



Unit 14, Session 3

October 12-13, 2019

4th-5th Lesson

Israel Taken Captive

2 Kings 17

Story Point: Israel ignored God's prophets and was captured.

Tell the story from the following Bible story script.

God had done so many good things for the Israelites. He had rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and had taken care of them in a new land. He made a covenant with them and promised to be their God. **Even though God loved them like a father, the Israelites forgot about God.** They acted in the same way as the nations who did not know and love God. **They worshiped things that were not God, and they did exactly what God told them not to do.**

So God sent prophets to warn the people to stop doing evil things. Did Israel listen? No. **The prophets said bad things would happen if they did not obey God. Did Israel obey? No. In fact, they sinned even more!**

God finally had enough. He loved His people too much to let them continue in their sin and rebellion. So God punished the people of Israel by letting their enemies take over. Hoshea (hoh SHEE uh) was the last king of Israel, the Northern Kingdom. King Hoshea did evil things like the kings before him.

At this time, the people of Assyria and the people of Israel did not get along. Assyria's army was bigger and stronger than Israel's army, so King Hoshea paid the king of Assyria to leave Israel alone. But Hoshea had to do whatever the

king of Assyria told him to do. Instead of asking God to help His people, Hoshea secretly asked the king of Egypt to protect Israel from Assyria. Now that Hoshea had a deal with Egypt, he stopped giving money to the king of Assyria.

One day, the king of Assyria and his army attacked Israel. King Hoshea was thrown into prison. The Assyrian army surrounded the city of Samaria, the capital of Israel. Samaria had a strong wall around the city. For three years, the Assyrians attacked the city. They did not let anyone bring supplies into the city.

Finally, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and forced the people to leave their homes. He bound them together with ropes and hooks, and he made them walk hundreds of miles to Assyria. **The Northern Kingdom of Israel was destroyed.**

Christ Connection: When the Israelites disobeyed God again and again, God punished them by removing them from His presence. We disobey God, but Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself. Jesus brings us into God's presence and keeps us there.



Kid Connect

WELCOME TIME

Intro Music

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets and help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to think of a time they faced consequences for their actions. Were they sorry for their actions or just sorry they got caught? How can consequences be helpful?

CG: Countdown

Large Group

Large Group Game: Cups and Downs

SFX: Game Intro Music

VIDEO: Countdown

Place 40 cups in the middle of the room, put half of them upside down and the other half the right side up. Divide the group into 2 teams (boys and girls) and give each team a name (i.e. ups or downs) - the "up" team needs to turn as many cups up the right way as possible, and the "down" team needs to flip them upside down. When the time limit is over, count all the cups and whichever team has the most turned up their way wins!

Variant: If you have too many kids for this, consider choosing 15 for each team.

Worship

VIDEO: Wavewalker

VIDEO: God is For Us



Large Group

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Today's Bible story happened about 50 years after the story of Hosea (hoh ZAY uh) when the kingdom of Israel was ruled by an evil king named Hoshea (hoh SHEE uh). Whether this is your first time or your tenth time hearing this story, there is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Tell the Bible Story

CG: Story Picture

CG: Question 1

CG: Question 2

- What does this story teach us about God?

God loves His people too much to allow them to keep sinning. God had been very patient with the Israelites. He had helped them in times of trouble and delayed their punishment because He is gracious and compassionate. But God knew His people would not love Him with all their hearts.

- Why doesn't God let us live however we want?

The Bible says **the Lord loves justice** (Isa. 61:8); He wants to make wrong things right and do what is for His glory and our good. **He loves His people** too much to allow them to live in rebellion against Him. Like any good father, God knows that disobedience needs to be punished.

CHRIST CONNECTION

When the Israelites disobeyed God again and again, God punished them by removing them from His presence. We disobey God, but Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself. Jesus brings us into God's presence and keeps us there.



Large Group

CG: Big Picture Question

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why should we obey God? We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.

PRAY

Halloween Costume Announcement!

Leader • Before we head to small groups, I want to let everyone know that KidCity wants you to wear your Halloween costume to church on the weekend of October 26-27. It's going to be a lot fun! Please remember a few things: No masks, nothing scary, and please keep it kid friendly!

THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.



GOD RULES. Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



WE SINNED. Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES. Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.



Small Group

Big Picture Question

Why should we obey God? We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.

Like any good father, God knows that disobedience needs to be disciplined.

- Why do you think parents give kids rules?
- How can discipline be for your good?

Distribute Bibles. Guide kids to open their Bibles to 2 Kings 17. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Kings 17:7,13-14. God allowed the Assyrians to take over Israel, and the Assyrians destroyed the city of Samaria. The people of Israel were taken to Assyria and scattered throughout the land. The Northern Kingdom was destroyed.

Choose another volunteer to read aloud 2 Kings 17:7,13-14 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. **Why did God allow the Assyrians to capture Israel? Did God give up on His people?**

Help kids understand that Israel's exile was God's judgment on their sin, but God was not finished working among His people. God was still working out His plan to keep His covenant promises through the people of Judah.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Deut. 29:24-28.)

2. **How is God good for disciplining His people?**

Guide kids to recognize that a good father does not let his children continue in disobedience. Discipline guides and trains a person in the right way to live. Point out that God's discipline is proof of His love for us. If He let us live however we wanted, we would die. God wants us to have life in Him. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Prov. 3:12.)

3. **How did God punish our sin?**

Lead kids to discuss that the right punishment for sin is death. Instead of punishing us, God sent His Son. Jesus took the punishment we deserve. He died on the cross for our sin and rose again so we can have forgiveness and life with God forever.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 Pet. 3:18.)



Small Group

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Instruct kids to open their Bibles to 2 Peter 3:9. Lead the kids to read the key passage together.

PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, confessing that like the people of Israel, we often ignore instruction or choose to disobey. Thank God for loving us so much that instead of sending us away, He sent His Son into the world to bring us back to Him.

HUMAN KNOT

Instruct kids to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in a circle, facing inward. Instruct everyone to hold out their right hand and take the hand of someone else in the circle. Then instruct everyone to hold out their left hand and take another hand. Make sure kids aren't holding hands with someone directly beside them.

Challenge kids to work together to figure out how to untangle the human knot without letting go of hands.

- **Have you ever been in a mess you couldn't get out of on your own?**

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Up for the challenge

Supplies: bottled water, index cards, pencils or markers

Challenge kids to complete some simple tasks that will be harder because they can only use one hand. Ask for volunteers to try to open a water bottle, tie a shoe, or button a shirt using just one hand. Give time for them to discuss the difficulty of these activities. If your group is not too large, give everyone a chance to complete one of the tasks.

Explain that, as Christians, we might have to do some things that seem hard or even impossible, like be a friend to someone who is being teased by others or sit with someone at lunchtime who doesn't have a friend. We can trust in God and obey Him.

Distribute index cards and ask kids to write down or draw a picture of one thing they can do to be obedient to God this week, even if it seems hard. Encourage them to think of ways that they can tell someone else about Jesus. Ask them to take the card home as a reminder that God wants us to tell others about Him.