

At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7 Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi Unit 8, Lesson 41

Jeremiah and the Linen Belt

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to seek Him and be close to Him.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What do you plan to do in the future?

GAME: I Will Go!

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO IS FAITHFUL

Read Worship Scripture: Lamentations 3:22-23.

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

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD THE LINEN BELT

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

Review: God sent Zephaniah to warn the people about complacency and encourage those who seek Him.

Today, we will hear how God chose Jeremiah to be His prophet to the nations. He told Jeremiah exactly how to use objects, such as a linen belt, to explain God's plans. Point to Jeremiah (Circa 626 B.C.).

God chose Jeremiah to be His prophet even before he was born. The people of Jerusalem and all of Judah worshiped idols and disobeyed God. Point to Jerusalem. God chose Jeremiah to show them His plans for them and to tell them to seek Him with all their hearts. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Jeremiah 1:4-9; 13:3-11; 29:11-13. Pray.

THE WAY CHOOSING TO SEEK GOD

What did Jeremiah say when God chose him to be a prophet? (I am only a child.) Have you ever thought you were too young to do something important? Has it ever been hard for you to talk to others about God? Jeremiah did not know what to say to people about God; he was afraid. God warned him not to say he was just a child, because He would give him all he needed to be a prophet.

Does God want you to speak His words? How can you find out what He wants you to say? Reading the Bible is one way. It is also a way

you can seek Him with all your heart. To seek means to search for someone. What does seeking God with all your heart mean to you?

What did God tell Jeremiah to do to show how close He wanted to be with His people? (Wear a belt.) Distribute belt or belts. When you wear the belt, it is close around you. How is this belt that hugs your waist like the friendship between God and His people? (He wants us to be as close to Him as a belt is close to your waist.) What did God tell Jeremiah to do next with the belt? (To hide it by burying it under rocks.) What happened to the belt after it had been buried for many days? (It was ruined and useless.) That ruined belt is a picture of how useless we would be if we did not listen to God's words.

What is God's plan for you if you listen and seek Him with all your heart? (He has "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.") Plans to prosper us are plans that are good for us. In God's plan for our future, we will pray and He will listen. We will be as close to God as the belt is to our waist.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

When we believe in Jesus, it is as if He washes away our sins and makes the ruined belt perfect. He brings us so close to God that nothing can separate us from His love. Paul describes this. Reveal Romans 8:38-39. Read.

Even those who believe in Jesus have times when they don't feel close to God. They may feel like a ruined belt hidden in the rocks. That's not what God wants for you. If ever you feel far from God, remember the choice and the promises He gives us. Review Jeremiah 29:11-13. What are some ways you can choose to seek Him with all your heart? (Talk to God in prayer. Read and obey God's Word. Love Him. Love others. Gather with others to worship Him.)

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Cloth belt
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Jeremiah showing the linen belt around his waist
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Food for Every Age

GAME: Seek & Find

CRAFT: Seeking God's Pottery

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

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW