



At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi
Unit 8, Lesson 40

40 The Prophet Zephaniah

Lesson Aim: To find security and comfort in the knowledge of God's love for those who seek Him.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is the best choice you have ever made?

GAME: God's Delight

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO IS FAITHFUL

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 117:1-2.

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

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD TAKES GREAT DELIGHT IN YOU

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

Review: God sent Micah to Judea with a message of judgment and hope.

Today, we will learn about the prophet Zephaniah and the promises God has for those who seek Him. Point to Zephaniah (Circa 630 B.C.). **God had a clear warning, choice, and promise for Zephaniah to give to the people of Jerusalem.** Point to Jerusalem. **They had ignored the warning Micah had delivered. They were still choosing to treat the poor unfairly and to worship idols.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Zephaniah 1:12; 2:3a; 3:17. Pray.

THE WAY GOD LOVES YOU

What was God's WARNING to the people who didn't care about Him? (He will punish them.) **When others care about you, they ask questions about your activities, feelings, and plans. They spend time with you. They remember what you have said and done. They celebrate good times with you. They comfort you when you are afraid. Have you ever had a friend or family member who showed they cared about you in any of those ways? Did you feel special?**

Zephaniah told the people their CHOICE was to seek God, to treat Him as the most important one in your life and always wanting to know and do whatever God wants of you. What are some ways you can show God He is the most important one in your life? (Pray and sing to Him, tell others about Him, love the people He has made, etc.)

Sometimes, it is difficult to put God first. We may treat things we have or activities we want to do as more important than God. If you start doing that, tell God you are sorry. He will forgive you! It is very important to remember Zephaniah's message to those who seek God. He is not angry with you. He quiets you with His love. He takes great delight in you. When you come to Him, He rejoices over you with singing. Imagine God singing a song for you!

There are 5 different PROMISES found in Zephaniah 3:17. Let's think of ways God has made these promises come true in your life.

1. "The Lord your God is with you." Have you ever felt God was with you?
2. "The Lord is mighty to save." Have you ever seen God do something powerful?
3. "The Lord will take great delight in you." Is God angry with you? (No.) Is God delighted and happy to see you every day? (Yes.)
4. "The Lord will quiet you with His love." Have you ever been afraid? Have you ever felt safer knowing God loves you?
5. "The Lord will rejoice over you with singing." Imagine how special you would feel if you knew God wrote a song about you.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Over 600 years after Zephaniah told the people about God's promises, Jesus came to save us. God's promises came true: Jesus came to be with us, He is mighty to save us, and He loves and comforts us. Jesus helped us understand more about the way God rejoices over us in heaven with the Parable of the Lost Sheep. Reveal Luke 15:3-7. Read. **What happens in heaven when someone repents or seeks God?** (There is rejoicing in heaven over that person.)

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Zephaniah 3:17 Promises Card (or magnet)
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: God delighting to watch you do something you enjoy
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Joyful Feast Snack

GAME: Musical Promise

CRAFT: "God is with Me" Pockets

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Passing the Light, Kneel & Say

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW