



UNIT 15 | SESSION 3 | NOVEMBER 2-3, 2019

4-5's Lesson

Jeremiah, Prophet to Judah

Bible Passage: Jeremiah

Story Point: Jeremiah told about a new and better promise.

Key Passage: "If my people ... turn from their evil ways, then I will ... forgive their sin, and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Big Picture Question: How did God plan to fix what sin broke? God planned to send Jesus.

**KID CONNECT:
30 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Each time God calls someone, He equips that person to do His work. Like Moses, Jeremiah was hesitant: "Oh no, Lord GOD! Look, I don't know how to speak since I am only a youth" (Jer. 1:6). God assured Jeremiah: "I will be with you" (Jer. 1:8).

God called Jeremiah to be a prophet. The people of Judah had broken the covenant God made with them at Mount Sinai. Judah was deep in idol worship and other sins. God punished the unfaithfulness of Israel by sending the Northern Kingdom into exile. Now God's judgment was coming for Judah, and Jeremiah's job was to warn them.

Along with the warnings, Jeremiah brought a message of hope. Jeremiah told God's people about a new and better covenant. He prophesied about a day when God would forgive sin and write His law on the hearts of His people. The new covenant promised that God would forgive sin. God forgives sin through His Son, Jesus. Jesus did not come to get rid of the law. (See Matt. 5:17.) Through His sinless life, Jesus fulfilled the demands of the old covenant. He changes our hearts and gives us power through His Spirit to obey His commands.

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

SORT FOOD

(toy food, food boxes, baskets – per group/class)

Provide a variety of toy food, empty food boxes, and two baskets. Invite preschoolers to place foods they like in one basket and foods they do not like in the other basket. When all the food is sorted, dump the food out of the baskets again and help children sort food by healthy or not healthy. Comment on the differences between what children like and what is healthy.

SAY • A lot of us want to eat foods that are not good for us, and we don't want to eat foods that are good for us. We will learn in our Bible story today that our hearts trick us into wanting things that are not good for us because of sin. *How did God plan to fix what sin broke? God planned to send Jesus.*

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video and say “God knew you before you were born” to each child as the children move to Large Group.

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: WHEN I LOOK UP, VIDEO: I HAVE HOPE)

Sing “When I Look Up” and “I Have Hope”.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

(CG: GIANT TIMELINE)

(Bible, Bookmark)

SAY • Today's Bible story comes from the Book of Jeremiah in the Old Testament. All of the Bible is God's Word. Today's Bible story is about a message that God wanted Jeremiah to give to His people.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues people through His Son, Jesus.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: JEREMIAH, PROPHET TO JUDAH, CG: BIBLE STORY PICTURE, CG: STORY POINT)

Show the Bible story video.

SAY • Jeremiah told about a new and better promise. Jeremiah said that God was going to forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus made these words come true. God forgives our sin when we trust in His Son, Jesus. Jesus died on the cross to take away our sin. He changes us and gives us power through His Spirit to obey Him.

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

(CG: KEY PASSAGE)

(Bible, Bookmark)

Place the key passage marker at 2 Chronicles 7:14. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage.

SAY • "If my people (display arms in front) ...turn from their evil ways (turn your body), then I will (point up) ... forgive their sin and heal their land (cross arms over chest)." 2 Chronicles 7:14
Our key passage reminds us that when we turn to God, He will forgive and heal us.

LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION

(CG: BIG PICTURE QUESTION)

SAY • Sin has broken our hearts and tricked us into wanting things that are not good. *How did God plan to fix what sin broke? God planned to send Jesus.* Jesus died on the cross to take away our sin. He changes us and gives us power through His Spirit to obey Him.

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Session Title: Jeremiah, Prophet to Judah

Bible Passage: Jeremiah

Story Point: Jeremiah told about a new and better promise.

Key Passage: "If my people ... turn from their evil ways, then I will ... forgive their sin, and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

CHANGE PEOPLE'S HEARTS

(grey and red paper hearts, 1 of each per child)

Give each child a grey heart to start and then tell them that you are all going to pretend to sleep until they get "awakened" by a friend who wants to change their heart by taking their grey heart and giving them a red heart. After they are woken up, it will be their turn to pick a friend to quietly awaken and give a new heart, until everyone has changed hearts. SGL starts by waking the first child.

SAY • Jeremiah said that because of sin, people's hearts trick them into wanting things or doing things that God does not want for them. They are like these gray paper hearts. But Jeremiah told about a new and better promise: God had a plan to change people's hearts! God wants to take away our ugly, sinful hearts and give us new and better hearts that love Him and want good things. Jesus changes us and gives us power to obey Him.

MATCH JOBS

("Special Jobs" printable, 1 per group)

Lay the Special Job cards in a grid pattern, faceup for younger preschoolers or facedown for older preschoolers. Encourage preschoolers to take turns turning over two cards at a time to find a match. If the cards are not a match, turn them back over and allow the next preschooler a turn. Play until all the matches have been revealed. Talk about the jobs represented on the cards as preschoolers play.

SAY • There are many kinds of special jobs. God gave Jeremiah a special job. God wanted Jeremiah to be a prophet. Jeremiah had to listen to God and tell people what God said. Jeremiah told about a new and better promise. God was going to forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus made these words come true. God forgives our sin when we trust in His Son, Jesus. Jesus died on the cross to take away our sin. He changes us and gives us power through His Spirit to obey Him.

KEY PASSAGE WITH MOTIONS

Say the key passage using motions. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying. "If my people (display arms in front) ...turn from their evil ways (turn your body), then I will (point up) ...forgive their sin and heal their land (cross arms over chest)." 2 Chronicles 7:14

REVIEW AND PRAYER

(Bible Story Picture Poster)

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

What does a prophet do? (*listens to God and tells people what God said*)

What bad news did Jeremiah tell the people? (*God would punish them for disobeying.*)

What good news did Jeremiah tell the people? (*God would forgive them and give them power to obey.*)

How did God plan to fix what sin broke? God planned to send Jesus.

Ask your group for prayer requests and pray together. If you can, pray for your preschoolers by name. Encourage them to talk to God in prayer throughout the week.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Preschool Activity Page, 1 per child and crayons)

Preschoolers may color the Story Point coloring page as parents arrive. Encourage them to do the activity page at home with their family this week.