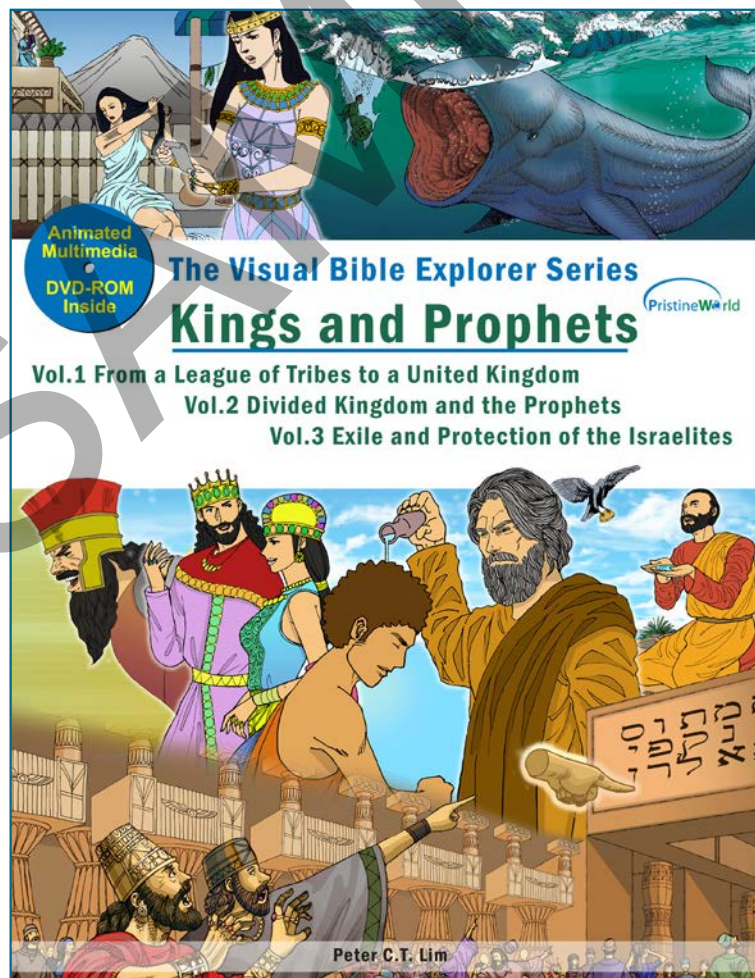


The Visual Bible Explorer Series

Teacher's Guide for Teens

Based on
Kings and Prophets



SAMPLE



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Peter C. T. Lim
General Editor

Kings and Prophets

Contents

Lesson 1	Prophet Samuel – Last Judge of Israel	4
Lesson 2	Samuel the King Maker	6
Lesson 3	David and Goliath	8
Lesson 4	David the Fugitive	10
Lesson 5	David Becomes King	12
Lesson 6	David brings the Ark to Jerusalem	14
Lesson 7	David and Bathsheba	16
Lesson 8	David and Absalom	18
Lesson 9	Solomon Succeeds David	20
Lesson 10	Solomon Builds the Temple	22
Lesson 11	Solomon and the Queen of Sheba	24
Lesson 12	The Kingdom Divided	26
Lesson 13	Prophet Elijah and the Contest on Mt Carmel	28
Lesson 14	Elijah, Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard	30
Lesson 15	The Prophet Elisha and Naaman	32
Lesson 16	Jonah – The Reluctant Prophet	34
Lesson 17	Hoshea - the Last King of the Northern Kingdom of Israel	36
Lesson 18	King Hezekiah and the Prophet Isaiah	38
Lesson 19	King Josiah, Reforms and the Fall of Judah	40
Lesson 20	Daniel of Babylon	42
Lesson 21	Daniel – The Writing's on the Wall	44
Lesson 22	Ezra and the Return of the Exiles	46
Lesson 23	Daniel in the Lion's Den	48
Lesson 24	The Story of Esther	50
Lesson 25	Prophecies and Promises of the Future	52

Lesson 1: PROPHETS SAMEUL - LAST JUDGE OF ISRAEL

Based on book and dvd chapter 1

Theme: God calls His believers to special responsibilities and gives many chances. But if we continue to disobey Him, then God can choose someone else to replace us in carrying out His instructions

Lesson Aim: That the children will trust and obey when God calls them to do something

Bible Passage: 1 Sam 3:10-21; 4:1-18; 8:1-22

Memory Verse: 1 Sam 3:10 (NIV)

Activity 1 Quesitons

- When Samuel was young, who was the priest he served under?
Samuel served under Eli the Priest (1 Sam 3:1)
- When was the first time that the LORD spoke directly to Samuel?
When he was a young boy, lying down in the temple of God at night, where the Ark of God was (1 Sam 3:3)
- What did the LORD tell Samuel he was going to do with Eli?
He told Samuel He would fulfil all He had spoken concerning Eli's house; that Eli's house would be punished forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God and he did not restrain them. (1 Sam 3:11 - 14)
- What happened at the battle between Israel and the Philistines?
The elders of Israel suggested and sent men to bring the Ark of the Covenant to the camp. When the Ark was brought to the camp, all Israel raised a great shout, and the Philistines became afraid. (1 Sam 4:3 - 11). But Israel was defeated at the Battle.
- What happened to Eli's sons?
Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas died in the battle with the Philistines. (1 Sam 4:11)
- What happened to the Ark of the Covenant?
The Ark of the Covenant was captured by the Philistines. (1 Sam 4:11)

- Who replaced Eli as the priest and judge for Israel?
Samuel replaced Eli as the priest and judge of Israel. (1 Sam 7:6)
- Who did Samuel anoint as the first king of Israel?
Samuel anointed Saul, son of Kish, a Benjamite, as the first king of Israel. (1 Sam 9:1, 10:1)
- Why would he be replaced by?
Saul did not obey the Lord to completely destroy the Amalekites and everything that belonged to them. (1 Sam 15:18 - 19). He would later be replaced by David. (1 Sam 16:13)

Challenge Questions.

- Why was God going to punish Eli?
Eli knew that his sons made themselves contemptible but failed to restrain them. (1 Sam 3:13)
- Why did Samuel explain the duties of a king after he anointed Saul? List down some things the king of Israel was expected to do and some things that the king could not do.
Israel's governance was strictly based on the Laws of Moses; the king is also subjected to the Laws. The king is disallowed from carrying out actions against the Law.

Application Questions.

- How did God prepare Samuel for his future ministry? Can we see how God is preparing us for our future? How can we cooperate with Him?
The Lord set Eli to care for Samuel; Samuel ministered under Eli. (1 Sam 3:1)

2. When we know that we have done something wrong, what should we do?

We should seek forgiveness from God.

Challenge Application Question.

1. Samuel listed down the limitations of the king of Israel. What are some checks and safeguards that we can put for ourselves in our daily lives as Christians or people who wish to live moral lives? Where can we get our guidance from?

Ask the students to give their opinions.

Some suggestions: they can ask close friends, parents or some older trusted friends for their advice.

Get guidance from God by praying and reading the Bible.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. C 300 years
2. E the LORD
3. A Joshua
4. D Philistine
5. E Eli
6. D 3 times
7. C Eli's sons blasphemed against God and Eli allowed it
8. A Ramah
9. E All of the above
10. C Saul

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. How did Eli feel when he realized that God was speaking directly to his young assistant?

The Bible does not address this question directly. Ask the children how they might feel. Eli was the chief priest in Shiloh. Now the Lord was passing judgment on him and telling him about it through his young assistant. Eli knew he had not been obeying God's instructions from earlier. There must have been a sense of guilt in him.

2. How do you think Samuel felt when he was called to break the bad news to Eli?

The Bible says Samuel told Eli exactly what the Lord had instructed him to say. It must have been quite confusing or terrifying to Samuel. But Samuel's obedience to God's instructions is a first sign of Samuel's complete obedience to God's instructions.

3. Why was Samuel so highly respected as a prophet of God?

The Bible says in 1 Samuel 3:19-21: ¹⁹ The LORD was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the LORD. ²¹ The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.

- The Lord was with Samuel
- Samuel spoke the words given to him by the Lord, and all his words always came true.

4. Why did the people want a king to succeed Samuel?

The points are given in the Bible: 1 Samuel 8: 1When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders. 2 The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. 3 But his sons did not follow his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice. 4 So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. 5 They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have."

- Samuel's own children did not act righteously.
- Israel wanted a king like the other nations

5. Why did Samuel anoint a second king while the first was still alive?

Saul had constantly disobeyed the word of the Lord given through Samuel. So the Lord had rejected Saul. Samuel was called to anoint another who would eventually replace Saul as king of Israel.

Lesson 2: SAMUEL THE KING MAKER

Based on book and dvd chapter 2

Theme: Obedience to God's instruction is more important than a ritualistic sacrifice. We cannot hide our sins from God.

Lesson Aim: That the children understand that sins cannot be hidden from God. Man looks on the outside but the Lord looks at the heart – or the inside.

Bible Passage: 1 Sam 15:1 – 16:7

Memory Verse: 1 Sam 15:22 b (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- Who said these words and why were they said?
 - “Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them?”

God. To punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel during the Exodus from Egypt. (Ex 17:8 – 15, Num 14:45)
 - “I have carried out the LORD’s command!”

God. To punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel during the Exodus from Egypt. (Ex 17:8 – 15, Num 14:45)
 - “Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.”

Samuel. To rebuke and advise Saul on his disobedience to the word of the Lord. (1 Sam 15:22)
 - “The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today.”

Samuel. Because Saul had rejected the word of the Lord. (1 Sam 15:28). God was going to take the kingdom from Saul.
 - “You look on the outside but the LORD looks at the heart.”

The Lord. Because Samuel thought Eliab was the Lord’s chosen one based on his appearance and height. (1 Sam 16:6)
- What did Samuel find in Carmel?

Samuel found Saul had disobeyed the Lord’s orders, he kept the livestock he and his people plundered from the Amalekites. He had also set up a monument of himself in Carmel. (1 Sam 15:12 – 14)

- What was Saul’s excuse for having spared the Amalekite king and the livestock of the Amalekites?

That the soldiers spared the best, to be sacrificed unto the Lord. (1 Sam 15:15)
- Where did God instruct Samuel to go to anoint a new king to replace Saul?

God instructed Samuel to go to Bethlehem. (1 Sam 16:1)
- What was Samuel’s first thought when he saw David whom God had chosen? What was God’s answer to Samuel?

He thought that David was a fine-looking, ruddy boy. God told Samuel to rise and anoint David, for he is the one. (1 Sam 16:12)

Challenge Questions

- Why did Saul see David as a threat to him and try to kill him? What should he have done instead?

Reserve this question for the next lesson.
Saul heard the people singing a song that credited David with many more kills than him and he became jealous, thinking that David would be getting his kingdom. (1 Sam 18:7 – 9). He should have repented and not attempt to disobey God’s laws and try to kill David,
- After executing King Agag, why did Samuel return to his home in Ramah and not see Saul again, even though Saul was still the king of Israel?

Because the Lord had rejected Saul as king and tore the kingdom from him. (1 Sam 15:28). Furthermore, Samuel had not received any word from the Lord to go to see Saul.

Application Question

1. 1 Sam 15:22 says “What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to His voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice.” When have you been tempted to think that you can please God by doing something “traditional” or “ritual” and substituting it for obedience to what the Bible teaches us in practical situations.

Ask the students to give their opinion of why God honours obedience more than ritual sacrifice

Challenge Application Question.

1. Saul built a statue to honour himself in Carmel. What kind of ‘statues’ do we build for ourselves today to honour ourselves and why is it wrong? Saul.

It is wrong because we should honour God, not ourselves.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. A Amalekites
2. D A and B only
3. A Israelites
4. E Israelites
5. E Gilgal
6. E “May the LORD bless you”
7. C “What is this bleating of sheep and goats that I hear?”
8. B Agag
9. C Witchcraft, worshipping idols
10. D Saul rejected the command of the LORD
11. B He chopped off his head

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. How did Samuel feel when he realised that Saul did not obey the Lord’s command to destroy the Amalekites?

Not only had Saul failed to destroy the Amalekites as commanded by Samuel, but he built a monument to honour himself. That must have made Samuel very angry. Disobedience was a serious sin but to build a monument to honour himself at a time when the Law of Moses expressly forbade only made it worse.

2. What should Saul have done when Samuel caught up with him?

He should not have lied to try to give an excuse for not doing what Samuel had commanded him. Instead he should have told Samuel the truth and asked for forgiveness.

3. In what way was Saul shown that he had been rejected?

The answer is found in the Bible: 1 Samuel 15: 27 As Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. 28 Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors—to one better than you.

4. Why did Samuel have to finish the job originally given to Saul?

Samuel had to finish the job given to Saul who failed to complete his mission. This was to show how serious the task or any task given to someone from the Lord is. It also showed the soldiers that the king of Israel answered to the Lord God of Israel. He was only a king by appointment of the Lord.

5. What led Samuel to anoint David as the replacement king of Israel?

1. Saul’s failure to obey God and hence his rejection
2. God had led Samuel to choose David, because the Lord looks at the heart: 1 Samuel 16 ¹⁰ Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The Lord has not chosen these.” ¹¹ So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”
Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

¹² So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.
Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

Lesson 3: DAVID AND GOLIATH

Based on book and dvd chapter 3

Theme: God chooses the faithful follower to perform great tasks.

Lesson Aim: That the children understand that God has called us to be faithful and He is able to protect and provide when we serve and follow Him.

Bible Passage: 1 Sam 16:5 – 18:8

Memory Verse: 1 Samuel 17:32

Activity 1 Search for word puzzle

1. Vally of Elah
2. Giant
3. Gath
4. Bronze
5. Reward
6. Lord
7. Facedown
8. David
9. Jealous

Challenge Questions

1. What was David's occupation before his battle with Goliath?

David was a shepherd, tending to his father's flocks. (1 Sam 17:15)

2. What 'training' did David have before his battle with Goliath?

He had rescued sheep from lions and bears, and killed the lions and bears. (1 Sam 17:34 – 36)

3. Why do you think Saul was afraid of Goliath's challenge?

He knew that the Lord was not with him, and he was not confident to fight against a Giant.

Application Questions

1. How is God preparing you for some difficult tasks ahead of you?

Ask the students to share

2. Share some challenging tasks you have faced and how God helped you overcome it?

Open for the students to share

Challenge Application Questions

1. What assurances do we have that God will help us through the difficult times?

The Bible says in Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Also, as seen in the case of David; he put his trust in the Lord and managed to defeat Goliath with neither sword nor armour.

Another Bible verse which can apply in certain situations is: 1 Corinthians 10:13

'No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.'

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E None of the above
2. D All of the above
3. C Gath
4. B Bronze
5. D 40
6. D doing nothing
7. C Daughter for a wife plus a life time of not paying taxes for the family
8. E All of the above
9. B Five smooth stones, a sling and a stick
10. E The God of Israel
11. C His sling and Goliath's own sword

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why was Saul afraid of the Philistine army?

- Samuel had left Saul. The Lord had left Saul. Saul no longer received instructions from God. Since Saul ignored the instructions of God, why should God speak to him?
- The Philistine army had a champion, Goliath who was a giant and a fearsome warrior. Every day, Goliath taunted the Israelites.

2. Contrast David's response to Goliath's challenge with that of Saul's?

The Bible says, for 40 days, Goliath made fun of the Israelite army every day. Saul did not dare to challenge Goliath. Instead he offered a reward to any soldier who could defeat Goliath: 1 Samuel 17²⁵ Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his family from taxes in Israel."

David's response was: 1 Samuel 17:26b "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

3. Why do you think God gave David this victory and in such a dramatic manner?

In the Bible, there are many stories where God gives victory to those faithful to Him in a miraculous way, so that they will not say it was by their own strength. Other examples include Gideon defeating the Midianites, Deborah and the Canaanites, Moses and the Egyptians and etc. David's miraculous victory showed the Israelites three things:

- God was fighting for them and giving them victory over the Philistines
- God was with David who will eventually be their king
- It also showed David that God was with him and that while he would be hunted by Saul for a while, Samuel's anointing of him would eventually be fulfilled and David would become king of Israel.

4. What was the consequence of David's victory?

- The Israelite army became more confident when they realised that God was with them. They then defeated the Philistine army.

- Saul gave his daughter to Michal to be married to David although he gave David another difficult and dangerous test.
- The people gave greater credit to David than Saul for the Israelite victory over the Philistines. This made Saul very jealous and from that day onwards, Saul kept a close watch over David, fearing that his throne might be taken.

Lesson 4: DAVID THE FUGITIVE

Based on book and dvd chapter 4

Theme:

Obedience to God requires us to have faith that He will accomplish His purposes and we must be patient sometimes.

Lesson Aim:

That the children understand that God does not want us to break His laws or do anything against what the Bible teaches..... in thinking that we are helping to accomplish His purposes.

Bible Passage: 1 Sam 21-24; Psalm 23

Memory Verse: Psalm 23:1

Activity 1 Questions

- Who does David compare God with?
He compares God to a shepherd. (Psalm 23:1)
- Why does David not have to fear anything even when walking through the darkest valley?
For the Lord is with him, and He comforts David. (Psalm 23:4)
- List down the number of things David had done for Saul to earn his favour?
 - Slain Goliath (1 Sam 17:50)
 - Led troops in campaigns (1 Sam 18:12)
 - Slain two hundred Philistines (1 Sam 18:27)
 - Did whatever Saul asked him to do (1 Sam 18:5)
 - Spared Saul's life at the Craggs of the Wild Goats, Desert on En Gendi (1 Sam 24)
- Who did Saul give in marriage to David?
His daughter Michal was given to David in marriage. (1 Sam 18:27)
- Ahimelech was the priest in which town?
Ahimelech was the priest of Nob. (1 Sam 21:1)
- What did Ahimelech give to David?
Ahimelech gave David some consecrated bread, as well as the sword of Goliath the Philistine. (1 Sam 21:6, 9)
- Who was the person who told Saul what Ahimelech had done?
Doeg the Edomite told Saul of what Ahimelech had done. (1 Sam 22:9 - 10)
- What was Saul's reaction and what did he do?
Saul sent for Ahimelech and accused him of aiding David in rebelling against Saul. He then ordered his guards to kill the priests of the Lord

but they refused, so he had Doeg to carry out the killings. (1 Sam 22:11 - 19)

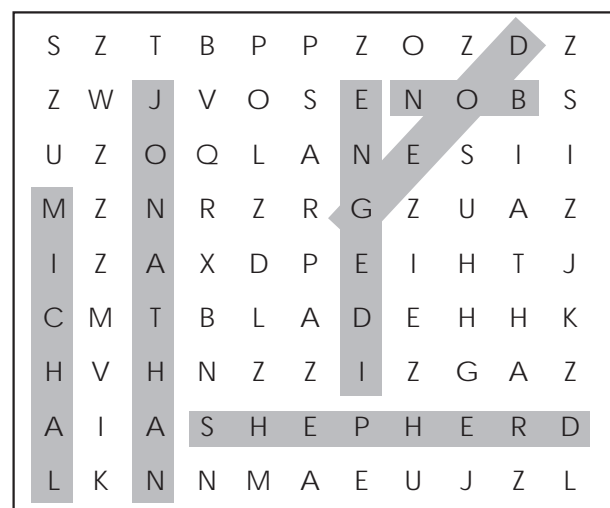
- When David had a chance to kill Saul, what did he do?

He cut off a corner of Saul's robe. (1 Sam 24:4)

- From 1 Sam 24:12-17, what did Saul admit in front of David?

Saul admitted that David was more righteous than him, and that he had treated David badly whereas David treated him well. He admitted he knew that David will surely be king and that the Kingdom of Israel will be established in his hands. (1 Sam 24:17 - 20)

Activity 2 Search for word puzzle



Challenge Question

1. Why did David not kill Saul when he had the opportunity to do so?
He was obeying God's Laws and knew that God would not approve him quietly killing Saul, who had been anointed by the Prophet Samuel earlier.

Application Questions

1. David trusted in God to bring about the fulfilment of His promises. He did not have to break God's laws to 'help God'. What can we learn from this? Read Psalm 23:1-3. How did knowing that the Lord was his shepherd and protector influence David's decision when he discovered he had the chance to kill Saul?
We can learn that God has his time and way of doing things, we should not take matters into our hands but wait patiently for the fulfilment of His promises. David was sure that the Lord would protect him and give him the kingship without David having to do anything that was wrong in God's view.
2. How does knowing God's laws and that the Lord is our shepherd and in Him, we have everything that we need, help us when we are faced with a temptation of using unlawful ways to achieve profit for ourselves? Share a recent experience.
Ask the students to share.

Challenge Application Questions

1. Read Psalm 23:4-6. Explain in your own words what these verses mean to you.
During times where I cannot see solutions to my problems, I will be unafraid, knowing the Lord is with me and will care for me. The Lord will provide for me although my enemies are around, and bless me. He will show me goodness and love until I join Him in His Kingdom. Ask the students to share in their own words.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. D shepherd
2. D God
3. D All of the above
4. A House of the LORD
5. D Jonathan
6. E None of the above
7. A Ahimelech
8. C food and weapons
9. D Doeg the Edomite
10. D All of the above
11. D All of the above
12. E none of the above
13. B A cave in the Desert of En Gedi
14. C He cut a piece of the hem of Saul's robe

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. What do we learn from David's relationship with God from Psalm 23?

Ask the children to read the Psalm. Explain to them that David is using the example of a shepherd's care for the sheep to explain God's love and protection over us. Ask the children to describe what they think about David's relationship with God based on the Psalm.

2. What do we learn about David's encounter with the priests at Nob versus Saul's encounter with them?

David was running for his life. He was desperate for survival. Although David lied to Ahimelech the priest about his secret mission for the king, which he should not have, but he had respect for God's priests. Based on Ahimelech's answer when questioned by Saul, we can see the priest had great respect for David and had not hesitated to consult God for David. This made Saul all the more jealous and angry.

3. Why did God allow David an opportunity to kill Saul and how do you think Saul felt when he realised that his life had been spared?

Probably David was tested by God to see if he would take things into his own hands. By not killing Saul, David also showed his followers that he was going to trust God to deliver him. God will judge Saul in His time and one day, David would become king, without having to kill Saul by himself.

4. What do you learn about God in this story?

Ask the children this question. Reflect on Psalm 23 and ask them what description it gives about God. God was protecting David and there was nothing Saul, the king, could do to change the sovereign will of God

Lesson 5: DAVID BECOMES KING

Based on book and dvd chapter 5

Theme: Unrepentant disobedience to God leads to silence from Him. We must not resort to any wrong-doing in the name of achieving God's purposes

Lesson Aim: We must follow David's example (to be innocent) and not do anything that is against the teachings of the Bible. Trust that God will help us to achieve His plan for us.

Bible Passage: 1 Sam 28 - 2 Sam 5

Memory Verse: 2 Samuel 5:10 (NLT)

Activity 1 Crossword Puzzle

1. Hebron
2. Executed
3. Israel
4. Judah
5. Thirty
6. Mourned
7. Abner
8. Jerusalem

Activity 2 Break the code

How the might have fallen,
And the weapons of war have perished!

Challenge Questions

1. What did Saul do to get advice from Samuel? What should he have done instead?
He consulted a medium. (1 Sam 28:7 - 8).
He should have inquired of the Lord through a priest.
2. What did Samuel say to Saul when he saw him?
Samuel said: "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" "Why do you consult me, now that the Lord has turned away from you and become your enemy? The Lord has done what he predicted through me. The Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hands and given it to one of your neighbours - to David. Because you did not obey the Lord or carry out his fierce wrath against the Amalekites, the Lord has done this to you today. The Lord will hand over both Israel and you to the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also hand over the army of Israel to the Philistines."
(1 Sam 28:15 - 19)

Application Questions

1. When we are faced with difficulties, who should we call on for help? Why should we not resort to any short-cuts, if it involves breaking God's laws? Give an example of difficulties you have faced and overcome without resorting to any sort of cheating.
Open for students to share

Challenge Application Questions

1. Why did David not kill Ish-Bosheth himself and Abner also? Why was it important for David to show that he had nothing to do with their death? There is a saying: 'we must not only be doing the right thing, but we must also be seen to be doing the right thing'. Do you agree with this statement? Was David applying this principle or did he have other
David does not advocate unnecessary bloodshed against the people of Israel. Furthermore, he promised Saul that he would not kill Saul's descendants (1 Sam 24:21-22). It is important as the Lord's Laws state to not murder. David has to set a good example to the people of Israel by obeying God's Word.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E 40, Ramah
2. A Gilboa
3. D a and b only
4. D Endor
5. B 'why have you disturbed me?'
6. C Hebron
7. A Abner, Ish-Bosheth
8. C Joab
9. D Hebron
10. E Jebusites

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why was Saul so desperate when he saw the Philistine army?

The Philistines probably had a big army. Saul could not defeat them without the help of David or Samuel. Saul did not receive any word from God and Samuel was dead already.

2. Why do you think the Lord did not speak to Saul anymore?

Saul had been disobedient and unrepentant. God had rejected him.

3. Why do you think Joab murdered Abner? Was he right to do such a thing?

Abner was about to take another son of Saul and proclaim him king. However, Abner's army could not defeat David's army. When Abner, appeared to want to come over to David's side, Joab probably felt threatened. The danger was that Abner might want to put himself as David's chief general and usurp Joab's position. Hence it was better for Joab to quietly kill Abner and get rid of his competition.

4. How does the story show that David was obedient to God?

Joab, unlike David, would not hesitate to take things into his own hands. David would wait on God. When Abner was killed, David publicly mourned for Abner to show Israel that he had no part in the murder.

5. Why was David successful in all that he did?

Ask the children to answer in their own words. David was obedient and trusted in the Lord. The Lord was with David and gave him success.

Lesson 6: DAVID BRINGS THE ARK TO JERUSALEM

Based on book and dvd chapter 6

Theme: Give our highest honour to God and He will honour us.

Lesson Aim: Children will examine their lives to see if they are giving God honour by following what God wants them to do.

Bible Passage: 2 Sam 6-8; Psalm 19

Memory Verse: Psalm 19:9 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- Name one important symbol of Israel's national identity?
The Ark of God or the Ark of the Covenant
- When the Ark first arrived in Jerusalem, what was David wearing and what was he doing?
David was wearing a linen ephod, and dancing before the Lord with all his might. (2 Sam 6:14)
- Where did David place the Ark in Jerusalem?
He placed the Ark inside the tent he pitched for it. (2 Sam 6:17)
- What offerings did David make when the Ark arrived in Jerusalem?
David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. (2 Sam 6:17)
- What did David give to the people who were present in the crowd?
David gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to all who were present in the crowd. (2 Sam 6:19)
- What did David want to do for the Lord?
David wanted to build a house for the Lord. (2 Sam 7:2)
- What did the Lord say to David through the prophet Nathan?
The Lord said that He has not dwelt in a house from the day He brought Israelites out of Egypt. He also said that David's offspring would build a house for the Lord after David goes to rest with his fathers. (2 Sam 7:5 - 13)
- The heavens, craftsmanship (Psalm 19:1)

- What did the Psalmist say about what God has done with the Sun?
God has pitched a tent for the sun. (Psalm 19:4)
- How does David, the Psalmist describe the instructions of the Lord and what it does for the Soul.
He describes the Law of the Lord as perfect and that it revived the soul. (Psalm 19:7)
- What does the Psalmist say about the Lord's:
 - Trustworthy, making wise the simple
 - Right, bringing joy to the heart
 - True, each one is fair (Psalm 19:7 - 9)
- What does the Psalmist say should be our response to God? Psalm 19 v.9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Fear (Reverence) of the Lord, and keeping the ordinances of the Lord.

Challenge Questions

- What was important about the Ark of the Covenant? What does it symbolize for Israel?
It symbolizes the covenant the Lord has with Israel. It means that God is with them.

Application Questions

- How does creation proclaim the glory of God?
The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech, night after night they display knowledge (Psalm 19:1 - 2).
Knowing that creation is so wonderful, and hence the Creator is even more wonderful, what should our attitude be towards God the creator?
Open for discussion.

2. How does King David show his deep respect and love for God the creator? How can we show respect for the creator God? Does our love and respect for someone translate to obedience? Share an example of how you have shown love and respect for God?

He made a psalm and praised the Lord, citing creation's declaration of God's glory.

Challenge Application Questions

1. Who did Israel worship? What happened when the people began to trust the object of the Ark more than the God of Israel – Refer to Lesson 1. Israel worshipped the Lord. When people trust the object more than God, they are bound to fail in what they do.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B rejoicing and celebration
2. E none of the above
3. A Inside a tent that David had pitched for it
4. E All of the above
5. C a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins
6. B Philistines and Moabites
7. A Build a Temple for the Ark of the LORD
8. D Your son will build the temple
9. D a and b only

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why do you think David was dancing when the Ark arrived in Jerusalem?

Ask the children why they think David was dancing. The Bible text says: 2 Samuel 6 ¹⁴ Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might, ¹⁵ while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets.

Commentaries say that David was very happy to bring the Ark to his new capital Jerusalem. This celebration was a sort of coronation of the Lord in his kingdom. He is showing his people that it is the Lord who is the ultimate King of Israel.

2. Why do you think Michal his wife and the daughter of Saul was scornful of him?

There is no direct answer here. Ask the children to give their views. It is question for them to

think. According to commentaries, it is most likely that Michal was unhappy that David had now supplanted her father Saul as king of Israel and also because David had taken other wives. She was a royal princess bride to David when he was just an ordinary person. She was also forced to divorce her first husband Paltiel and added to David's harem (2 Sam 3:12-15).

3. How did David show his love for the Lord?

David wrote many psalms which were songs of praise to the Lord his God. His psalms example Psalms 19, were recorded and sung during worship in the Tent and in the Temple of the Lord until after Solomon's time.

David showed reverence and joy whenever referring to God.

4. How do we know that David found favour with the Lord?

Ask the children for their views. The Bible tells us that God gave David success when he went to battle the enemies (1 Sam 18:5, 30). David wanted to honour God by building a beautiful Temple for the Lord his God. Although God told David, it would be his son who would build the Temple, but God saw that David's heart was good and made a promise to David. God promised David a descendant who would rule forever. This was fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. Summarise the key points in Psalm 19.

Ask the children to summarise in their own words or to re-write the Psalm in today's language using their own words.

Lesson 7: DAVID AND BATHSHEBA

Based on book and dvd chapter 7

Theme: God forgives when there is a genuine desire for mercy and repentance but we may have to live with the terrible consequences of our sin

Lesson Aim: Children will encourage one another to act in ways that are right in God's eyes and pleasing to Him.

Bible Passage: 2 Sam 11-12

Memory Verse: Psalm 51:12 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- With whom did David send Joab and the Israelite army to fight?
The Ammonites (2 Sam 11:1)
- Where did the fighting take place?
The city of Rabbah (2 Sam 11:1)
- Midday rest, bed and was walking, a woman of unusual beauty (2 Sam 11:2)
- When David heard that he had made Bathsheba pregnant, what did he do?
He sent for Uriah and attempted to get him to go home and sleep with his wife. (2 Sam 11:6 - 10)
- Why didn't Uriah the Hittite go back to his house to sleep with his wife?
He believed he should not enjoy comforts whilst the Ark and other men in the army were still in battle. (2 Sam 11:11).
- What did David instruct Joab his general to do?
He instructed Joab to put Uriah at the front line where the fighting was the fiercest, then withdraw from him. (2 Sam 11:15)
- After Uriah had died what did David do with Bathsheba? Did it please God?
David had her brought to his house and wedded her. It did not please God. (2 Sam 11:27)
- What message did prophet Nathan give to David?
Nathan told David the Lord said "I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be

your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own." "Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel." (2 Sam 12:7 - 12)

- Name all the commandments that David had broken in this story?
You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not covet your neighbour's wife. (Ex 20: 13 - 14, 17)
- How did David respond to the message given by Nathan?
David said to Nathan "I have sinned against the Lord." (2 Sam 12:13)
- Even though his sins were forgiven, what was David's punishment?
A son born to him would die. The Lord struck ill the son borne by Bathsheba, and he died on the seventh day. (2 Sam 12:14 - 15, 18). There would be murder and strife among David's children later.

Challenge Questions

- Why did Nathan tell David tell a story first and how does that story relate to what David had done?
He needed to get David to understand the perspectives of the victim. David had bullied the victim, Uriah, by taking what little that belongs to Uriah and later murdering him.

Application Questions

- How did David try to conceal the sin he had committed and how did his action lead to a greater sin? What should he have done instead?

David tried to get Uriah to go home and sleep with his wife, failing to do so, he arranged for Uriah to be murdered. He should have repented before God and be truthful to Uriah, then he could have discussed a remuneration. Open for discussion.

2. Read Psalm 51. Describe the guilt that David felt and what did he want from God again? What does this teach us about what to do when we have sinned?

David felt very remorseful and he wanted God to cleanse him, forgive him and make Zion / Israel prosperous again.

Challenge Application Questions

1. What was the long-term consequences of David's sin? Even though God had forgiven him, what punishment did he still have to face? What long-term consequences have you had to face when you knowingly did something wrong?
David's wives would be given to one close to him, and he will sleep with them in public, in broad daylight, before all Israel. He still had to face the punishment of his child with Bathsheba falling ill and dying. One of David's children would commit rape and then be murdered by another brother. David would face a rebellion and there would be a civil war in the country.

out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

David should have been out with his army fighting the enemy.

2. Which were the commandments that David had broken in the story?

Ask the children to say what they think.

- He coveted after another man's wife
- He committed adultery with Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11² One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful,³ and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite."⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.
- He tried to make it look like her husband had made her pregnant.
- When that failed, he had Uriah murdered

3. Ask the children to explain based on their knowledge why Israel's king is expected to act differently from other kings?

Israel served the Lord and was bound to obey the laws given by Moses. Even the king was not exempt from the Law.

1 Samuel 10:²⁵ Samuel explained to the people the rights and duties of kingship. He wrote them down on a scroll and deposited it before the Lord. Then Samuel dismissed the people to go to their own homes.

Samuel had explained to the Israelites all the duties of the king. The king was bound by God's laws which is summarised in the Ten Commandments

4. Why did God forgive David?

David confessed and repented of his sin when he was confronted by Nathan the prophet. David knew he had sinned and was sorry for it. However the consequences of his sin would haunt him for the rest of his life.

5. Explain in your own words Psalm 51.

Ask the students to explain in their own words Psalm 51

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. C roof of his palace, after his mid-day rest
2. D fighting the Ammonites
3. A Yes
4. D He panicked
5. B he wanted to make it look like her husband came home and spent the night with her
6. C Israel's army were still in battle, how could he go home in comfort
7. E David plotted with Joab to murder him
8. D Nathan
9. D All of the above
10. D all of the above

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. In the beginning of the story when David was having his mid-day rest in the comfort of his palace - where should he have been instead?

The Bible says in 2 Samuel 11: In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab

Lesson 8: DAVID AND ABSALOM

Based on book and dvd chapter 8

Theme: "You reap what you sow". When David fails to correct or punish his children for their sins, God sees the sin and ensures there is justice. Divine justice is carried out even when human justice fails. God's justice cannot be stopped.

Lesson Aim: The children will be obedient to their parents and authorities eg. teachers, as long as they do not go against the teachings of God

Bible Passage: 2 Sam 13-18

Memory Verse: Psalm 51:16-17 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

1. Amnon son of David, Tamar's half-brother. (2 Sam 13:1)
2. Amnon then hated her with intense hatred. (2 Sam 13:15)
3. a) He was furious, but did nothing (2 Sam 13:21)
b) Hated Amnon, devised a plot and murdered Amnon (2 Sam 13: 22, 28)
4. Absalom loved his sister very much, and held a grudge. He plotted and murdered Amnon to take revenge.
5. Absalom tried to steal the hearts of the men of Israel by being humble towards those who approached him and pretended to be close to the people by wanting to help represent the people with their complaints. (2 Sam 15:1 - 6)
6. David summoned his officials and brought his entire household to flee Jerusalem. (2 Sam 15:14 - 16)
7. The steward of Mephibosheth, Ziba, brought a string of donkeys saddled and loaded with 200 loaves of bread, 100 cakes of raisin, 100 cakes of figs and a skin of wine. (2 Sam 16:1)
8. He instructed Joab to be gentle with Absalom for his sake. (2 Sam 18:5)
9. Absalom was riding his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a large oak. Absalom's head got caught in the tree, and the mule continued onwards. David's men saw it and reported to Joab, who went and plunged 3 javelin into Absalom's heart while he was still alive. Then 10 of Joab's armour bearers struck Absalom and killed him. (2 Sam 18:9 - 15)
10. Ahimaaz son of Zadok requested thrice to run, upon being allowed by Joab, he ran behind the Cushite Joab sent to deliver the news to David. After David heard the news, he was shaken and went up the room over the gateway and wept. (2 Sam 18:19 - 33)

Challenge Questions

1. How was Prophet Nathan's message of judgment fulfilled in this chapter?

a.2 Samuel 12:10 'your family will live by the sword' (NLT) or in another translation: 'Killing and murder will continually plague your family' (The Message). How was this prophecy fulfilled?
His sons dies one after another. Amnon was slain by Absalom, who was then slain by Joab. Adonijah was executed by Solomon. (1 Sam 13:29, 18:15, 1 Kings 2:25)

b.2 Sam 12:11 '... your own household will rebel against you' (NLT). How was this fulfilled?
Absalom tried to take over the throne. (1 Sam 15:10)

c.2 Sam 12:11-12 '... I will give your wives to another man before your very eyes, and he will go to bed with them in public view. You did it in secret, but I will make this happen to you openly in the sight of all Israel' (NLT). How was this fulfilled?
Absalom slept with David's concubines in sight of all Israel. (1 Sam 16:22)

Application Questions

1. Absalom was a very handsome and good-looking prince. He also was very clever to say nice things to please the people. Do you think he loved God? What does this teach us about the importance of loving God and being obedient to His teachings as compared to good looks and saying nice words?
No. He held contempt for the Laws of the Lord. Open for discussion what were the wrong things done by Absalom.

Challenge Application Questions

1. How do you think David's sins were passed on to his children?
 - a. What should David have done when he learnt that Amnon had raped Tamar?

He should have rebuked and consult the Lord for further actions regarding Amnon.
 - b. What should David have done when Absalom murdered Amnon?

He should have punished Absalom and handed him to the Lord for further action. He could have asked the prophet Nathan for advice.
 - c. Why do you think David did not do anything to punish his sons when they had committed sin?

He was indecisive and did not know how to discipline his children. This is possibly because he knew he had set a bad example.

punished Amnon and made it public that such an act was not tolerated. However, he might also have been hindered by the memory of his own sins of adultery and murder. Because of his own sins, his ability to make clear judgment becomes hindered.

2. What do you think of David's response when he heard about Absalom's murder of Amnon? What should he have done?

After hearing that Absalom had killed Amnon: 2 Samuel 13 ³⁶ As he finished speaking, the king's sons came in, wailing loudly. The king, too, and all his attendants wept very bitterly.

³⁷ Absalom fled and went to Talmai son of Ammihud, the king of Geshur. But King David mourned many days for his son.

³⁸ After Absalom fled and went to Geshur, he stayed there three years. ³⁹ And King David longed to go to Absalom, for he was consoled concerning Amnon's death.

King David, again, did nothing to punish or to declare that what Absalom had done was wrong. Perhaps David felt he was guilty of Uriah's murder and did not have the heart to punish Absalom for his crime or even to declare that it was wrong. If it was because he loved his children very much, he should have known that even he and his family were subject to the Laws of Moses. Eli had failed to keep his children in check and for that he was punished. David would have known all about this.

3. How do you see God's hand in the events of the story?

Ask the children to give their opinion.

In fact all this was in fulfilment of Nathan's prophecy about the punishment that David would receive for the sins he committed when he committed adultery with Bathsheba. Read 2 Samuel 12 10 Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

¹¹ "This is what the Lord says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. ¹² You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.'"

4. How should David have responded when he heard about his army's victory and Absalom's defeat?

Ask the students to read 2 Samuel 19 and then give their opinion.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E Tamar, Amnon
2. B the Law of Moses
3. B asking Tamar to cook and take care of him
4. E None of the above
5. C he was very angry with Amnon
6. D murdered, harvest festival
7. E None of the above
8. A Absalom
9. D 10 concubines, Hushai the Arkite
10. C Spare Absalom
11. B Ephraim
12. A his hair was caught in the branch of a tree
13. D all of the above
14. B Joab
15. B he was very sad

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. What do you think of David's response when he heard about what Amnon had done to Tamar? What should he have done?

The Bible says: 2 Samuel 13 ²¹ When King David heard all this, he was furious. ²² And Absalom never said a word to Amnon, either good or bad; he hated Amnon because he had disgraced his sister Tamar.

David was very angry, but there is no record of him doing anything to punish Amnon.

David was very decisive when he found out that Joab had murdered Abner and made it very public that it was not his doing. But he did nothing when there was rape in his own house. He should have

Lesson 9: SOLOMON SUCCEEDS DAVID

Based on book and dvd chapter 9

Theme: Humbly acknowledging one's need for God's help to rule His people, i.e. praying for others and giving glory to God, brings him much more than wisdom. God bestows on him wealth and honour.

Lesson Aim: Children should always give praise and honour to God no matter what.

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 1-3

Memory Verse: James 1:5 (NLT)

Activity 1 Questions

1. When David was very old, what did Adonijah do?
Adonijah set himself up as king. (1 Kings 1:5)
This was done without King David's knowledge or blessing.
2. Who was Adonijah? Who supported him?
Adonijah was David's 4th son, born after Absalom. He was supported by Joab and Abiathar. (1 Kings 1:6 - 7)
3. What did prophet Nathan do?
Nathan advised Bathsheba on how to save her own life and Solomon's by asking David to proclaim Solomon as king. (1 Kings 1:11 - 14)
4. After Bathsheba and Nathan spoke to David, what did he do?
He took an oath and made Solomon king after him. (1 Kings 1:29 - 30)
5. Who anointed Solomon king of Israel?
Zadok the priest anointed Solomon. (1 Kings 1:39)
6. When Adonijah pleaded for mercy what did Solomon do? But what happened after that?
Solomon showed mercy and asked Adonijah to return home. However, after that Adonijah requested for Abishag's hand in marriage, which Solomon saw as an aspiration to the throne, and so ordered Adonijah to be executed. (1 Kings 1:53; 2:17, 22 - 25)
7. What did God say to Solomon in the dream recorded in 1 Kings 3:1-15?
God told Solomon to "ask for whatever you want me to give you." (1 Kings 3:5)
8. What was Solomon's reply?
Solomon requested for the Lord to give him a discerning heart to govern the people and to distinguish between right and wrong. (1 Kings 3:9)

9. Was the Lord pleased with Solomon's reply? How do we know?

Yes, the Lord was pleased. The Bible said so. Moreover, the Lord told Solomon that since he did not ask for wealth nor death of his enemies, but for discernment, the Lord would give him things he had not asked for, such as riches and honour. (1 Kings 3:10 - 14)

10. Have a role play: 2 prostitutes, King Solomon and a guard who commands the women to speak or keep silent! Act out the scene described in 1 Kings 3:16-28. Have the guard to act as Narrator or another person can be Narrator.

Challenge Questions

1. Why do you think Solomon spared Abiathar but executed Adonijah after he asked to marry Abishag?
Solomon spared Abiathar because he carried the Ark of the Lord during David's reign. (1 Kings 2:26) He executed Adonijah as he viewed the request to marry his father's bed warmer as a way to proclaim himself as king, (1 Kings 2:22). Absalom had set a precedent. He slept with David's concubines and proclaimed himself king.

Application Questions

1. What lessons can we learn from Solomon's prayer? How can we pray like Solomon?
We learned that we should not be selfish but strive to serve others to the best of our ability, and God will bless us more. We can give thanks and or pray for forgiveness from anywhere.

Challenge Application Questions

1. Read 1 Kings 3:16-28. What can we learn from the story about the two prostitutes and the love of the true mother of the baby? Is there anything we can learn or compare the true mother's love with?

A true mother wants the best for her child, and is willing to sacrifice for her child's sake. God's love is greater than a mother's love; so we may see how much He loves us.

A thought: God is like the true mother, who wants us whole and well. The Devil will take any portion of us if we allow him.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. A Adonijah, Joab, Abiathar
2. C Nathan, Solomon
3. B Bathsheba
4. B Nathan, Zadok, Benaiah
5. B 40 years, city of David
6. A wisdom
7. D cut the baby into half
8. D all of the above

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why did Joab support Adonijah to be the next king even before King David had died?

There is no clear answer to this question. It is just a question to ask the students to think through the issues.

It could be because Joab wanted to remain in power. Seeing that David was about to die, the next oldest living son of David was Adonijah, Joab plotted to make him king and in return, keep his position as general of the army? That is a possible reason, although it is not recorded in the Bible.

2. Why did prophet Nathan and Bathsheba take action the way they did?

The Bible says: David chose Solomon as his successor because "the word of the Lord came to [him]" telling him to do so. David, due to his many sins, was unworthy of building God's temple. God chose Solomon from before his birth as the one who would build the temple and reign over Israel. In 1 Chronicles 22, it is implied that God had told David, his son Solomon would succeed him and build the Temple that he had originally envisaged.

1 Chronicles 22:6-10

⁶ Then he called for Solomon his son and charged him to build a house for the Lord, the God of Israel. ⁷ David said to Solomon, "My son, I had it in my heart to build a house to the name of the Lord my God. ⁸ But the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars. You shall not build a house to my name, because you have shed so much blood before me on the earth. ⁹ Behold, a son shall be born to you who shall be a man of rest. I will give him rest from all his surrounding enemies. For his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days. ¹⁰ He shall build a house for my name. He shall be my son, and I will be his father, and I will establish his royal throne in Israel forever.' In 1 Kings 1 ¹⁷ She said to him, "My lord, you yourself swore to me your servant by the Lord your God: 'Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he will sit on my throne.'

3. Why was God pleased with Solomon's prayer request?

Solomon had prayed humbly and for wisdom to rule God's people wisely and with justice. Solomon had placed higher importance on wisdom than riches, power and fame. God was pleased with his request.

4. How do we see God in action in this story?

Ask the students to give their opinion on this question

Lesson 10: SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE

Based on book and dvd chapter 10

Theme: God's command to Solomon is to follow His commandments. God is pleased with the Temple that Solomon had built, but He still requires Solomon to be obedient to the commandments.

Lesson Aim: Children to understand that God created the heavens and the earth, yet He chooses to live inside us, who believe in Him. Therefore, we must honour God with our bodies and our lives.

Bible Passage:

1 Kings 6-8

Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- Who had made preparations for Solomon to build the Temple?
King David, his father.
- How many years had the people been rescued from slavery in Egypt?
480 years. (1 Kings 6:1)
- God said He would fulfill the promises made to Solomon's father and live among the Israelites and not abandon His people but what must Solomon do? (1 Kings 6:11)
Solomon must follow the Lord's decrees, carry out his regulations, keep all his commands and obey them. (1 Kings 6:11)
- How long did it take to build the Temple?
13 years (1 Kings 7:1)
- Where was the Ark of the Covenant placed within the Temple?
The Ark was placed in the inner sanctuary, beneath the wings of the cherubim. (1 Kings 6:19 - 23)
- Summarise Solomon's prayer 1 Kings 8:22,27, 29-50
Solomon humbles himself by declaring the Lord is so honourable that the temple he built is so unworthy to be the dwelling of the Lord, requests for the Lord's attention for the temple and bestow forgiveness. (1 Kings 8:22, 27, 29 - 50)

- What did Solomon urge the people to do? (1 Kings 8:61)

To be fully committed to the Lord our God, to live by His decrees and obey His commands. (1 Kings 8:61)

Challenge Questions

- How does Solomon give praise and honour to God in his prayer?

He said that the Lord is incomparable, trustworthy, so great that even the heavens cannot contain Him, and acknowledging Him as the creator of miracles, problem solver and saviour.

- Read 1 Kings 6:11-13 and 1 Samuel 15:22-23. What is the consistent message from these two passages

The Lord wants His people to obey him.

Application Questions

- Looking at the prayer of Solomon, how can we live lives that show we honour God as creator of the heavens and earth?

Open for discussion

- Jesus has paid the price for our sins. We do not need to make any more animal sacrifices. How can we give thanks to Jesus and live lives that will honour Him and show our gratitude?

Open for sharing. Refer to Romans 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

Challenge Application Questions

1. The Temple was the centre of the spiritual lives of the Israelites. How does Jesus replace the Temple as the centre of our worship? Where is the temple now that God has sent His spirit to live in those who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour.
The temple used to be a 'bridge' between men and God. Now that Jesus had died for our sins, he is the new Bridge. According to John 14:6, Jesus said he is 'the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'

The temple now is in us, indicated by 1Cor 3:16, 1Cor 6:19, 2Cor 6:16 and 2 Tim 1:14

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. D 4th year
2. B 480 years
3. C 7 years
4. A priests
5. D Tent of Meetings
6. B the Holy of Holies
7. A Two stone tablets of the Ten Commandments
8. A altar of the LORD, Israel
9. C decrees and commands of God
10. C 13 years

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why do you think the Bible kept such a detailed record of the Temple building?

Ask the students for their opinion.

1 Kings 5-7 gives a detail record of the building, the preparations and the objects inside the Temple.

They are a re-modelling of the tabernacle of Moses and its design shows how the Israelites were to worship the Lord their God.

2. What was the significance of the Ark of the LORD and where it was put inside the Temple?

The Ark of the LORD also known as the Ark of the Covenant was the symbolic presence of God. Its dimensions were given to Moses by God. Inside the Ark or a special box, it had the stone tablets which had the Ten Commandments written on them. On top of the Ark were two cherubim carvings which symbolised the guarding of the presence of God. The top of the Ark was also the symbolic Mercy Seat of God.

The Ark was placed in the innermost section of the Most Holy Place which was a sectioned place within inside the Temple blocked off by heavy curtains. Only the High Priest could enter the Most Holy place or the Holy of holies, once a year on the Day of Atonement or Yom Kippur, to offer sacrifices for the nation of Israel.

3. Which part of Solomon's prayer was quoted by Stephen the martyr in Acts of the Apostles?

In Acts 7⁴⁷ But it was Solomon who built a house for him.

⁴⁸ "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says:

⁴⁹ "Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.

What kind of house will you build for me?
says the Lord.

Or where will my resting place be?

⁵⁰ Has not my hand made all these things?"

4. Summarise the significant points in Solomon's prayer?

Ask the student to summarise in their own words (1 Kings 8:22-50)

Some points to note:

- Solomon gives glory to God
- Solomon acknowledges that humans cannot build anything good enough for God. Indeed, not even heaven and earth can contain God. The Temple is a place the people come to pray and that God watches over this Temple.
- Their prayers are offered humbly
- He asks God for mercy when the people have sinned and come back in prayer
- If the people are conquered and exiled, if they turn toward the Temple and pray, then he asks God to listen and answer their prayers

5. What was the significance of the Temple in the nation of Israel?

The Temple was a focal point of the worship and spiritual life of the Israelites. When they prayed, they were to face the Temple. When they wanted to offer sacrifices as atonement for their sins, they were to come to the Temple. The High Priest would offer sacrifices on behalf of the nation once a year on the Day of Atonement or Yom Kippur on the Temple grounds.

Lesson 11: SOLOMON AND THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

Based on book and dvd chapter 11

Theme: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge. Solomon gives glory and honour to God for his wisdom and all that he has achieved.

Lesson Aim: Children to understand that wisdom is found in fearing God. i.e. give God top priority and obey His instructions from the Bible.

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 10-13; Proverbs 3

Memory Verse: Proverbs 9:10 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- What were some of the things that impressed the Queen of Sheba about Solomon.
Solomon's wisdom; the palace he had built, the food on his table; the seating of his officials; the attending servants in their robes; his cupbearers and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the Lord. (1 Kings 10:4 - 5)
- To what did Solomon compare a father's instruction and a mother's teaching? (Prov.1:8)
A garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck. (Prov 1:8)
- What was Solomon's advice about faithfulness and love? (Prov 3:3)
Bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. (Prov 3:3)
- How do we let God make our paths straight? (Prov 3:5-6)
Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. (Prov3:5 - 6)
- Whom should we fear and whom should we shun? (Prov 3:7)
Fear the Lord, shun evil. (Prov 3:7)
- Who does God discipline and what should our attitude be towards His discipline (Prov 3:11-12)
God disciplines His people (us). We should not despise His discipline and not resent His rebuke. (Prov 3:11 - 12)
- What was Solomon's advice about laziness?
Poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man. (Prov 6:11)

- Who does Solomon say will judge the motives of all humans?

The Lord. (Prov 16:2)

- What is God's response to a proud heart?

He would punish them (Prov 16:5)

Activity 2 Questions

FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE FOUNDATION OF WISDOM
KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY ONE RESULTS IN GOOD
JUDGEMENT

Challenge Questions

- What was the result of the visit of the Queen of Sheba?
The Queen of Sheba gave Solomon:
a) 120 talents of gold, large quantities of spices and precious stones.
b) Praises to Solomon and the Lord.
(1 Kings 10: 6 - 10)
- Who are those who despise wisdom and knowledge?
Fools (Prov 1:7)

Application Questions

- The Queen of Sheba praised Solomon for his wisdom and also praised God. What can we do so that others who see our lives and our actions will give praise to our God?
Open for discussion

Challenge Application Questions

- Which proverb, or good advice, in this story speaks to you especially? What can you learn from it or from the Proverbs as a whole?
Ask the students to read the proverbs and share

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B Sheba, hard questions
2. E answers
3. B food, officials
4. A garlands to grace your head, chains to adorn your neck
5. D all of the above
6. C do not be lazy or poverty will come like a thief
7. E to the LORD God of Israel
8. D much gold, spices and precious stones
9. B The fear of the LORD
10. A weighed

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why did the Queen of Sheba visit King Solomon?

Solomon established trade with many of the surrounding countries. Many had heard of the wealth and wisdom of Solomon. The Queen of Sheba wanted to trade with Solomon but also wanted to see if the fame of Solomon was true. She went away more than satisfied.

2. What are the main points in the proverbs regarding children and parents?

Read Proverbs 1:8-9; Proverbs 3:1-12 and ask the students to give their opinion

3. What are the main points in the proverbs regarding being lazy or hard-working?

Read Proverbs 6:9-11 and ask the students to give their opinion

4. What are the main points in the proverbs regarding the gaining of wisdom?

Read Proverbs 16:1-5; Proverbs 1:1-7 and ask the students to give their opinion

5. What do we learn about God's blessings for Solomon?

Ask the students for their opinion based on the last two lessons of the story.

Lesson 12: THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

Based on book and dvd chapter 12

Theme: When God has blessed us, we must not become proud and turn away from Him. Failure to obey and keep the covenant leads to God's discipline and punishment.

Lesson Aim: Children to understand that Christians are called to love and obey God and not to turn to any other gods or to give higher importance to anything other than obeying the teachings of God.

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 11

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 28:14 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

1. Ashtoreth
2. Joseph
3. Ten
4. Solomon
5. Judah
6. Molech
7. Jeroboam
8. Ahijah
9. Israel
10. Jeroboam
11. David
12. Chemosh

Challenge Questions

1. After Solomon became very rich, powerful and famous, he became proud. He worshipped other gods also. Which commandments did he break?
You shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not bow down to them or worship them.
(Ex 20:3 - 4)
2. Why did God not allow the 2 tribes of Judah and Benjamin to fight the other tribes?
He did not want them to fight their brothers. God did not want brother to fight brother. The breaking up of the Kingdom was something God had allowed as a result of the sins of Solomon and the people.

Application Questions

1. When God has blessed us, what must we continue to do?
Ask the students to share
2. What can we do to prevent ourselves from breaking God's laws?
Ask the students to share based on what they have learnt so far

Challenge Application Questions

1. Why do you think Rehoboam, the successor of Solomon, preferred or took the advice of his young friends rather than the elders of Israel? What can we learn from this episode?

Ask the students to share. Some points to note: What was Rehoboam's character like. Did he learn much from his father Solomon? Did Rehoboam learn much from the example set by his father Solomon or his grandfather David? If we don't commit ourselves to follow God, what are we likely to miss out in our lives? We cannot depend on the good deeds of our predecessors.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B 40 years
2. D 700, 300
3. E none of the above
4. C Sidonians, Ammonites
5. A Mount of Olives
6. E Moab
7. D David his father
8. A Jeroboam
9. C Ahijah
10. E none of the above
11. C City of David
12. B Rehoboam
13. D The LORD warned them not to fight

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. What should Solomon have done when he was given a warning by the Lord to stop worshipping other gods?

Read 1 Kings 11:9-10 and ask the students to give their opinion

2. What should Rehoboam have done to prevent a division of the kingdom? What advice would you have given him?

Ask the students for their opinion

3. How was the Lord in control of the whole situation in the story?

Some points to note:

The Lord was very angry with Solomon for turning away from worshipping the God of Israel exclusively. For that the punishment was a divided kingdom. However, the Lord allowed human agents acting in their own selfish interest to carry out His will.

Lesson 13: PROPHET ELIJAH AND THE CONTEST ON MT CARMEL

Based on book and dvd chapter 13

Theme: God protects and provides for those who trust in Him no matter what the odds are, whether it is famine or an evil ruler with hundreds of false prophets

Lesson Aim: Children to know that God protects and provides for those who trust in Him, no matter what the odds are.

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 16:32 – 18:46

Memory Verse: 1 Kings 18:35 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

1. What message/prophesy did God ask Elijah to give to King Ahab? Did it come true?
There will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at God's word (1 Kings 17:1). Yes it happened.
2. What did Jezebel do because she was angry about the draught?
She killed the Lord's prophets. (1 Kings 18:4)
3. Read the introduction to this chapter in the text book. Who was Jezebel and where did she come from?
She was a princess, daughter of Ethbaal King of the Sidonians. (1 Kings 16: 31)
4. After the brook at Kerith Ravine had dried up, where did Elijah go?
Elijah went to the town gate of Zarephath of Sidon. (1 Kings 17:10)
5. When the widow whom Elijah stayed with shared her last meal with him, what miracle happened?
The jar of flour was not used up, the jug of oil did not run dry. (1 Kings 17:16)
6. When the widow's son fell ill and died, what did Elijah do?
He took the boy in his arms, carried him to the upper room where he was staying, laid him on his bed, and cried out to the Lord to return the boy's life. (1 Kings 17:19 - 20) Then the boy came to life again.
7. When Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal at Mt Carmel, how many prophets of Baal were there?
450 (1 Kings 18:19, 22)

8. What happened when the Baal prophets prayed for fire and what happened when Elijah prayed?
Nothing happened when Baal's prophets prayed. But when Elijah prayed, the Lord sent fire and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. (1 Kings 18:38)
9. What did the people of Israel do after the fire had come down on the Lord's altar?
They fell prostrate and cried "The Lord – He is God! The Lord – He is God!" (1 Kings 18:39)
10. At the end of the contest, what prophecies did Elijah give to Ahab?
"Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of heavy rain." (1 Kings 18:41)
11. Who won the race between Elijah and Ahab's chariot?
Elijah (1 Kings 18:46)

Challenge Questions

1. What did the contest at Mt Carmel show to the people of Israel?
It showed who the real Lord God is.
2. What was significant about the events described after the contest was over at Mt Carmel?
When the people acknowledged the Lord is God and humbled themselves before Him, He allowed rain. God can cause a famine to punish his people when they have sinned. God can grant rain and even give Elijah superhuman powers to outrun a chariot.

Application Questions

1. The Israelites suffered famine because they had been led into idol worship by a Sidonian princess. A Sidonian widow is blessed with an endless supply of food because of her faith in serving Elijah the prophet of God. What does this tell us about God's expectations of those who would follow him?
He does not discriminate by race but He looks at the heart of the individual.

Challenge Application Questions

1. Elijah faced 450 Baal prophets and a crowd of people curious to see who is the true God. With God on our side and the Bible giving us His teachings, what can we do to help others?
Open for discussion

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E Ahab and Jezebel
2. D Baal, Baal
3. B There will be no rain nor dew until the LORD gives the word
4. E Kerith Ravine east of the Jordan
5. C The Ravens brought meat and bread every morning and evening
6. D Sidon
7. D prayed to God and brought him back to life
8. A Obadiah
9. C Mount Carmel
10. E none of the above
11. B from morning till noon
12. A Fire came down and consumed the sacrifice

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why did Ahab want to kill Elijah?

Ask the students to give their opinion.

Some points to consider:

- Elijah was always pointing out Ahab's sins
- Ahab had a pagan and wicked wife, a princess of Sidon named Jezebel. She had no qualms about poisoning Ahab's mind. Instead of asking Ahab to repent and listen to the voice of the Lord's prophet, she incited Ahab to hunt down Elijah to kill him.

2. How did the Lord protect Elijah?

The Lord told Elijah to run from Ahab and Jezebel. He miraculously provided food and sustenance for Elijah while he was on the run.

3. Describe in your own words what happened in the contest on Mt Carmel?

Ask the students to describe what happened in their own words.

4. How do you think the people of Israel felt when they witnessed what happened on Mt Carmel and why did they not overthrow Ahab and Jezebel?

Ask the students to give their own reasons.

Points to note:

- The people who were present and witnessed the fireball from heaven consuming the sacrifice did follow Elijah's instructions to execute the prophets of Baal. However they were unable to convince Israel to turn away from Baal worship.
- Following the Lord required holiness by following the Law of Moses. Perhaps the worship of Baal required less. Perhaps it was just easier to follow the political leaders, Ahab and Jezebel, and receive material rewards than to go against political leadership and follow the Lord living according to the Law.

5. What does the story teach about God and what He desires for us?

The story is consistent with the general themes in the Bible. God desires for us to worship Him exclusively and walk in faith with Him. Elijah the prophet of God, boldly spoke against King Ahab for turning away from worshipping the Lord, even causing the country to turn away. God will act to protect His people, those who remain faithful to Him. God will also act in judgment against those who disobey.

Lesson 14: ELIJAH, AHAB AND NABOTH'S VINEYARD

Based on book and dvd chapter 14

Theme: God can speak in dramatic ways like on Mt Carmel, but he often also speaks in a still soft whisper such as in the cave. God can speak to us in a soft whisper too.

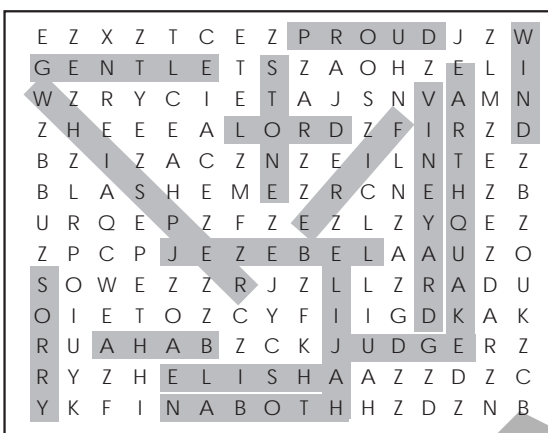
Lesson Aim:

Children to pray and understand that God can speak to them in a still small voice.
Children to understand that no crime will escape God's punishment.

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 19:1-18, 1 Kings 21:1-25

Memory Verse: 1 Kings 19:12-13 (NIV)

Activity 1 Word Matrix



you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. (1 Kings 19:15 - 16)

7. Elisha (1 Kings 19:16)
8. Naboth's vineyard (1 Kings 21:2)
9. Ahab offered to give Naboth a better vineyard or pay him whatever it is worth. But Naboth replied "The Lord forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers." (1 Kings 21:2 - 3)
10. She asked him, "Why are you so sullen? Why won't you eat?" After hearing his answer, she said "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite." (1 Kings 21:5, 7)
11. Jezebel wrote letters in Ahab's name, place his seal on them and sent them to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city with him. In those letters she instructed the elders and nobles to proclaim a day of fasting and seat Naboth in a prominent place among the people. But seat two scoundrels opposite him and have them testify that he has cursed both God and the King. Then take him out and stone him to death. The elders and nobles did as she told them to. (1 Kings 21:8 - 11)
12. Elijah told Ahab what the Lord said: 'Have you not murdered a man and seized his property? In the place where dogs licked up Naboth's blood, dogs will lick up your blood - yes, yours!' 'I will consume your descendants and cut off from Ahab every last male in Israel - slave or free. I will make your house like that of Jeroboam son of Nebat and that of Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have provoked me to anger and have caused Israel to sin.' And concerning Jezebel: 'Dogs will devour Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. Dogs will eat those belonging to Ahab who die in the city, and the birds of the air will feed on those who die in the country. (1 Kings 21:19 - 24)

Activity 2 Questions

1. She swore to her gods that by the next day, she will kill Elijah just as how her prophets have been killed. (1 Kings 19:2)
2. Elijah ran to a desert in Beersheba. He prayed that he had had enough and wanted the Lord to take his life. (1 Kings 19:4)
3. God sent an angel who told Elijah to "Get up and eat." He provided a cake of bread baked over hot coals and a jar of water. After Elijah had eaten and drank, he lay down again. The angel returned a second time, and touched Elijah and said "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." (1 Kings 19:5 - 7)
4. God, Horeb (1 Kings 19:8)
5. A great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and talks to the Lord. (1 Kings 19:11 - 13)
6. The Lord instructed Elijah to "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When

Challenge Questions

- Why did the LORD not strike Ahab and Jezebel dead immediately for the sins they had committed?
Because when Ahab heard Elijah's words, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and fasted. He lay in sackcloth and went around meekly. He humbled himself before the Lord. So the Lord decided to bring the disasters on his house in the days of his son. (1 Kings 21:27 – 28)
- What should Ahab have done when his offer was rejected by Naboth?
He should not have persisted in his desire for the vineyard, nor allowed Jezebel to take any action.

Application Questions

- Why do you think Elijah felt so depressed after such a great victory on Mt Carmel? Have we ever felt that way after a 'mountain high' experience? What does this tell us about trusting our emotions and trusting the word of God?
Open for discussion. Ask the students what lesson can we learn from this episode? Some thoughts: Outward signs and big crowds cheering are useful sometimes but what is more important is our personal walk with God. We have to trust completely in God
- Why did God show Elijah the three visions and finally only speak to him in a 'gentle whisper'? Has God spoken to you in dramatic ways? Has He spoken to you in a soft gentle whisper? Does it matter which way God speaks? What is our response in either of the ways as long we know it is God speaking?
Open for discussion. Sometimes God speaks with signs and wonders. But sometimes God can choose to speak to us in quiet moments through the Bible, words from wise counsellors or just by his soft prompting in our hearts.

Challenge Application Questions

- How did God answer Elijah's prayer when he was very depressed
Sent an angel to provide strength to Elijah, comforted him and granted him privilege to be in His presence. Open for discussion.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

- B God sent him an angel to give him food and water
- D Mt Sinai, in a cave
- C through fire d. a gentle whisper
- D Naboth
- D a and b only
- A No, never
- C make false accusations and murder him

- D all of the above
- A He was sad for his sins
- B The LORD said the bad things will happen after Ahab's death

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

- Why do you think Elijah was so fearful and sad after having won a great victory at Mr Carmel?

Some points to consider:

- Ahab and Jezebel were still on the throne.
- Jezebel was hunting Elijah to kill him.
- Elijah was tired, hungry and felt like he was the only one left still serving the Lord.

- Why do you think the Lord gave Elijah 3 powerful signs of His greatness and yet only spoke to him in a gentle whisper?

Ask the students to give their opinion.

Perhaps, it was to tell Elijah that sometimes what is obvious is not necessarily what is really happening. Fire, Wind and Earthquakes are visible and dramatic. Ahab and Jezebel's power over the people are visible and dramatic but they don't really have power. The invisible God acting quietly through His faithful was still in control.

Sometimes we want to see dramatic things happen to hear God ... and sometimes God can use dramatic events to speak to us, but very often, God speaks to us quietly through His word, found in the Bible and with the still soft voice of the Holy Spirit prompting our hearts.

- What do you think Ahab should have done when Jezebel suggested to do the wicked deed (of killing Naboth)?

Ask the students what they think.

One view is that Ahab should not have listened to Jezebel and should have sent her away.

- How was the Lord present throughout the story and what can we learn from His actions

Ask the student what they think.

Some points to consider:

- Ahab had the good sense show remorse when told by Elijah of God's displeasure. However remorse was not enough. Judas was also regretful when he realised that his betrayal of Jesus had condemned his master to be crucified. Ahab should have repented of his evil deeds. But because of his remorse, his judgement was delayed.
- Jezebel did not show any remorse. The day of her judgement would come. She would die a terrible and humiliating death at the appointed time.
- Review the summary of the lessons.

Lesson 15: THE PROPHET ELISHA AND NAAMAN

Based on book and dvd chapter 15

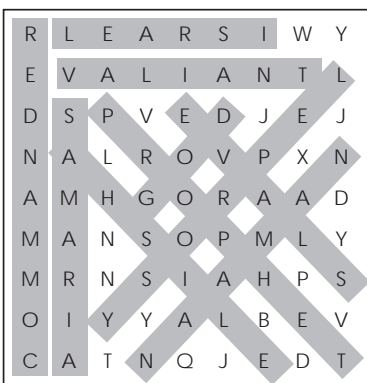
Theme: To receive grace and blessings from God, we are called to have faith and obedience. Sometimes the instruction may appear silly in the eyes of the world, such as listening to the advice of a little slave girl, or the instruction of a prophet to go and bathe seven times in a dirty river.

Lesson Aim: Children understand that they too can share the good news of God's salvation. Children understand that God wants us to be faithful to do simple things to show our obedience, not our cleverness.

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 5

Memory Verse: 1 Kings 19:12-13 (NIV)

Activity 1 Discover



Activity 2 Questions

- What did the king of Israel say when he read the letter given by Naaman?
He said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" (2 Kings 5:7)
- Describe the encounter between Naaman and Elisha.
Elisha sent a messenger to instruct Naaman to wash himself 7 times in the Jordan. (2 Kings 5:10)
Ask the students to describe how Naaman might have felt.
- What happened after Naaman did as Elisha had instructed?
His flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. (2 Kings 5:14)
- How did Naaman try to thank Elisha? Why didn't Elisha accept Naaman's gifts?
Naaman tried to give a gift to Elisha to thank him.

Elisha knew God was the one who cured Naaman, and it was not the time to be receiving gifts. (2 Kings 5:15, 26)

- What symbolised the passing of power from Elijah to Elisha?
Elijah's cloak. (2 Kings 2:13 - 14)

Challenge Questions

- How do you think Naaman might have sounded when he asked for permission to seek a prophet in Israel because of the advice of a slave girl?
Embarrassed, since Israel was a defeated nation under Aram's rule, and he was listening to the advice of a young slave girl, to make the trip to Israel to see the prophet.
- How did Naaman show his gratitude to Elisha and to the God of Israel?
Tried to give Elisha gifts and requested to bring earth back home so he may worship the Lord. (2 Kings 5:15, 17)

Application Questions

- What can we learn from the little slave girl who was willing to share her faith with her master? Her master must have seen something in the slave girl's actions and faith to believe in her.
Bravery and willingness to share about her faith, and caring for her master even though she was a slave.
- How do you think Naaman felt when Elisha did not roll out a red carpet for him but rather just sent a servant to tell him to wash in the River?

Jordan? Why did God use this method to test Naaman before healing him?

He felt angry and disrespected. God wanted to see if Naaman would humble himself and obey God's word.

Israel. Perhaps her faith in God convicted her to want to share the good news with her master that the God of Israel is the true God and can heal him through his prophet who lives in Israel.

Challenge Application Questions

1. The river Jordan is quite dirty and unimpressive. Was Naaman acting like any VIP to exclaim and question why he had to wash in the Jordan to receive healing? Imagine the great double blessing he received by obeying the simple instruction. He received healing and he found the true and living God. How are we sometimes in danger of missing out on a great blessing when we refuse to obey a simple instruction from God because we refused to follow a simple instruction?
Open for discussion.

2. What do you think must have gone through Naaman's mind when he heard the instructions from Elisha's servant?

You can ask the student to answer the above two questions together.

Points to consider:

a. If Elisha had said Sacrifice 100 bulls and I'll pray for you to be healed. Naaman might have said okay. And then when he was healed, he would go back and brag ... because I sacrificed 100 bulls, the God of Israel healed me.

Or if Elisha had said give me 50 talents of gold and silver and then I will pray for you, then when Naaman was healed, he would go back and brag ... I had to buy my healing by paying the prophet 50 talents of gold and silver.

However, because Elisha, sent a messenger to tell Naaman to wash seven times in the Jordan river and then he will be healed and cleansed, Naaman could not say that he did anything to pay for his healing. Naaman was healed by God's grace at no charge. All Naaman had to do was to have faith and obey the words of the prophet.

The Bible says, at first Naaman was angry and that is no surprise. Elisha did not bother to come out and greet him. He only sent a messenger to Naaman, the mighty warrior from a conquering country with a large retinue of followers and valuable gifts from his king. And the message was to go and wash seven times in the dirty little unimpressive Jordan River. He did not want to be ritually washed and cleaned. He wanted real, literal healing.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B Elisha
2. C chariot of fire
3. E his cloak
4. A Naaman
5. C leprosy
6. D a prophet in Samaria can heal my master
7. E heal this man of his leprosy!
8. D all of the above
9. E none of the above
10. E b and c only

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. How do you think the following people felt when they discovered Naaman had leprosy?

Ask the students to imagine they were the following people and how they would have reacted?

- Naaman – he was successful, favoured, highly honoured but struck with a terrible disease
- Naaman's wife – she had a successful and favoured husband. Her life would have been good thus far with slaves to serve her. But with leprosy, an ostracizing and incurable disease at that time, all her benefits would be gone soon
- Naaman's slave girl – She was an Israelite, probably captured and enslaved during one of the raids by this foreigner. Why should she do anything to help her master? Perhaps her master and mistress may have been kind to her? Perhaps she wanted to show kindness to her master by telling him of a prophet in

3. Describe what changed in Naaman after he discovered that he had been healed by the God of Israel.

Ask the students to describe in their own words. Naaman became a believer. He was grateful to the God of Israel by promising the prophet that from now on he would only worship the God of Israel, even if it had to be done in secret.

4. Tell in your own words what are the lessons in the story?

Ask the students to tell the lessons in the story in their own words.

Review the Lessons of the story in this chapter.

Lesson 16: JONAH - THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

Based on book and dvd chapter 16

Theme: Sin leads to punishment from God. Repentance and turning back to God will lead to forgiveness and restoration of God's blessings and protection.

Lesson Aim: Children to understand that sins leads to judgement, but repentance and turning back to God will lead to forgiveness and restoration (Fellowship with Him again)

Bible Passage: Jonah 1-4

Memory Verse: Jonah 3:10 (NIV)

Activity 1 Cryptogram

1. Nineveh, Preach, Wickedness
2. Tarshish, Joppa
3. Lord, Storm, lots
4. thrown, fish, three
5. believed, fasted, sackcloth, repented
6. relented, destroy

Activity 2 Questions

1. a) Ammitai, Nineveh (and preach against it), wickedness
b) Tarshish, Joppa, Tarshish, flee from
2. When there was a storm in the sea the sailors cast lots to find out who was responsible for their troubles. On whom did the lot fall on?
Jonah (Jonah 1:7)
3. What did Jonah say to the sailors?
Jonah told the sailors: "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land." "Pick me up and throw me into the sea, and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."
(Jonah 1:9, 12)
4. What happened when Jonah went into the water?
The raging sea grew calm. (Jonah 1:15)
5. What was the response of the sailors who had witnessed all that had happened?
They greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him.
(Jonah 1:16)
6. How long was Jonah in the belly of the fish?
Three days and three nights. (Jonah 1:17)
7. What did God do after Jonah prayed from inside the belly of the fish?
The Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land. (Jonah 2:10)
8. What did Jonah preach in Nineveh?
He proclaimed that there would be 40 more days and Nineveh would be overturned. (Jonah 3:4)
9. What was the response of the Ninevites?
They believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. The king of Nineveh rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. He also issued a proclamation to not let any man or beast, herd or flock to taste anything, to not let them eat or drink. But call urgently on God, give up their evil ways and their violence. (Jonah 3:5 – 8)
10. What happened when God saw that the Ninevites had repented from their evil ways?
God had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction He had threatened. (Jonah 3:10)
11. What was Jonah's response?
Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. (Jonah 4:1)
12. In your own words describe how did God show Jonah the importance of human lives?
God gave Jonah comfort and took it away the next day. Jonah was angry as he was concerned about the vine. God showed Jonah that since he was concerned for a thing he neither created nor cared for, so God should feel even more concerned for those He created and cared for.

Challenge Questions

1. Why was Jonah reluctant to go to Nineveh at first and why was he unhappy when God spared them after they had repented?

He knew the Lord is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. At that time, Ninevites were the enemy; Jonah probably found it unfair to preach salvation to the Ninevites. (Jonah 4:2)

2. Why do you think God allowed Jonah to be thrown overboard and be swallowed by a big fish?

Because Jonah disobeyed God. Furthermore, this would be used as a reference for Jesus later on. Jonah's subsequent miracle of being alive after the ordeal may lend credibility to his words. The result was that Jonah finally obeyed God's instructions.

Application Questions

1. What must we do when God gives us a clear instruction? This instruction can come from God through our parents, teachers, trustworthy friends or answered prayer but it must not contradict the teachings of the Bible.

Open for discussion

2. The Ninevites were not part of God's chosen people the Israelites. What does this teach us about the extension of God's grace? What does this mean for us in today's context?

Ask the students to share. Some thoughts: The Ninevites were non-Jews and traditional enemies of Israel. What does this tell us about how we should carry the message of God's love?

Challenge Application Questions

1. Read Matthew 12:34-41. Why did Jesus use the example of Jonah to describe His death and resurrection? From this story, how much more importance should we give to sharing the Gospel to our friends?

Jonah was in the fish for 3 days and 3 nights without light, so would Jesus be swallowed by darkness during his death; Jonah's subsequent miracle of getting out into the light would reflect Jesus's triumph over death by resurrection.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B Nineveh
2. D Tarshish
3. E There was a fierce storm
4. C sleeping
5. A all of the above
6. E none of the above
7. D all of the above
8. B he prayed
9. A They believed the message and put on sackcloth
10. B God did not punish them

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why do you think Jonah did not obey God at first?

The city of Nineveh was in the country of Assyria. They were enemies of Israel. Many years later, Assyria would conquer northern Israel and send many Israelites into exile. Jonah probably thought to himself, why bother to save them. Let them die.

2. What was the lesson God was teaching Jonah?

Review Jonah 4:10-11

3. What was the lesson the book of Jonah was teaching the Israelites?

Review the lesson of the story

4. What does this lesson teach about God's response when people heed His warning and repent of their sins?

God is merciful and holds back his punishment when the people turn to Him and repent of their evil ways.

5. Read the Gospel of Luke 11:29-30. Why did Jesus use this story to illustrate what He was about to do?

Points to consider:

- a. Jesus was sent to bring salvation to the world. This included Jews and non-Jews
- b. Jonah was in the belly of the big fish for three days. Jesus would be crucified, dead and buried and rise from the dead on the third day. This would be the sign God will give to the world that salvation was through Jesus Christ

Lesson 17: HOSHEA - THE LAST KING OF THE NORTHERN KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

Based on book and dvd chapter 17

Theme: God can use non-believers like the Assyrians, to punish Israel for their disobedience. But when the foreigners bring in their foreign customs and do not worship God, they too are punished.

Lesson Aim: Students to learn that God expects true worship, not mixed with foreign ideas

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 17

Memory Verse: Psalm 119:1 Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

1. Elah
2. Ahaz
3. Judah
4. Samaria
5. Assyria
6. Tribute
7. Egypt
8. Sargon the second



Activity 2 Questions

1. What did the people do in the northern kingdom which made God angry?
They did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. They worshipped other gods and followed their practices (2 Kings 17:7-18)

2. The king of Assyria brought people from which countries to settle in the towns of Samaria to replace the people of Israel?
The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Cuthah, Avva, Hamath and Sepharvaim to settle in Samaria
3. What did the LORD do when the foreign settlers did not worship him?
The Lord sent lions among them, which killed some of them. (2 Kings 17:25)
4. What did the king of Assyria do to try and solve the problem of the lions?
He sent one of the exiled priests of Samaria back to his home country to teach the new residents the religious customs of the god of the land. (2 Kings 17:27)

Challenge Questions

1. Why did God allow the northern kingdom of Israel to be conquered by the Assyrians?
Read 2 Kings 17:7-18 and ask the students to explain in their own words why the people of the northern kingdom of Israel had angered God so much. Refer also to the Ten Commandments to show how much they had sinned against the commandments of God. (Exodus 20:1-17)
2. Why was the worship of the new foreigners settling in Israel not the true worship of the LORD?
Ask the students to give their opinion. Ask them to contrast the practices of the gods of the foreigners with the Ten Commandments which show how unique and different, Israel's God and His laws were to the other gods.

3. How do you think the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel would have affected the people of southern kingdom of Judah?

It should have given them a severe warning about what would happen if they did not obey God's laws.

Application Questions

1. What does God want from his people?

Ask the students to share their opinion

2. What could King Hoshea have done instead of conspiring with the Egyptian King to free himself from Assyrian power? What does it show about his intentions and way of thinking when he took such an action?

King Hoshea did not turn to God for help. Instead, he relied on his own wisdom and on the help of another king (of Egypt) who did not fear God.

As the king of Israel, he should have known that his people belong to God, who would protect them if, only they would turn back to Him.

SAMPLE

Lesson 18: KING HEZEKIAH AND THE PROPHET ISAIAH

Based on book and dvd chapter 18

Theme: God can use non-believers, like the Assyrians, to punish Israel for their disobedience.

Lesson Aim: Children to see how they can ask for forgiveness like Hezekiah did and receive grace from God.

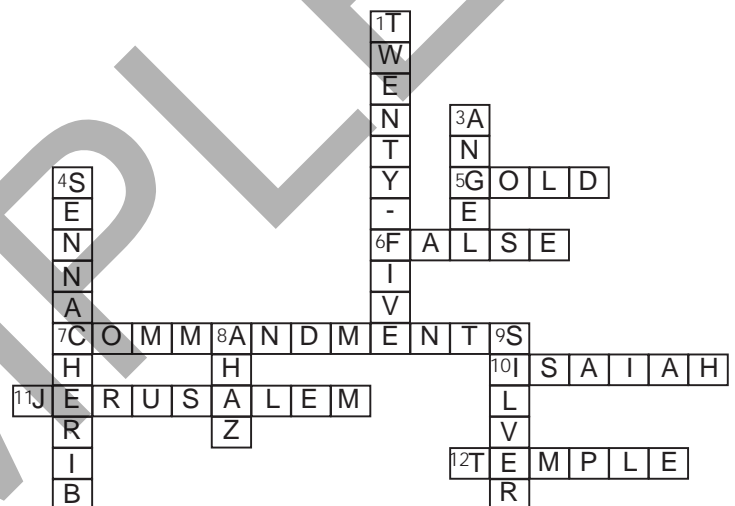
Bible Passage: 2 Kings 18-20

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 28:14 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- When Jerusalem was surrounded by Assyrian soldiers, what message did prophet Isaiah give to King Hezekiah?
The king of Assyria will not enter the city or shoot an arrow here. He will not come before it with shield or build a siege ramp against it. By the way he came he will return; he will not enter this city. I will defend this city and save it, for my sake and for the sake of David my servant. (2 Kings 19:32 - 34)
- What happened to the Assyrian soldiers that night?
The angel of the Lord went out and put to death 185,000 men in the Assyrian camp. (2 Kings 19:35)
- After the failed attempt to capture Jerusalem, what happened to Sennacherib the king of Assyria?
He was cut down by his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer while he was worshipping in the temple of his god Nisroch. (2 Kings 19:37)
- When king Hezekiah was sick and about to die, what prayer did he say?
He prayed: "Remember, O Lord, how I have walked before You faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in Your eyes. (2 Kings 20:2 - 3)
- How did God answer his prayer.
He told Isaiah to tell Hezekiah that He had heard his prayer and seen his tears, He will heal Hezekiah. On the third day from now Hezekiah will go up to the temple of the Lord. The Lord will add 15 years to Hezekiah's life, and will deliver him and his city from the hand of the king of Assyria. (2 Kings 20:4 - 6)

Activity 2 Crossword puzzle



Challenge Questions

- When the envoys from Babylon came to visit King Hezekiah pretending to be friendly, what did Hezekiah do? Why was Isaiah sad when he heard about it? What should King Hezekiah have done when the envoys came?
Hezekiah showed them all that was in his storehouses - the silver, the gold, the spices and the fine oil - his armoury and everything found among his treasures. There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them. (2 Kings 20:13) Isaiah was sad, because The Lord would hand everything Hezekiah showed to Babylon. (2 Kings 20:17 - 18) Hezekiah should not have been prideful and a show off, but received the envoys with the usual practices.

Application Questions

- What positive things can we learn from King Hezekiah in his relationship with God and when he was surrounded by a very large enemy army?
He was steadfast and trusted in the Lord wholeheartedly.

2. What can we learn from the prophet Isaiah and how he faithfully gave the word of God to the king?
He was truthful and brave.

Challenge Application Questions

1. Although the royal city of Samaria was situated on the top of a hill and strongly fortified, they were eventually defeated by the Assyrians. The Bible says the disaster came upon Israel because they had worshipped other gods and sinned against the LORD their God. In what ways can we sometimes become complacent thinking that we are protected by high walls and fortresses when actually we are actually in danger of being defeated?

Open for discussion

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. A Pleasing
2. D sent officials to Isaiah for help
3. E a and b only
4. C murdered by his own sons
5. A Put your house in order for you will die
6. B he prayed very hard
7. D a and b only
8. D he showed them his wealth even those inside the Temple
9. D a and b only

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. How did Hezekiah please the Lord?

The Bible says: 2 Kings 18 ¹In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hezekiah son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. ² He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother's name was Abijah[a] daughter of Zechariah. ³ He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father David had done. ⁴ He removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it. (It was called Nehushtan.[b])

⁵ Hezekiah trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. ⁶ He held fast to the Lord and did not stop following him; he kept the commands the Lord had given Moses. ⁷ And the Lord was with him; he was successful in whatever he undertook. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. ⁸ From watchtower to fortified city, he defeated the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory.

2. Why did the Lord give Hezekiah extra years to live?

The Bible says: 2 Kings 20 ¹ In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the Lord says: Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover."

² Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, ³"Remember, Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

⁴ Before Isaiah had left the middle court, the word of the Lord came to him: ⁵ "Go back and tell Hezekiah, the ruler of my people, 'This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the Lord. ⁶ I will add fifteen years to your life. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my sake and for the sake of my servant David.'"

God heard the prayer of Hezekiah and added 15 years to his life. Hezekiah was a descendant of King David. God gave him additional years because of his prayer and for the sake of David. Do not stress too much on Hezekiah's righteousness. God's grace is given to whom He chooses.

3. Summarise Hezekiah's strengths and weaknesses from this story

Ask the students to write their thoughts down.

Some points to consider:

Accomplishments of King Hezekiah

Hezekiah stamped out idol worship and restored Yahweh to his rightful place as God of Judah. As a military leader, he fended off the superior forces of the Assyrians.

King Hezekiah's Strengths

As a man of God, Hezekiah obeyed the Lord in everything he did and listened to the counsel of Isaiah. His wisdom told him God's way was best.

King Hezekiah's Weaknesses

Hezekiah lapsed into pride in showing Judah's treasures to Babylonian envoys. By trying to impress, he gave away important state secrets.

4. How does this story show that God is in control of history?

Review the Lessons from the story.

Lesson 19: KING JOSIAH, REFORMS AND THE FALL OF JUDAH

Based on book and dvd chapter 19

Theme: Josiah's attitude and response at discovering the word of God is deep sadness for his and the nation's sin. He immediately sets out to correct this situation. The word is read publicly and the king puts in place reforms. This is the attitude we must have when we know we have sinned against God.

Lesson Aim: Children to understand that by asking for God's forgiveness, repenting and turning back to God, we can receive forgiveness and blessings.

Bible Passage:
2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 34-35

Memory Verse:
2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- How did or what did Josiah do to lead the people of his kingdom back to worshipping the Lord?
He gathered the people and read to them all the words of the Book of the Covenant. He renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord, did away with pagan priests, and destroyed all shrines and altars to false gods. He desecrated many places of worship of the false gods, got rid of mediums, spiritists and idols. He also reinstated the celebration of Passover. (2 Kings 23:1 – 24; 2 Chron 34:29 – 33)
- How did Josiah sanctify or give reverence to God and the place of worship ie. the Temple?
He ordered the high priest, priests and doorkeepers to remove all articles made for Baal, Asherah and all the starry hosts, and burned them. He removed the horses at the entrance of the temple which the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun. He pulled down the altars Manasseh had built in the two courts of the temple of the Lord, smashed them to pieces and threw the rubble into Kidron Valley. (2 Kings 23:4, 11 – 12)
- How did king Zedekiah's personal beliefs and character lead the people away from the worship of God?
Zedekiah did not humble himself to listen to the word of the Lord, rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar who had made him take an oath in God's name. He was stiff-necked and had a hard heart and would not turn to the Lord. The people then became more unfaithful to the Lord. (2 Chron 36:12 – 14)

Activity 2

King Josiah
1. The Lord
2. Tore his robes, wept, destroyed the idols and shrines, desecrated many areas of idolatry and followed God's word
3. Renews the covenant and carry out a purge
4. Strongly leading his people to follow the word of the Lord
5. Peaceful

King Zedekiah
1. False Gods
2. Did not follow God's word. Would not turn to the Lord
3. Hardened his heart
4. Unfaithful, sets the example for his people to be unfaithful to the Lord
5. Jerusalem fell

Application Questions

- What should we do when we learn from the Bible or from trust worthy friends that we have done something wrong?
Open for discussion
- Looking at the example set by King Josiah, how should we treat the reading of the Bible?
Very seriously. We should read the Bible regularly, pray for understanding and learn to apply its teachings in our lives.

Challenge Application Questions

1. King Josiah was only 8 years old when he became king. At the age of 25 he led his country to a great spiritual revival and saved it from judgment for his lifetime. What are some of the factors that led to his making the correct decisions? What can we learn from it?

He faithfully pursued the Lord, and listened to the Word of God given to him by prophets. He was obedient and humbled himself. Ask the students to give their views.

2. What should King Zedekiah have done when given the warning by Prophet Jeremiah? What could he have done differently?

He should have repented, humbled himself and turn to God. He could have obeyed the Lord's instructions through his prophet Jeremiah.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B Manasseh
2. E all of the above
3. E none of the above
4. D righteous
5. B Book of the Law
6. B he tore his clothes in despair
7. A Book of the Covenant
8. A He pledged to obey all the commands of God
9. B He pledged to obey all the commands of God
10. C He got rid of them
11. D Zedekiah
12. C Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. How did Josiah show that he wanted to follow the Lord even before he found the book of the Law?

The Bible says: 2 Kings 22 ¹Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah; she was from Bozkath. ² He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and followed completely the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.

Josiah also went about to repair the Temple originally built by Solomon

2. After he found the book of the Law, what did he do?

Read 2 Kings 23. Josiah assembled all the priests and the people of Jerusalem at the Temple. Then priests read the book of the Law out to the people

and Josiah renewed the covenant pledge according to the Law and all the people also pledged themselves to the covenant. After that Josiah removed everything that was related to idol worship that been placed in the Temple over the years.

3. From the Bible text, why did the Lord allow the Babylonians to conquer Jerusalem?

After Josiah, the kings of Judah became less and less faithful to the Lord.

The Bible says: 2 Chronicles 36 ¹¹ Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. ¹² He did evil in the eyes of the Lord his God and did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke the word of the Lord. ¹³ He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him take an oath in God's name. He became stiff-necked and hardened his heart and would not turn to the Lord, the God of Israel. ¹⁴ Furthermore, all the leaders of the priests and the people became more and more unfaithful, following all the detestable practices of the nations and defiling the temple of the Lord, which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

God allowed Nebuchadnezzar to defeat Judah and take the people into exile. The Temple of Jerusalem was destroyed and burnt. The Bible says: 2 Chronicles 36 ¹⁷ He brought up against them the king of the Babylonians, [g] who killed their young men with the sword in the sanctuary, and did not spare young men or young women, the elderly or the infirm. God gave them all into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁸ He carried to Babylon all the articles from the temple of God, both large and small, and the treasures of the Lord's temple and the treasures of the king and his officials. ¹⁹ They set fire to God's temple and broke down the wall of Jerusalem; they burned all the palaces and destroyed everything of value there.

4. How were the prophecies fulfilled and was there hope in the prophecies?

Yes there was hope in the prophecies. Jeremiah had prophesied that Jerusalem would be captured by the Babylonians, but that the exiles would return when the time came. The Bible says: 2 Chronicles 36 ²² In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:

²³ "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:

"The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the Lord their God be with them."

Lesson 20: DANIEL OF BABYLON

Based on book and dvd chapter 20

Theme: If we honour God, He will honour and protect us. Human kingdoms will come and go. God's kingdom will be eternal. God can give us wisdom and insight to see beyond what others can see. When we are called to do so, we must speak and live our lives according to the wisdom that God has given us.

Lesson Aim: Children to understand that we must always give glory to God

Bible Passage: Daniel 1-2

Memory Verse: Daniel 2:47 (NLT)

Activity 1 Colour the picture

Head of **Gold**

Chest and Arms of **Silver**

Belly and Thighs of **Bronze**

Legs of **Iron**

Feet of **Iron** and **Baked Clay**

What happened to the statue?

A rock came, struck the feet of iron and clay, smashing them. Then the whole statue was crushed. (Dan 2:34)

Activity 2 Decode it

"Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the lord over kings. A revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret"

Additional Questions

1. As Daniel and his friends gained favour with the king, how did the other people feel about it?
They were jealous of them. (Dan 3:8)
2. How did the jealous people try to trap Daniel's friends?
They told King Nebuchadnezzar that Daniel's friends refused to fall down and worship the image the king had set up. (Dan 3:8 - 12)
3. Give a brief report of what happened when the three friends were put into the furnace and what was the king's conclusion at the end of the story?
The king and his soldiers saw 4 men in the fire, unbound and unharmed, the fourth one looking like a son of the gods. They then found Shadrach, Mesach and Abednego unharmed and not smelling of fire. The king then praised the Lord, and concluded that anyone who spoke against the Lord would be cut into pieces, their houses to be turned to rubble. (Dan 3:25 - 29)

Challenge Questions

1. What do you think the multi-layered statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream means? What is the significance of the stone that destroyed the statue? What does it represent?
It signifies the strengths and properties of the kingdoms that will rise after King Nebuchadnezzar's reign. The stone signifies the kingdom that the Lord sets up that will never be destroyed. It will crush all the kingdoms but will itself endure forever. (Dan 3:44)

Application Questions

1. Daniel and his friends in exile were willing to accept new names and education from the Babylonians. But they would not compromise their faith and obedience to God's word. How did they show willingness to follow Babylonian culture but keep true to their faith in God?
They refused to defile themselves with royal food and wine, and refuse to worship anything but the Lord. Ask the students to discuss where can we conform and where should we not conform.
2. God shows that He is still watching over His people even when they have been exiled into foreign lands. What does this say about god's protection over those who are faithful to Him?
He will ensure you come to no harm, as long as you are faithful to Him.
Open for discussion.

Challenge Application Questions

1. Daniel and his friends represented the smartest people from a defeated nation. They were a minority group also. What can we learn from their attitude about how minority groups can honour God in the land where they live? Give some examples?

Minority groups can steadfastly hold onto their faith and do their best for the land they live in. Open for discussion.

and later became a great mountain that covered the whole earth represents God's kingdom which will never be destroyed or conquered.

3. Describe in your own words the reply of Daniel's three friends when they were given a chance to save their lives.

Ask the students to read Daniel 5:16-18 and answer in their own words.

4. How did God show that he was still watching over his people throughout history?

Review the lessons from the story and ask the students to share their thoughts.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B They wanted to eat food that was lawful according to their faith
2. D his dream was troubling him
3. C he wanted them to tell him what was the dream
4. A The God of heaven
5. C Gold, silver, bronze, iron and clay
6. B cut from a mountain
7. A It became a great mountain the covered the whole
8. C Daniel could describe the dream in such detail
9. E b and c only
10. E all of the above

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. How did Daniel and his friends show their willingness to follow Babylonian culture but that they were still faithful to their God?

Ask the students to give their opinion.

Some points to consider:

- They were given Babylonian names
- They were educated in all the Babylonian science and arts
- They were not willing to eat unclean food
- They were not willing to bow to any other gods

2. Describe in your own words the meaning behind King Nebuchadnezzar's dream base on the Bible?

Ask the students to read Daniel 2:26-44

Many Bible scholars interpret the dream in the following way: The head of gold represents the Babylonians. The upper body of silver represents the Persians who would come after the Babylonians. The Lower body of bronze represents the Greeks and the legs of iron represent the Roman Empire. The feet of iron mixed with clay represent some weakness and the rock that destroys the statue

Lesson 21: DANIEL - THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL

Based on book and dvd chapter 21

Theme: Nebuchadnezzar is proud about his conquests and achievements. But neither he nor his wise advisers can interpret the dream that he had been given. The mightiest kings on earth have no power beyond what God has allowed them to have.

Lesson Aim: Children to know that when we have sinned and realise it, we must quickly turn back to God, ask for forgiveness and repent.

Bible Passage: Daniel 4-5

Memory Verse: Proverbs 11:2 (NIV)

Activity 1 Colour the picture

Mene, Mene, Tekel, and Parsin

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 scales and found wanting.**

Peres means "**Divided**" - your kingdom has been **divided and given to the Medes and Persians.**

Activity 1 Questions

- What animals were under the tree?
Beasts of the field. (Dan 4:12)
- What did the messenger from heaven say in a loud voice?
"Cut down the tree and trim off its branches; strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from under it and the birds from its branches. But let the stump and its roots, bound with iron and bronze, remain in the ground, in the grass of the field. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him live with the animals among the plants of the earth. Let his mind be changed from that of a man and let him be given the mind of an animal, till 7 times pass by for him."
(Dan 4:14 - 16)
- What did Daniel say would happen to King Nebuchadnezzar when interpreting his dream?
King Nebuchadnezzar would be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals. He will eat grass like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven times will pass by for the king before he acknowledges that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes. (Dan 4:25 - 25)

4. What happened after the seven periods of madness had ended? What did the King do?
He praised the Most High, he honoured and glorified Him who lives forever. (Dan 4:34)

5. What was the Babylonian king Belshazzar and his nobles and their wives doing when a finger appeared to be writing on the wall?
They were drinking wine from gold goblets taken from the temple of God in Jerusalem while praising the gods of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone. (Dan 5:3 - 4)

6. What happened that very night?
That very night Belshazzar was slain, and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom. (Dan 5: 30)

Application Questions

- Why did Daniel tell King Belshazzar about what had happened to King Nebuchadnezzar before? What can we learn from our past mistakes? How can we learn from the mistakes of the past?
To remind that he should have known that the Lord is God so should humble himself and honour the Lord, not the idols and not defile the articles of the temple.

Challenge Application Questions

- When are we guilty of taking credit for something we did not do?
Ask the students to share. Sometimes when someone assumes that we have done something which we have not done and we keep quiet about; is that right?

2. When are we guilty of not giving honour to God when we know we should? Share some examples?

Open for discussion

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E none of the above
2. C middle of the earth
3. A It gave shade for the wild animals and birds nested on its branches
4. C All the world
5. D a and b only
6. D all of the above
7. E b and c only
8. B Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor
9. C the flat roof of his palace
10. A He gave glory to the God of heaven and of Danniell
11. D the queen mother
12. D Mene mene tekel Parsin

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why do you think God gave King Nebuchadnezzar the dream?

The dream was given to Nebuchadnezzar as a warning. Daniel gave the king the meaning of the dream and the warning. "Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor".

2. In your own words describe what was the king being punished for and what can we learn from this?

The king did not take the warning message from Daniel seriously. On top of that, he was very proud of his achievements and did not acknowledge God who had allowed him to be ruler.

The Bible says: Daniel 4 ²⁹ Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?"

³¹ Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. ³² You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will

eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes."

³³ Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.

3. Why did Daniel tell King Belshazzar about what happened to King Nebuchadnezzar before he gave the meaning of the words written on the wall?

Daniel wanted to remind King Belshazzar about how God had punished King Nebuchadnezzar for being wicked and proud. King Belshazzar would have known about all that had happened earlier from the royal records. But he ignored the earlier lesson given to Nebuchadnezzar.

4. Explain in your own words the meaning of the words written on the wall and what can we learn from it ourselves?

The Bible says: Daniel 5 ²² "But you, Belshazzar, his son, ^[d] have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. ²³ Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways. ²⁴ Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

²⁵ "This is the inscription that was written:

mene, mene, tekel, parsin

²⁶ "Here is what these words mean:

Mene^[e]: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

²⁷ Tekel^[f]: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

²⁸ Peres^[g]: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

The lesson for us is the same. Let us not do evil but to do good instead. Let us not forget to honour God who holds our life in His hands, otherwise we will be weighed and judged and found wanting.

Lesson 22: EZRA AND THE RETURN OF THE EXILES

Based on book and dvd chapter 22

Theme: God fulfills His promise that after a period of time, His people will be allowed to return to their homeland.

Lesson Aim: God will deliver on His promise. When His people repent of their sins, God forgives and restores.

Bible Passage: Ezra 1-6

Memory Verse: 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Activity 1 Questions

- Which king allowed the Israelites to return to their home country?
Cyrus, King of Persia. (Ezra 1:1)
- Who moved the king's heart to make such a decision?
The Lord (Ezra 1:2 - 4)
- Why were some of the Jews sad when they saw the newly rebuilt Temple?
They were comparing it to the Temple in their memories and saw that it was less splendid than it used to be.
- When did the Israelites celebrate their first Passover feast back in their own country after so many years in exile?
On the fourteenth day of the first month (Ezra 6:19)
- How many of the following items were carried back to their country?
 - 30
 - 1,000
 - 29
 - 30
 - 410
 - 5,400
- Name two priests who began to rebuild the altar of the god of Israel
Jeshua son of Jozadak and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel (Ezra 3:2, 7 - 8)
- When the people living in Judea complained to the king of Persia about the returned exiles, who was the king who had ascended the throne of Persia?
King Artaxerxes (Ezra 4:6 - 7)

Challenge Questions

- Who had made it possible for the Jews to return to their homeland and continued to protect them when jealous people tried to make complains about them?
Cyrus, King of Persia (Ezra 6)
- Google the history of Cyrus and the return of the exiles. We know that God is in control in history, but He uses humans to carry out His will. What political reasons could have motivated Cyrus to allow the Jews to return?
He might have been trying to win the hearts of his people by allowing each to return to their land and their faiths, to keep his empire stable with no internal strife.

Application Questions

- Jeremiah had prophesied that one day the Jews would be allowed to return. Now the promise was fulfilled by King Cyrus of Persia. What can we learn from this story about trusting God to keep His promises?
God always keeps His promises, and He will fulfil it in His own time.

Challenge Application Questions

- How does God show His continued protection over His people in the story? What does this teach us about trusting in God for His protection over us today?
He moved King Cyrus to release His people, and allow His people to rebuild the temple. God continued to protect his people through King Darius (Ezra 6). Ask the students to discuss in what way have they experienced/God's continued protection.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E b and c only
2. C Cyrus
3. E all of the above
4. B They praised the LORD with songs
5. E none of the above
6. E They will be executed

Answers to Discussion

Questions in the Multimedia

1. Why did the Lord give Jeremiah the prophecy that Cyrus would let the exiles return?

Sometimes God uses the prophets to teach His people that it is He who has allowed an enemy to punish them. However the punishment will be limited and a time of liberation will come. When it does come, it is so that His people will know that it is the work of God.

2. What story in the Bible is there that is similar to the return of the exiles and what are the similarities?

Read Exodus 13 and 14 and then ask the students to give their opinion.

3. How does God continue to protect His people after they have returned to Judah?

When the enemies of the returning exiles try to stop them from building the Temple, the result of their attempts have an opposite effect. They are now forced to give resources to help the returning exiles in the building of their Temple.

4. Summarise the lessons about God in this story.

Review the Lessons from the Story and summarise.

Lesson 23: DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN

Based on book and dvd chapter 23

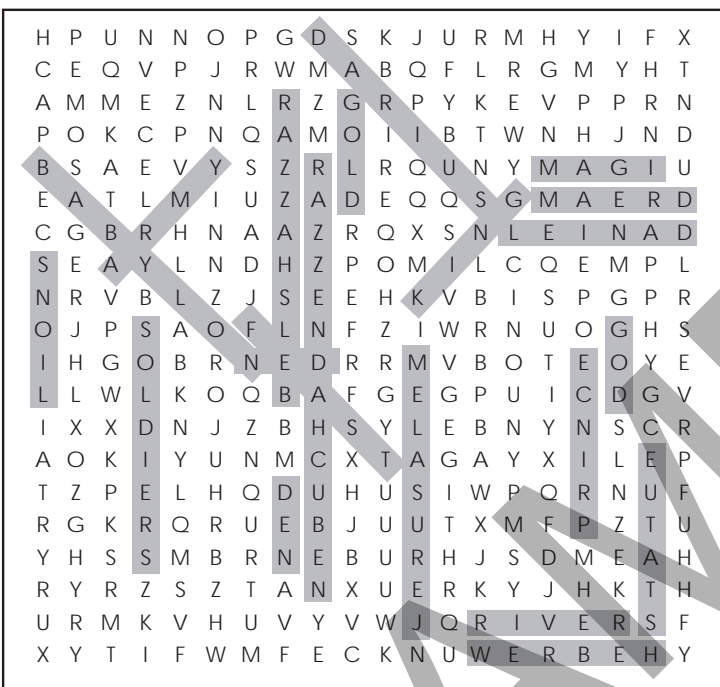
Theme: God's gifts may distinguish us from other people but they ultimately give glory to God alone.

Lesson Aim: Children to know that we must live our lives to be a positive example of our Christian faith

Bible Passage: Daniel 6

Memory Verse: Daniel 6:22

Activity 1 Search the word puzzle



5. How were the enemies of Daniel planning to trap Daniel?

The enemies were going to trap Daniel based on his beliefs in the Lord; Daniel follows the Law of the Lord faithfully (Dan 6:5), and would not bow to any other gods.

6. What was the punishment Daniel faced for not obeying the new law?

Being thrown into the lion's den. (Dan 6:12)

7. How did Daniel describe his rescue from the lions?

He said that the Lord sent His angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. (Dan 6:22)

Challenge Questions

1. Describe why the jealous satraps devised such a trap for Daniel?

They were unhappy with Daniel's righteousness, blinded by jealousy. The king liked Daniel and was going to set Daniel with more authority; they did not want to be accountable to Daniel.

2. Why did the king go along with the jealous satraps and why did he regret it later?

The king was afraid of breaking the customs and destroy his reputation, fearing a revolt. He later regretted as he really liked Daniel and found him to be his most trustworthy and capable man, and understood he had stepped into a trap.

Application Questions

1. What can we learn from Daniel about the way he worked for the king?

He did his best and was righteous, uncorrupted and blameless. We should do our best (and according to the Bible) no matter who is ruling over us.

Activity 2 Questions

1. How many satraps or provincial governors were there?

120 Satraps (Dan 6:1)

2. How many vice-consuls were there?

3 Administrators. In some translations they are known as Vice-Councils (Dan 6:12)

3. How did Daniel distinguish himself before the king?

By his exceptional qualities. Daniel had no faults that the other satraps could find or set a trap for (Dan 6:3)

4. How was the king going to honour Daniel?

The king planned to set Daniel over the whole kingdom (Dan 6:3)

2. What can we learn from Daniel about his obedience and trust in God?

He was brave and faithful, obeying the Lord. We should obey the Lord in all situations.
Ask the students to share.

Challenge Application Questions

1. What does this story show about god's involvement in the lives of those who put their trust in Him?

God cares for His people, and will deliver them from harm and cause them to prosper.
Open for discussion

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B 120,3
2. C Daniel
3. C he so distinguished himself by his exceptional qualities
4. E none of the above
5. C Persian law does not allow it to be changed
6. A a. He was happy
7. C God sent angels to shut the mouth of the lions
8. C They ate up the other people thrown into their den

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. In your own words describe how Daniel must have impressed the king and got the other administrators worried?

The Bible says: Daniel 6 ¹It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, ² with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. ³ Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. ⁴ At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. ⁵ Ask the students to read the above passage and rephrase it in their own words.

2. What was King Darius's weakness and how was it used by the evil people?

The story uses the King's vanity and Daniel's faithfulness to his God as the means to destroy Daniel. In the Bible, it is Daniel's loyalty that is mentioned. Please explain this to the students. The king's vanity is a hypothesis only since that statue to be built was of the king.

3. What can we learn about God from this story?

God was watching over Daniel. As Daniel was faithful and honoured God, the Lord was going to honour and protect Daniel.

4. What can we learn from Daniel in this story?

Ask the students to review the Lessons from the Story and write down the answer in their own words

5. Why do you think Daniel did not take the opportunity to return to Judah with the other Jews?

The Bible does not give a direct answer but we know that Daniel was very influential until his old age. When he served King Darius, he must have at least been somewhere around his late 60s and possibly even in his 80s. Many Jews remained in Persia at that time and Daniel probably felt he could contribute to their well-being by remaining.

Lesson 24: THE STORY OF ESTHER

Based on book and dvd chapter 24 & 25

Theme: Sometimes, God puts us in a position where we can do something important for Him. If we obey in faith, we have the privilege of playing a critical role in God's plans. If we do not obey, then God can raise up someone else to do the job, and we will be left out of His blessings.

Lesson Aim: Children to learn that God uses people to carry out His plans. If we do not obey, He can raise up someone else to do the job, and we will miss out His blessings

Bible Passage: Esther 4-10

Memory Verse: Esther 4:14

Activity 1 Questions

- Describe how Esther became Queen
She was picked following the decree of King Xerxes to find beautiful young virgins. One of the first and only beauty contests described in the Bible. The king was attracted to her when she was brought before him, and she won his favour and approval. He then made her queen. (Esther 2:2 - 4, 15, 17)
- Why did Haman hate Mordecai?
Mordecai did not kneel down or pay Haman honour as the king had commanded. (Esther 3:2) Haman's pride took a beating.
- When Haman plotted to murder the Jews, what did Mordecai ask Esther to do and why?
Mordecai asked Esther to go into the king's presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people. Mordecai believed the Lord had set Esther as queen for a purpose. (Esther 4:8, 14)
- How did Haman want the king to honour and reward him but instead the king rewarded someone else. Who was it?
Mordecai received the honour and reward that Haman wanted. Haman wants to be honoured by being robed by one of the king's most noble princes, in a royal robe the king has worn, and be led through the city streets by one of the king's most noble prince, on a horse the king has ridden, one with a royal crest placed on his head. The noble prince will then proclaim that 'This is what is done for the man the king delights to honour!' (Esther 6:6 - 10)
- What did Haman want the king to do to Mordecai but what in fact happened to Mordecai?
Haman wanted the king to hang Mordecai but instead, Mordecai was honoured by the king.

- What did Esther do to save her people?
Esther fasted together with all Jews and her handmaids, then went into the king's presence. She then invited him to come to a banquet she will prepare, the next day, bringing along Haman. During the banquet, she extended the same request to the king. On the second banquet, she pleads with the king for her and her people's lives, revealing that Haman had ordered the annihilation of her people. After the king executed Haman, she again pleaded with him to issue a decree allowing her people to fight back on the day of the massacre according of the order Haman dispatched. He agreed and thus the Jews had the right to assemble and protect themselves, to destroy, kill and annihilate any armed force who attacks them and plunder the property of their enemies. (Esther 4:16 - 5:8, 8:3 - 13)
- Describe in your own words the character of:
a) Proudful, scheming, jealous and vengeful
b) Righteous, wise, faithful
c) Compassionate, brave, wise

Challenge Questions

- Throughout history there have been many instances of racial hatred and genocide. Can you describe one or two of such instances in history? Use google to help if you need to.
The Nazi anti-Jew Holocaust
Internal conflict in Myanmar
Serbian vs Bosnian Conflict
Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Application Questions

- From the story of Esther, what can we learn about how God prepares His people to do something important?
He puts them in certain places to facilitate His plans.

2. God used Esther to achieve something great. How can we be used by God to do something that would benefit many people?

Open for discussion

Challenge Application Questions

1. What can you contribute as a student to some cause which help your community or help make the world a better place, even if it is only by a little bit. Write your opinion.

Open for discussion

king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape.
¹⁴ For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

3. Ask the students to think about our own situations. Is there any situation where we are uniquely positioned to help make a positive contribution? God could use us to do something good. If we decline, we may have missed an opportunity to do good and God will raise someone else to do the job.

What can we learn from Esther's response?

Esther was willing to risk her life to help her people. She also trusted in God by asking Mordecai to call for a fast which implies fast and prayer. The Bible says: Esther 4 ¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

4. ¹⁷ So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

Although God is not specifically mentioned in the story of Esther, where can we see God in action in this story?

There are many instances where God acts in the story of Esther but it is not mentioned directly.

a. How could a common Jewish girl become the chosen queen of Persia. Esther found favour with the selection committee. Then she found favour with the eunuch of the harem. All this while, her identity as a Jew was kept secret.

Just when Haman the chief minister was plotting to kill Mordecai, the king has a sleepless night and is reminded of an unrewarded Mordecai.

Esther enters the inner court of the king, unsummoned but receives the blessing of the king.

Esther manages to change the mind of the king, instead of allowing the Jews to be killed, he allows them to defend themselves and the intended killers are killed.

Haman who had planned to kill Mordecai is himself executed.

All this events could not have happened without the intervention of a Sovereign God who was protecting those faithful to him, even as far away as Persia.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B death
2. A fast for 3 days
3. D Tell me what you want
4. C Please come for a second banquet and bring Haman along
5. D execute him
6. A He could not sleep that night
7. C Mordecai had saved his life from assassins but had not been rewarded
8. C help. Someone is planning to kill me and all of my people
9. B Haman
10. D He was executed

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. In the story of Esther, describe some of the incidents which happened opposite of what was originally planned.

Ask the students to write their thoughts.

Some notes:

- Haman wanted the king to give a big reward to himself but ended up describing a reward which was given to his enemy Mordecai
- Haman had planned to execute Mordecai using a very high pole but the end result was he himself was executed using the pole that he had prepared.
- The Jews were to be eliminated on the day specified by the Purim but the result was the people who wanted to kill the Jews were themselves killed.

2. What can we learn from what Mordecai said to Esther when asking for her help to save the Jews?

The Bible says: Esther 4 ¹² When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, ¹³ he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the

Lesson 25: PROPHECIES AND PROMISES OF THE FUTURE

Based on book and dvd chapter 26

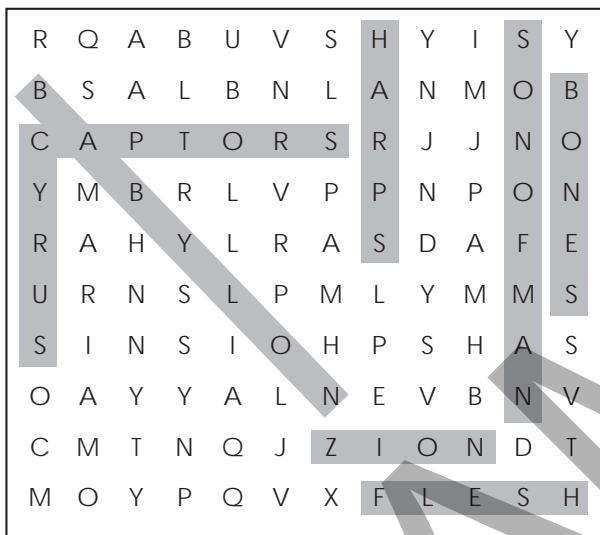
Theme: God cares for His people He has promised them deliverance from exile and a future Messiah who will rule with Justice.

Lesson Aim: To understand that God will fulfill His promises. The Messiah has come. His name is Jesus. Those who put their trust in Him will have their sins forgiven. One day He will rule with justice forever.

Bible Passage:

Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:10

Activity 1 Find the word



Activity 2 Solve the Mystery

1. God has promised a Messiah for His people. What is so special about this person?

The government will be on his shoulders. He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. (Isa 9:6 – 7). The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord, and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. (Isa 11:2 – 3). The Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples, the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest would be glorious. (Isa 11:10).

2. How will He rule? Give a description in your own words.

Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding

it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. (Isa 9:7). He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears

with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. (Isa 11: 3 – 4)

3. To what geographical boundary does His salvation cover?

No boundary. (Isa 9:7)

Application Questions

1. God can bring a nation which has been thought dead, come back to life. What does this say about how we can trust Him? What does this say about how God can revive our hopes and give us a second chance when we have failed but are willing to start again trusting in Him?

He can do anything, even those deemed impossible by mankind. He will do as He had promised if we believe, obey and be faithful to Him.

Challenge Application Question

1. God has promised a Messiah, or Saviour for Israel and the World. How can we show our gratitude?

Open for discussion, the Bible tells us that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies. Refer Luke 24:44. Then He said to them, "These are my words that I have spoken to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

Other references include: 2 Corinthians 1:20 and John 5:39.

SAMPLE

Notes

SAMPLE