

# Casting and Costuming

**Survivor Babylon** is ideal for any size choir. You may do the musical as written, utilizing only the main characters if you have a smaller choir (*e.g., you could condense the seven Furnace Keepers into three or four parts*). If your choir is large, you may wish to divide parts or add solos. Think outside the box. Give everyone a part, if feasible. Doing so will encourage attendance and participation.

## **SURVIVOR BABYLON CHORUS (SBCs)**

In Shakespearean style, the SBCs sing and speak in support of whatever is occurring in the story at the moment. The SBCs stand on the risers. Dress the SBCs in blue jeans. In keeping with the “fire” theme, shirts could be mixtures of reds, yellows, and even blues. If you would like to incorporate the artwork from the resource book, you have our permission to scan what you need. You can also visit our website, [praisegathering.com](http://praisegathering.com) to download a color version of the logo. From the home page, select “artwork” then select “Survivor Babylon”. Click on the icon associated with the artwork you want and a page will open with the full size artwork. Right click on the page when it is finished loading and it will save the file onto your computer.

## **KITTY ZURICH**, the Narrator

Kitty is a perky and energetic hostess/narrator in the mold of Katie Couric. Whomever you select for this role should be able, if possible, to giggle at the appropriate times in her narration (*as heard on the listening CD*). You can dress her as a Katie Couric look-alike, *e.g.*, hairdo, glasses, etc.

## **HAROLD**, the Herald

Harold plays this role against type. He is a dry, disinterested, and unexcitable character – capable of yawning loudly! In contrast to his drab personality, dress Harold in a colorful, blousy shirt and short pants, the shirt featuring symbols such as royal insignias. He could wear colorful leg-gings (*stockings*) and a beret, perhaps with a feather on top.

## **NEBUCHADNEZZAR**, King of Babylon and “King of Rap”

King “Neb” could be played by a child, but the role would probably be better accomplished by an adult. Think traditional kingly attire and accessories – a beard, robe, crown, scepter, etc. He should also wear lots of “bling” – shiny gold medallions on chains, rings, etc. (*Whatever he wears should be replicated, if possible, on the king’s statue.*)

## **THREE HEBREW CHILDREN (S-M-A)**

When thinking about costumes for these characters, as well as the Furnace Keepers, you have a couple of options. You can go with the traditional attire of the times, *e.g.*, sandals, robes, etc. Or, you can allow them to wear modern clothing (*since the existence of a “rapping King” is obviously anachronistic!*).



## **SHADRACH**

Shadrach has a few more lines than his brothers, and as such, might be seen as the family spokesman.

## **MESHACH**

Meshach, like Abednego, has slightly fewer individual speaking lines, but does say a number of lines in unison with his brothers.

## **ABEDNEGO**

See Meshach, above.

## **FURNACE KEEPERS (FKs)**

When thinking about casting the Furnace Keepers, perhaps the most important consideration is choosing children who can speak with a bit of a British accent (*the accent is not a make-or-break aspect of the drama, but will certainly spice it up if it can be achieved!*). Of the seven, there are three who have more dialogue than the others; Smokey has the most lines, followed by Dusty and Sparky.

The FKs can be played by girls or boys. Because of their jobs, the FKs should have faces smudged with "soot" and clothing covered with "ash."

## **SMOKEY**

Smokey might have a small shovel (*a la Smokey the Bear*) at his/her side for the line, "Only YOU can prevent furnace fires!"

## **SPARKY**

Sparky could carry a large, empty box of Ohio Blue Tip matches.

## **PILATE**

Pilate might carry a torch or other fire starter.

## **DUSTY**

For a prop, perhaps a fireplace shovel or other fireplace tool would be in order.

## **ASHLEY (or Ashton)**

See Dusty, above.

## **BERNIE (or Bernice)**

See Dusty, above.

## **COLE**

See Dusty, above.

