



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi
Unit 8, Lesson 42

God Answers Habakkuk

Lesson Aim: To show God wants us to trust Him
to punish evil and keep all His promises.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is the best message you have ever received?

GAME: Running Heralds Relay

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO IS FAITHFUL

Read Worship Scripture: Revelation 21:3-4.

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

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD ANSWERS HABAKKUK'S QUESTIONS

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

Review: God chose Jeremiah to tell people to seek Him with all their hearts.

Today, we will learn about Habakkuk, a prophet to Jerusalem and Judah. Point to Jerusalem, Israel. Point to Habakkuk (Circa 603 B.C.). **He didn't speak God's message as the other prophets did. He asked God questions. God told him to write His answer down and send it to people as a written oracle. An oracle is a message from God sent as an answer to a respectful complaint or question. Habakkuk wanted to know why God did not stop evil and why He let evil people succeed.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Habakkuk 1:2, 13; 2:2-4, 20; 3:17-18. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Habakkuk 2:4. Pray.

THE WAY LIVING BY FAITH

Habakkuk saw unfairness and wrongdoing (sin) go unpunished. What would you like to ask God about unfairness and wrongdoing today? God does not allow wrongdoing to go unpunished forever. That is why Jesus came to save us. On the cross, Jesus took the punishment for our wrongdoing. What has God promised to do about the sins of all who believe in Jesus? (Forgive them.)

Have you ever wondered why God allows evildoers to succeed? When God answered Habakkuk's question about that, He told him

to wait for it, because even though it might be slow in coming, God would keep His promise to punish the evildoers.

It's hard to trust God's plan when we do not understand it or when it seems unfair. God gives a choice to the righteous, those who do right in God's eyes. When we belong to Jesus, God sees us as righteous. The choice of the righteous is to live by faith.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

What do you think the word faith means? 600 years after Habakkuk wrote down the oracle, we see it explained clearly in the letter to the Hebrews. Let's check it out! Reveal Hebrews 11:1. Read. Faith is being sure of what we hope for. What is a promise in the Bible you are sure will come true? We can be sure that those who believe in Jesus are forgiven and given life forever close with God.

Faith is being certain of what we do not see. Our eyes cannot see God, so we cannot see He is with us, caring for us, protecting and guiding us. Our eyes cannot see His love for us. What has happened in your life to help you be certain God is doing these things? Children offer examples of God's presence, love, comfort, healing, etc. To live by faith means to trust God will keep His promises. It means to believe God is good and in control. In hard times, we can choose to live by simply trusting Him with whatever happens instead of waiting to see Him make everything right in that moment.

Even though Habakkuk saw wrongdoing and sorrow all around him, he chose to rejoice in the Lord. What do you think it means to rejoice in the Lord? It means to find joy in belonging to an awesome God. Let's see how many amazing things we know to be true about God. List qualities or attributes of God. When times are hard, we can still rejoice in who God is and what He has done.

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Oracle scroll
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: A herald running to deliver the oracle scroll
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Where are the Grapes?

GAME: Drop the Oracle

CRAFT: Rejoice Kazoos

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

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW