king called for? (*Daniel*)



Hold up picture:

Daniel came to see the king and King Nebuchadnezzar told him, “None of my wise men can interpret my dream, but I know you can because the Spirit of the Holy God is in you.”



Hold up picture:

God helped Daniel know what the king's dream was all about. But Daniel became troubled by the dream and didn't want to tell the king the dream's interpretation.

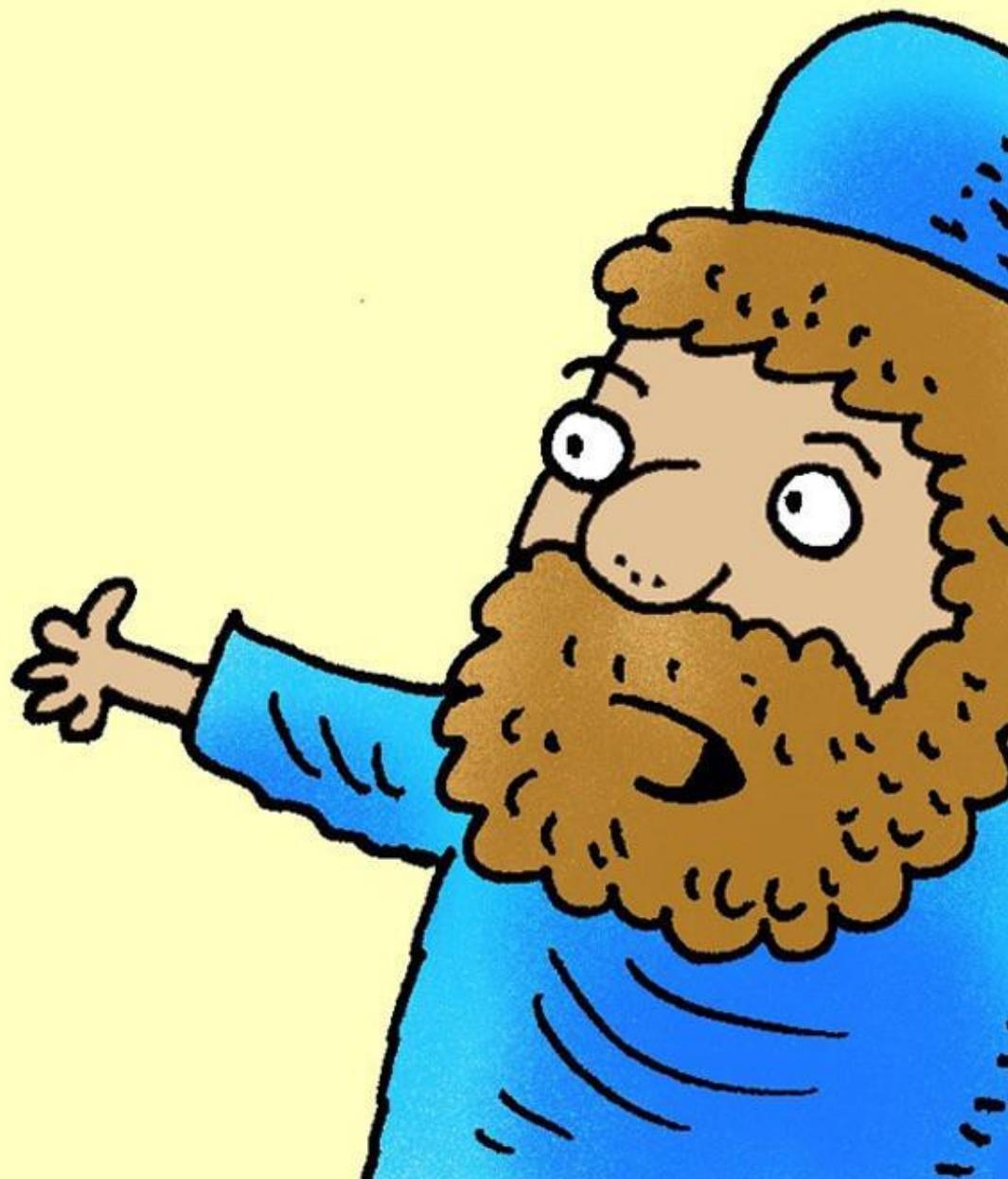
King Nebuchadnezzar said, "Tell me what the dream means – even if it is bad news!"

Daniel replied, "If only the dream was about your enemies, instead of you..." But Daniel told the king the bad news anyway.



Hold up picture:

Daniel told the king, “The tree you saw was you. You have grown strong and your greatness covers the earth. But you will be cut down, like the tree. You will be driven away from your people and you will live with the wild animals and eat grass. This will last for seven years! The band around the stump means that your kingdom will be preserved for you after you come to know that God rules over all.”



Hold up picture:

Then Daniel gave King Nebuchadnezzar some advice. He said, “Repent and stop sinning. Show mercy to the poor and perhaps God will give you more time to be prosperous.” Do you think King Nebuchadnezzar changed his ways? *(answers will vary)*



Hold up picture:

Maybe the king changed for a while because nothing happened for a whole year. King Nebuchadnezzar remained in power and his kingdom prospered until 12 months later.

That day, King Nebuchadnezzar was walking around his magnificent palace and his heart swelled with pride. “This is my great empire,” the king boasted, “I built Babylon with my power and for the honor of my majesty.”



Hold up picture:

As soon as he had said these words, the king heard a voice from heaven. “Oh King Nebuchadnezzar, the kingdom has departed from you. You shall live with the beasts of the field and eat grass like oxen. Seven years shall pass until you know that the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever He chooses.”



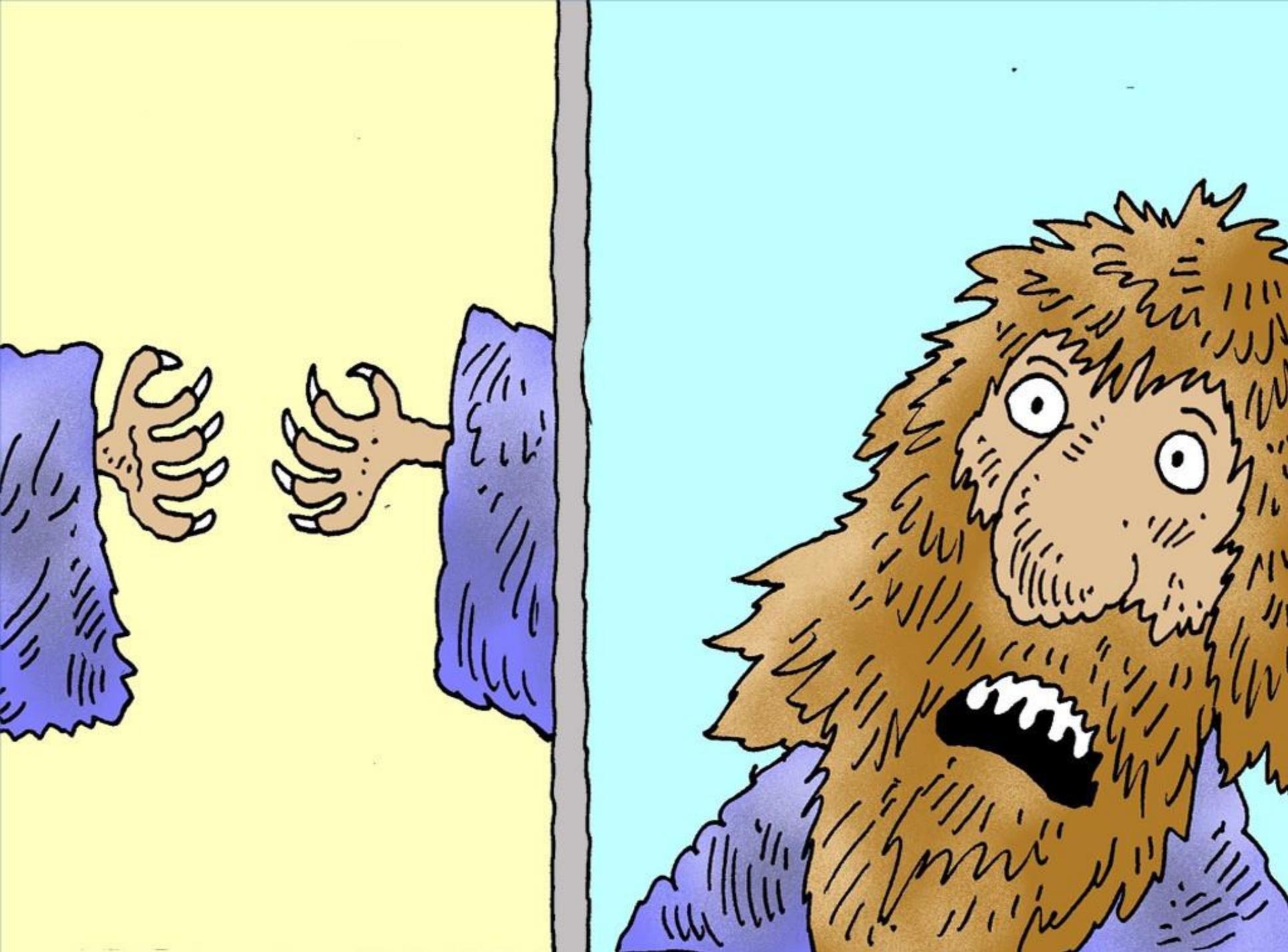
Hold up picture:

Right away, King Nebuchadnezzar became like an animal! He left his palace and lived in the wild eating grass...



Hold up picture:

...he was blown about by the wind. He was soaked by the dew and the rain...



Hold up picture:

...his fingernails grew long like a bird's claws and his hair grew out like eagle's feathers. He lived like a wild animal for seven years until God gave him his mind back.



Hold up picture:

At the end of the seven years, King Nebuchadnezzar's mind returned to him and he praised and honored the Most High God. King Nebuchadnezzar had learned that God is in control. No one, not even a king, can challenge or question God. God commands ALL the people of the earth.



Hold up picture:

King Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was restored to him and he was now a humbler man. He realized that he was king of Babylon not by his own power, but because God had allowed him to succeed.

He wrote, "Now, I, King Nebuchadnezzar, praise and honor the King of Heaven for all His works are true and His ways are just. And He humbles those who walk in pride."

Ask:

What does God want us to learn from this story?

- 1. God doesn't like it when we are proud and boastful. He will use situations to humble us.*
- 2. God controls everything on earth...He can make a king act like an animal!*
- 3. God can bring rulers into power and take them out of power as he wishes.*