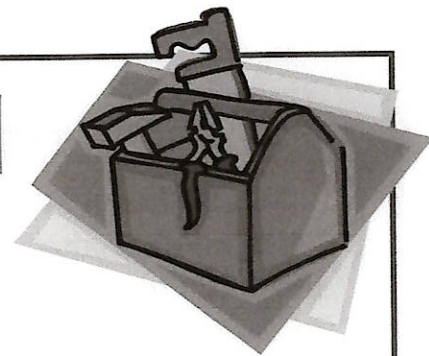


Building Your Life for God



Lesson 1

God's People Become Slaves

Theme: Obedience—Knowing God punishes disobedience

Memory Verses

“If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”
Daniel 3:17-18

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday Jeremiah 25:1-11
Friday Jeremiah 52:4-16
Saturday 2 Chronicles 36:15-19
Monday Jeremiah 31:31-34; 33:7-9
Tuesday Lamentations 5:5-8, 15-22

God's people lived in the land God gave them, but they often forgot Him. God sent prophets to turn His people from their sin, but most people didn't listen. God punished His people by sending most of them out of the Promised land.

God Warned His People

After King Solomon served other gods, God took most of the kingdom away from him. The nation of Israel became two nations — Israel in the north and Judah in the south.

Jeremiah 25:1-11

What did the people of Judah do about the message God sent through the prophets?

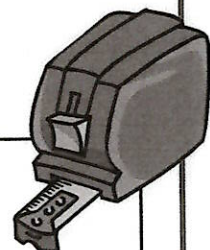
listened

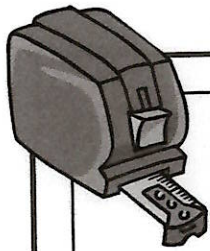
did not listen

What nation would God use to punish His people?

- Assyria
- Babylon
- Ammon

How many years would God's people be slaves?





Jeremiah 52:4-16

What did the king of Babylon do to King Zedekiah and his sons?

Who did the Babylonians leave in the land of Canaan?

Israel had wicked kings who did not lead the nation to obey God. The people of Israel worshiped idols and would not listen to God's prophets. God punished Israel by using the Assyrian army to take the people captive to a foreign land.

Judah watched what happened in Israel but did not learn to do better. Most of Judah's kings did not follow God. People went their own way and worshiped other

gods. The prophet Jeremiah, along with other prophets, warned Judah that God would punish them if they did not listen and change. But sadly, the people did not listen.

God Punished His People

God warned Judah that He would use King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to punish them. God told His people He would take them out of their land and make them live in Babylon for seventy years. The people did not listen to God's warning, and finally God punished them.

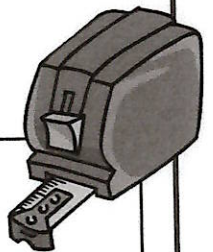
The king of Babylon attacked Jerusalem. The Babylonian army chased Judah's soldiers and captured Judah's king. He destroyed the temple and broke down the walls of Jerusalem. The Babylonians took most of the people of Judah to Babylon where they were prisoners of war. They left only a few poor people in the land of Canaan.

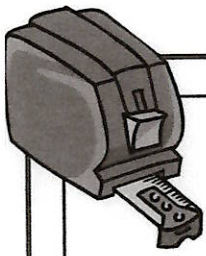
God Promised to Restore His People

God's people were sad in Babylon. They were away from their land and their homes. They knew the temple and their cities had been destroyed. The Old Testament book of Lamentations is a book with songs of sadness about what happened. The people were sorry for their sin and asked God to bring them back to their homes. God punished His

2 Chronicles 36:15-19

What did the Babylonians do to the temple and the city of Jerusalem?





Jeremiah 31:31-34; 33:7-9

What did God promise to make new with His people?

- a king
- a temple
- a covenant

Cross out the wrong answer.

To restore His people God would:

rebuild forgive do good hurt

people to teach them, but He also promised to take them back home. He would return them to their land and help them rebuild their cities and their lives. God promised to make a “new covenant” with His people so they could know Him in a new way. God made this new covenant through His Son, Jesus Christ.

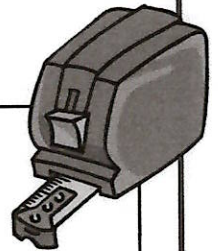
The lessons in this workbook are about God’s returning His people to their homes and helping them

rebuild their lives. The Bible books to be studied are the books of history – Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther; and the prophets – Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, and Malachi. From these books we can learn to build our lives for God. To do this, we must listen carefully to God. Will you listen to God every day?

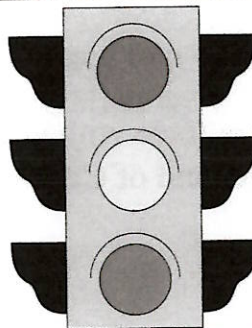
Lamentations 5:5-8, 15-22

Look up “lamentation” in a dictionary. What does it mean?

What were the people lamenting?



I ignore a lot of what my parents say.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — most of the time

Yellow — sometimes

Green — never

Think About It ...



Remember a time when your parents told you something over and over, but you ignored what they said. Describe what happened. Tell what the consequences were.

What did you learn?



Nail Down the Bible Facts

Be prepared to recite the books of the Bible from memory in class. Practice here by writing the first letter of each book. Begin with Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus: G, E, L . . .

Which book of the Old Testament is about people returning to Jerusalem and rebuilding the temple?

On a map inside the back cover, lightly trace with your pencil the way Israel left Egypt. Put a triangle on Egypt and one on the land of Canaan.