



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12
Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges - Esther
Unit 9, Lesson 45

Ezra Teaches God's People

Lesson Aim: To understand the transforming
nature of repentance.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: Who is your favorite teacher?

GAME: Reverse Your Way

THE WORSHIP THE KING WHO BUILDS HIS KINGDOM

Read Worship Scripture: 1 John 1:8-9

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook.

THE WORD EZRA AND GOD'S PEOPLE CONFESS AND REPENT

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: King Josiah led his people to hear and obey God's Word.

God sent Ezra to Jerusalem to teach the people to obey God's laws and to appoint fair and right judges to uphold those laws. Point out Jerusalem, Israel. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Ezra 7:6, 9-10, 25, 27; 9:6; 10:1. Find and Highlight Key Verse Ezra 7:10 First. Pray. Read Ezra 7: 6, 9-10. **The King wrote a letter to Ezra describing Ezra's job.** Read Ezra 7:25. **Ezra praised God about the king's choice.** Read Ezra 7:27. **Let's hear what happened when he arrived.** Read Ezra 9:6; 10:1.

THE WAY CONFESSING AND REPENTING

What did King Artaxerxes send Ezra to do? (To teach the people to obey God's laws.) **Ezra studied and obeyed God's laws. Why is it important for us to study and obey God's laws before we teach about them? What would you like to teach others about God?** **According to our Bible Memory Verse (Micah 6:6a, 8), what does God require of us?** (To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with Him.) **God wants our lives each day to be an act of worship not just the time we spend in His house of worship. Why do you think Ezra's task to teach the law to the people was so important to God?**

How were the people disobeying? (They were marrying people who worshipped idols.) **What did Ezra do?** (Confessed their sin to God.) **What does it mean to confess sin?** (To admit wrongdoings to God.) **Who joined Ezra?** (Men, women, and children.) **What does their weeping show you about their relationship with God? After confessing, Ezra led the people to repent. What does repent mean?** (To turn from disobeying and turn toward God to do things His way.) **What is the difference between just being sorry and repenting? We are not truly sorry for our sin unless we want to repent. When we confess and repent, we are showing God He is most important in our lives.**

Let's make a list of things children your age sometimes do that are wrong in God's eyes. Write list of sins. **Now, let's brainstorm ways to repent from these sins, by replacing a wrong behavior with a right one. What is the right choice we can turn to instead of continuing to make this wrong choice?** For each sin, guide children in discovering a specific way to stop the wrongdoing and to turn toward doing it God's way.

What do you think it shows God about our relationship with Him when we confess and truly repent? When we repent, our lives are changed in many ways. What is one way your life has been changed when you have repented?

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus told a parable to help us understand how important it is to God that we repent. Reveal Luke 15:8-10. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

What happens in heaven when one sinner repents? (There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God.) **How does this encourage you in your walk with God?**

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: "Ask Me About Ezra" sticker
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #45
- OFFERING OF ART: Ezra and the crowd praying and crying
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Salty Tears Snack

GAME: I Packed My Bag

CRAFT: Favorite Proverbs Book—Scripture

DISCUSSION: Proverbs Challenge

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Build the Wall Verse, Royal Corners

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW