**Ministry Leaders:** A suggested email is provided for each session for you to customize if you desire and share with your families. You can also access a social media share square for each session on the Additional Resources page at gospelproject.com.

[*The Gospel Project At Home*](http://gospelproject.com/kidsathome) content is available in Ministry Grid for you to share with your families.

Unit 13, Session 1

The Kingdom Divided (1 Kings 11-13)

A cartoon of a person in a purple robe

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

While King Solomon was known for his wisdom, he did not leave his kingdom better than he found it, for when he was old, his heart turned to other gods (1 Kings 11:4). In fact, the kingdom would now be divided because of his unfaithfulness to God. After Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king and was confronted with a request from the people to lighten their labor. Rehoboam sought counsel from those who served with his father, and he also asked a group of his peers for advice.

King Rehoboam received wise counsel but then chose to ignore it. The elders who served with his father advised Rehoboam to be a servant to the people and speak kindly to them. Surely this approach would have established trust. Rehoboam, however, disregarded the elders’ input and chose to listen to a young group of friends instead. Their suggestion was to tell the people that Rehoboam was even more powerful than Solomon and would make their lives more difficult.

The people didn’t appreciate their new king’s aggressive posture toward them, and they rebelled against him. Rehoboam’s selfish pride resulted in all of Israel except for those living in the cities of Judah to seek Jeroboam as their king. The kingdom was divided, just as God said it would happen.

Rehoboam sought to be served instead of choosing to serve the people. True leadership, however, stems from service. Jesus willingly chose to serve us while we were still far from Him. As Romans 5:8 tells us, “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Have you ever completely disregarded sound wisdom or godly advice? Who we listen to matters. As you lead the children in your care, pray for God to help you listen to the wise counsel of His Holy Spirit. Remind kids that we can choose to follow God’s ways through faith in Jesus. Pray for these children know the one true God and to look to Christ as the ultimate example of true, selfless leadership.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus is our King who taught us to be kind and love others.
* **Younger Preschool**: Rehoboam made a bad choice, and the kingdom split into two groups. But Jesus, our good King, showed us how to be kind and love others. He gave His life for us.
* **Older Preschool:** Rehoboam made a wrong choice, and God’s people split into two groups. But Jesus, our good King, brings together all who trust in Him and welcomes them into His kingdom forever.
* **Kids:** Rehoboam rejected good advice, and his foolish pride led to a divided kingdom. Jesus, the truly wise King, unites all who trust in Him and brings them into His kingdom forever.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Older Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Kids:** How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Know the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Younger Preschool**: May all people know the Lord is God. There is no other!
* 1 Kings 8:60
* **Older Preschool**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Kids**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60

**\*\* Next week:** Israel’s Evil Kings (1 Kings 14-15; 2 Chronicles 12-13)

Unit 13, Session 2

Israel’s Evil Kings (1 Kings 14-15; 2 Chronicles 12-13)

A cartoon of a person with a gold head and a gold cone on his head

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

When we hear the word *idolatry*, we might think about the golden calf in Exodus 32. While today’s story includes King Jeroboam crafting two physical golden calves, it points to the invisible idolatry of the heart. What is idolatry? Idolatry is a sin in which we love and value something above God.

Rehoboam had been cruel to God’s people, and because of his harsh treatment, ten tribes rejected him as king and sought out Jeroboam to be king of Israel. Rehoboam’s domain in Judah was smaller but held an important status because it was the location of the temple.

Jeroboam feared the people would eventually abandon him and return to Jerusalem to worship at the temple. Taking matters into his own hands, Jeroboam led the people to break the law of Moses and worship two golden calves. God was angry with Jeroboam and sent the prophet Ahijah to tell Jeroboam that he had behaved wickedly, that God was going to bring disaster upon his house, and that there would be a new king over Israel.

After Jeroboam, Israel had other evil kings––Nadab and Baasha. Like Jeroboam, they led Israel to turn away from God and worship idols. All three of these kings were eventually judged for their sin.

The first three kings of Israel led the people to disobey God. We all sin by disobeying God. Like Israel's kings, we may turn to other things above the Lord.

Is there anything that has become an idol in your heart? Remember that the gift of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection paid the price of our sin. Likewise, remind kids that Jesus died and rose again to pay for our sinful idolatry and bring us back to God. Pray for the children in your care to grasp the weight of our sinful choices to worship other things and the depth of Christ’s love to provide salvation. 

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus died to take away our sins so we can be with God forever.
* **Younger Preschool**: Even when we do wrong things, Jesus loves us so much. He died to take away our sins so we can be with God forever.
* **Older Preschool:** The kings of Israel led the people away from God. We all disobey God when we sin. Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins and rose again to bring us back to God.
* **Kids:** The first kings of Israel led the people to disobey God and to worship idols. Israel's kings suffered the consequences of their sin. We all sin when we disobey God and worship other things. Jesus died and rose again to pay for our sin and bring us back to God.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Older Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Kids:** How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Know the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Younger Preschool**: May all people know the Lord is God. There is no other!
* 1 Kings 8:60
* **Older Preschool**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Kids**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60

**\*\* Next week:** Elijah Confronted Ahab (1 Kings 18-19)

Unit 13, Session 3

Elijah Confronted Ahab (1 Kings 18-19)

A cartoon of a person standing in front of a fire

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

What is the boldest request you’ve ever made to the Lord? Have you ever experienced God answer your prayers in a uniquely powerful way? In this week’s Bible story, we see how God answered Elijah’s prayers.

King Ahab led the people to worship Baal. The prophet Elijah condemned Ahab for leading the people astray and instructed him to gather all the people and prophets of Baal for an epic showdown. The test was simple: both Elijah and the prophets of Baal would offer sacrifices to see if Baal would respond or if God would respond.

The prophets of Baal cried out, danced, and prayed all day with no response or hint of fire on their altar. When Elijah’s turn came, he prepared the bull on the altar but took his trust in the Lord a step further by asking for water to be poured on top, saturating it completely. Elijah prayed, “LORD, let it be known that you are God in Israel, and I am your servant. Answer so that this people will know that you, the LORD, are God.”

Immediately, fire fell from heaven and completely consumed the offering along with the wood, the stones, and even the water! After the showdown at the altar, Jezebel sought to kill Elijah, and Elijah fled. This time, Elijah’s prayer was one of weariness and desperation. Again, God proved faithful to Elijah and answered his prayer. The Lord spoke to Elijah in a whisper and encouraged him, reminding him that the Lord would save those who remained faithful to Him.

The people of Israel knew that the Lord is the one true God when He answered Elijah’s prayer and sent fire down from heaven. In the same way, people would know that Jesus is God’s Son when the Holy Spirit came down like a dove when Jesus was baptized. Jesus is the Son of God and gave His life up for us.

Remember that God hears and answers the prayers of those who belong to Him. Thank the Lord for His faithfulness to listen and respond to our prayers. Remind the children in your care that through Jesus, we can boldly take our requests to God!

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** God is the only true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins.
* **Younger Preschool**: God sent fire to show everyone He is the real God. When Jesus came, the Holy Spirit came like a dove to show that Jesus is God’s Son.
* **Older Preschool:** The fire came down to show the people of Israel that the LORD is God. When Jesus came to earth, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God’s Son.
* **Kids:** God sent fire down from heaven to prove that He alone is Lord. God sent the Holy Spirit like flames of fire on Jesus' disciples to empower them to tell others that Jesus is God's Son who saves people from sin.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Older Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Kids:** How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Know the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Younger Preschool**: May all people know the Lord is God. There is no other!
* 1 Kings 8:60
* **Older Preschool**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Kids**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60

**\*\* Next week:** The Reign of Ahab (1 Kings 20-22; 2 Kings 1)

Unit 13, Session 4

The Reign of Ahab (1 Kings 20-22; 2 Kings 1)

A group of men riding horses and fighting with swords

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

Have you ever heard the expression “you reap what you sow”? Perhaps you feel the burn of those words as you think of times you made a hasty decision or took matters into your own hands, only to later watch things fall apart. In today’s text, Ahab made a series of poor choices which ultimately led to his demise.

First, the Lord gave King Ahab victory over the Arameans—not once, but twice—to remind Ahab that He is the Lord. When Israel won the second battle, they captured Ben-hadad, but Ahab disobeyed God and agreed to a treaty, releasing Ben-hadad.

Second, a man named Naboth owned a vineyard that caught Ahab’s interest. In his greed, Ahab and his wife Jezebel developed a wicked scheme to take Naboth's vineyard. Their deception turned murderous when hired men lied about Naboth, saying he had cursed God and the king. Naboth was falsely convicted and sentenced to death.

A few years later, Ahab wanted to go to war against the Arameans once again. Ahab’s false prophets supported his decision, but Micaiah, a prophet of the true God, advised against it, since going to war against Aram would fail. Once again, Ahab acted stubbornly and went to war anyway. During the battle, he was struck by an arrow and died.

While God showed Ahab patience and gave him many warnings, Ahab ultimately refused to repent. Like Ahab, we can be greedy and stubborn. In our sin, we rebel against God and act according to our flesh. The Bible tells us that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus (Romans 6:23). Jesus lived a perfect life and died in the place of sinners so that we might be forgiven and be made right with God.

Encourage the children in your care to see that because Christ laid down His life for us, we can escape the punishment we deserve because of our sin. Teach kids that when we believe in Jesus and repent of sin, Christ removes our unrighteousness and changes our hearts so that we desire to follow God and His ways.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus died for our sins. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives us, and we will live with Him forever.
* **Younger Preschool**: Jesus came to take the punishment we deserve for our sins. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives us, and we will live with Him forever.
* **Older Preschool:** Ahab disobeyed God and was punished. We deserve punishment for our sin, but when we trust in Jesus, God does not give us the punishment our sins.
* **Kids:** Ahab was a disobedient, greedy, and stubborn king who refused to lead Israel in the ways of the Lord. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, always obeyed God and laid down His life for us. Anyone who follows Him will dwell with God forever.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Older Preschool:** How many gods are there? There is one true God.
* **Kids:** How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Know the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Younger Preschool**: May all people know the Lord is God. There is no other!
* 1 Kings 8:60
* **Older Preschool**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60
* **Kids**: May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60

**\*\* Next week:** Elisha the Prophet (2 Kings 2; 4-5)

Unit 14, Session 1

Elisha the Prophet (2 Kings 2; 4-5)

A person in a river with his arms out

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

As Elijah's time on earth was coming to an end, God appointed Elisha as a new prophet to His people. Elisha asked Elijah if he could inherit a double portion of his spirit. To this Elijah replied, “If you see me being taken from you, you will have it.” Elisha looked on as Elijah was taken up to heaven, and by God's grace, Elisha received his request.

How did Elisha's ministry point others to the one true God? Through miracles, God displayed His power through Elisha, confirming that he was a prophet. God also revealed his wisdom and truth by speaking through Elisha.

Through the many miracles Elisha performed, we not only see the power of God over His creation, but also His care and provision for people. From making bad water drinkable to healing Naaman––a commander from an enemy army––Elisha's miracles pointed people to recognize the one true God. Only the Lord could raise a dead boy to life and miraculously meet the needs of the widow who was in debt. God's spirit was on Elisha, empowering him to be a light to the people of Israel.

Elijah and Elisha were both special prophets, performing miracles and being messengers of God’s truth. But there is One greater than Elisha and Elijah. Jesus not only performed miracles and taught with authority; He is also the true Light of the world who saves people from sin. Help the children in your care understand that when we follow Jesus, we receive the Holy Spirit who empowers us to be more like Jesus and shine like lights in the world, proclaiming to all that He is the one true God.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus died and came back to life so we can have life with God forever.
* **Younger Preschool**: Elisha was a man of God who did miracles. Jesus came and performed miracles. Jesus died and came back to life to save sinners so we can have God’s Spirit and life with God forever.
* **Older Preschool:** Elisha was a man of God who performed miracles. His story makes us think of Jesus—the Son of God—who performed miracles and rescues people from sins so we can have forgiveness and receive God’s Spirit.
* **Kids:** Elisha spoke the truth of God and performed miracles. Jesus taught with the authority of God and performed miracles as well. Elisha was a prophet, but Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Older Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Kids:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Younger Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Older Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. You must keep his commands and listen to him. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Kids**: You must follow the LORD your God and fear him. You must keep his commands and listen to him; you must worship him and remain faithful to him. Deuteronomy 13:4

**\*\* Next week:** Jonah, Prophet to Nineveh (Jonah)

Unit 14, Session 2

Jonah, Prophet to Nineveh (Jonah)



Dear families,

Jonah was a prophet sent by God to confront the people of Nineveh regarding their sinful ways. Jonah, however, did not immediately obey God’s command. In fact, Jonah traveled in the opposite direction and boarded a boat to Tarshish. Have you ever been given clear directions from God, but ignored them out of fear or selfishness?

Because of Jonah’s disobedience, the Lord sent a powerful storm on the sea, and the men on the boat feared for their lives. Knowing the storm was due to his disobedience, Jonah asked his shipmates to throw him overboard. As they threw him into the sea, the storm ceased.

In His mercy, the Lord sent a great fish to swallow up Jonah, and for three days and nights, Jonah lay entombed in the belly of the fish. Then, upon the Lord’s command, the fish spit Jonah onto dry land. God again said to Jonah, “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach the message that I tell you.” This time, Jonah obeyed.

Jonah walked about the great city proclaiming, “In forty days Nineveh will be demolished!” The people of Nineveh believed God’s message. In sackcloth and with fasting, the people repented and earnestly called out to God. Because of their repentance, God did not destroy Nineveh.

As we read further, we learn how Jonah grew angry over God's mercy displayed toward Nineveh. The same storm-tossed man who had received mercy from the Lord would rather experience death than see his enemies live. Ironically, disobedient Jonah prayed for God's grace in his own life, but desired for others to perish in their sin.

While Jonah did not care for the people of Nineveh, God did. The people believed Jonah’s message from God and were saved. Like the Ninevites, we cannot save ourselves. But God can. When we are confronted with our sin, we have a choice to ignore it or do as the Ninevites did and repent. God sent Jesus so we could repent of sin, trust in Him, and be saved.

This week, point the children in your care to the gift of Jesus. Thank God for Jesus’ death and resurrection and share how we too can believe, turn from our sin, and be saved. While we all are born far from God, Jesus bridges the gap. Just like God the Father, Jesus is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love (Jonah 4:2).

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** God wants everyone to turn from their sin and trust in Him. God loves us, and He sent Jesus to save us.
* **Younger Preschool**: God wants everyone to turn away from their sin and trust in Him. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to save us.
* **Older Preschool:** Jonah told the people of Nineveh to turn from their sins. God wants everyone to turn from their sins and trust in Him. God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to rescue sinners.
* **Kids:** Jonah spent three days in a fish so that the people of Nineveh could hear God’s message, turn from sin, and be saved. Jesus was in the tomb for three days so that we could hear and trust the gospel, turn from sin, and be saved.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Older Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Kids:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Younger Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Older Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. You must keep his commands and listen to him. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Kids**: You must follow the LORD your God and fear him. You must keep his commands and listen to him; you must worship him and remain faithful to him. Deuteronomy 13:4

**\*\* Next week:** Hosea, Prophet to Israel (Hosea)

Unit 14, Session 3

Hosea, Prophet to Israel (Hosea)

A person and person hugging each other

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

Although God had been faithful to the people of Israel, they were not faithful to God. The Israelites continued to disobey God, following worthless idols and acting wickedly. Israel even turned to other nations during times of trouble, trusting in the power of man over God. God warned Israel of their unfaithfulness and showed His faithful love through the prophet Hosea.

Though Israel was far from Him, God wanted to show a picture of His great love and relentless pursuit of His people through Hosea’s life. God instructed Hosea to marry a prostitute named Gomer, explaining that she would not be faithful to him. Yet, God told Hosea to remain committed to her.

Hosea obeyed God and married Gomer. As God said, she was unfaithful to Hosea and left their family. In the same way, the Israelites were unfaithful to God, worshiping idols, acting corruptly, and loving violence. However, God’s love did not relent, and He promised a day when He would forgive and restore them (Hosea 14:4-9).

To show the Israelites the depth of His love, God told Hosea to show love to Gomer, even though she had chosen a life of adultery (Hosea 3:1). Again, Hosea obeyed God. He paid the debts Gomer owed and brought her back home to their family.

On the cross, Jesus paid our debt of sin, restoring our relationship with God so we might be with Him forever. When we repent and turn to Jesus, He brings us into His family. Even when believers act unfaithfully, Jesus continues to be faithful and show unending love.

Encourage the children in your care to ask Jesus for forgiveness and praise Him for His unfailing love. God promised to be faithful to Israel, and He continues to be faithful to us. Point children to God’s promises to Israel and the way these words of hope echo into Jesus’ promises to followers of Christ to heal them, love them, and not be angry with them (Hosea 14:4).

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** God showed His love to us by sending Jesus to save us.
* **Younger Preschool**: Even when we do not love God as we should, He still loves us. God showed His love by sending Jesus to save us.
* **Older Preschool:** Even though we do not love God with all our hearts, He still loves us. God showed us His love by sending Jesus to be our Savior.
* **Kids:** Israel was not faithful to God, but God was faithful to Israel, just as Hosea loved his wife even when she didn't love him. God is faithful to save all sinners who repent and trust in Jesus.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Older Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Kids:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Younger Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Older Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. You must keep his commands and listen to him. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Kids**: You must follow the LORD your God and fear him. You must keep his commands and listen to him; you must worship him and remain faithful to him. Deuteronomy 13:4

**\*\* Next week:** The Northern Kingdom Was Destroyed (2 Kings 17)

Unit 14, Session 4

The Northern Kingdom Was Destroyed (2 Kings 17)

A group of people walking in a cave

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

Hoshea was an evil king in the long line of the evil kings of Israel. In Hoshea’s ninth year as king, the king of Assyria captured Samaria, put Hoshea in prison, and moved all the Israelites to Assyria. The kingdom of Israel was officially destroyed.

Why was Israel destroyed? Although God had been patient, the Israelites witnessed their kingdom crumble because of their unrelenting sin. God had freed Israel from the oppressive hand of Pharaoh and brought them out of the land of Egypt. The Lord loved the people of Israel, performed many miracles, and commanded them to worship Him alone. The people of Israel were meant to be set apart as the Lord’s people, but they worshiped false gods and lived like the nations around them.

Through the prophets, God repeatedly warned the Israelites to repent and turn back to the one true God, but the people did not listen. The Lord warned the people, saying, “Turn from your evil ways and keep my commands and statutes according to the whole law I commanded your ancestors” (2 Kings 17:13). The Israelites, however, did not listen. Instead, they rejected God and His covenant and followed worthless idols.

As the people ignored God’s warnings, He became angry. God judged Israel’s sin and allowed Assyria to destroy the Northern Kingdom. He rejected them and cast them out of His presence. The king of Assyria moved the people of Israel out of their land and brought foreigners to live in Israel’s land and cities.

The kingdom of Israel was destroyed because of the Israelites’ sin. God’s gracious patience lasted for years, but the people failed to repent and seek the Lord wholeheartedly. Like Israel, we sin, and all sin deserves death. Those who fail to repent and trust in Christ will be separated from God forever. Yet, the unfailing love of the Lord has provided the way for people to be forgiven and live with God forever. Those who trust in Christ will escape God’s punishment of sin. They will not only find forgiveness but also receive the Holy Spirit who empowers them to live for God.

Pray for the children in your care to see their need for Jesus. Pray also that you would be able to clearly communicate the gift of the Savior, thanking God for sending Jesus to restore what we have broken through our sin and disobedience. Rejoice together in the fact that Jesus died and rose again so that we might be saved from certain destruction!

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** When we do not listen to God, we can pray and ask God to forgive us. Jesus took our punishment so we can be with God forever.
* **Younger Preschool**: When the people in Israel did not listen to God, God let them be taken away. We sometimes do not listen to God too, but Jesus took our punishment so we can be with God forever.
* **Older Preschool:** When the people of Israel did not do what God said, God punished them. We disobey God too, but Jesus died to take our punishment for us. People who trust in Jesus will be with God forever.
* **Kids:** The kingdom of Israel was destroyed because of their sin. We all sin against God and deserve death, but God sent Jesus to die in our place. Because of Jesus, those who trust in Him will never be removed from God's presence.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Older Preschool:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have hearts that want to sin.
* **Kids:** Why do Christians continue to sin? Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers**: Follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Younger Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Older Preschool**: You must follow the LORD your God. You must keep his commands and listen to him. Deuteronomy 13:4
* **Kids**: You must follow the LORD your God and fear him. You must keep his commands and listen to him; you must worship him and remain faithful to him. Deuteronomy 13:4

**\*\* Next week:** Judah’s Good Kings (2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chronicles 14-24)

Unit 15, Session 1

Judah’s Good Kings (2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chronicles 14-24)

A person in a robe standing next to a person in a robe

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

Good kings and evil kings—both were seen throughout the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Depending on who was king, the people would either be led to worship the one true God or led the opposite direction toward idolatry and wickedness.

King Asa sought to do what was good in the eyes of the Lord and removed the places of idol worship. He commanded the people of Judah to worship and obey God. But once Asa died, Ahaziah became king and led the people to once again turn to idolatry. When he died, his mother Athalia made herself queen by force. She ruled as queen for six years and did evil in God’s sight.

The priest Jehoiada planned to overthrow the evil queen. His men captured her and made one of Athalia’s young sons, Joash, king. Following Jehoiada’s lead, Joash tore down the temple of Baal and restored worship in the temple to God alone.

After Joash came King Hezekiah. He also sought to do what was right in the sight of the Lord. After cleaning out the temple so the people could worship, Hezekiah invited Judah and Israel to celebrate the feast of the Passover. Afterward, everyone went back to their towns and destroyed their places of worship to false gods.

When the king of Assyria came to attack Judah, King Hezekiah prayed to God, and Judah was saved. God sent an angel to destroy the Assyrian army.

The last good king of Judah was Josiah. King Josiah was only eight years old when he came into power, but he also did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. Under his rule, the people renewed their covenant with God and remained faithful to Him.

The good kings of Judah led the people to worship the one true God. The Lord raised up kings who would lead Judah to turn away from idolatry and keep His commands. Judah would serve God under the rule of the good kings but returned to their sinful ways after the good kings died. Yet, despite the people's inconsistent worship of the Lord, God proved faithful to preserve His people. The line of Judah would one day give rise to the King of kings, who would make the way for people to worship God in spirit and truth.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus is our perfect King who never sinned. Jesus is our King forever.
* **Younger Preschool**: Even good earthly kings sin. Jesus is our perfect King who never sinned. Jesus will come back to earth to make everything right. He is our King forever.
* **Older Preschool:** Judah had some good kings, but even good earthly kings sin. Jesus is our faithful King who never sinned. Jesus will come back to earth to make everything right. He is our King forever.
* **Kids:** Judah's good kings led the people to God and away from sin. Yet when they died, the people returned to their sinful ways. Jesus is our good King who died and rose again, and always leads us to God and away from sin.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Older Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Kids:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Younger Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Older Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9
* **Kids:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9

**\*\* Next week:** Prophets to Judah (Micah; Nahum; Habakkuk; Zephaniah)

Unit 15, Session 2

Prophets to Judah (Micah; Nahum; Habakkuk; Zephaniah)

A group of men with long hair

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

While the Northern Kingdom of Israel had been destroyed by Assyria, the Southern Kingdom of Judah remained. During the years prior to Babylonian captivity, God continued to send prophets to Judah who called the people to repent of their sin. Even though the prophets pronounced the impending captivity, they also offered hope to the people: God would restore His people and provide salvation.

The prophet Micah spoke to the leaders of Israel regarding their ill-earned wealth. Micah called the leaders of Israel to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Micah also shared a message of future hope: one day, God would send a new King who would be born in Bethlehem and rule over the restored people of God.

Nahum was another prophet sent to testify to God’s judgment on sin. Nahum described how God would judge Assyria for its bloodshed, evil, and injustice. Nahum’s message was a reminder to be faithful to God and a warning to not act like other evil nations, like Assyria.

Zephaniah begged the people to turn away from sin while there was still time. He showed that God will judge all the evil nations along with Judah.

Habakkuk spoke directly to God, asking Him why He would not stop the violence and sin of the people of Judah. God told Habakkuk that He will indeed judge the people and will bring destruction to the nation through Babylon. While Babylon would destroy Judah, Habakkuk also said he would celebrate in the Lord. Even in desolation and despair, God's people could rejoice in the hope of salvation.

God sent prophets to share the message of judgment, repentance, and restoration. Jesus willingly took on our judgment so we could turn from our sin and be restored to Him. When we trust in Jesus we are restored to a right relationship with God.

This week, encourage the children in your care to see God’s goodness through His Word. Like the prophets to Judah proclaimed a message of hope, the Word of God shares good news: Jesus died and rose again to save people from sin and death. Rejoice in the God of salvation.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus came to help us know how to turn back to God. When we trust in Jesus, we can be close to God again.
* **Younger Preschool**: All these helpers told the people to turn back to God. Later, Jesus came and said the same thing: “Stop doing wrong things and come back to God.” When we trust in Jesus, we can be close to God again.
* **Older Preschool:** These prophets all told the people the same thing: stop doing wrong things and turn back to God. Later, Jesus came and said the same thing: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” When we trust in Jesus, we can be close to God again.
* **Kids:** God sent prophets to His people to warn them to repent of their sin and turn to God. Jesus gave the same message, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” When we trust in Jesus, we are restored to a right relationship with God and have the hope of eternal life.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Older Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Kids:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Younger Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Older Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9
* **Kids:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9

**\*\* Next week:** God Promised a New Covenant (Jeremiah 17; 31)

Unit 15, Session 3

God Promised a New Covenant (Jeremiah 17; 31)

A person kneeling on a hill looking at a city

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

The prophet Jeremiah was a priest sent to speak the word of the Lord to His people. Jeremiah taught plainly about sin and how our disobedient hearts cannot be trusted. Jeremiah predicted God's judgment on Judah's sins through the nation of Babylon. Yet, Jeremiah also declared how God would make a new covenant with His people.

The people of Judah faced the same problem we face today: sin. Their failure to abide by and uphold the law was a constant reminder that they were sinful and fell short of God’s standards. Jeremiah told the people that those who put their trust in mankind are cursed because men are sinful and imperfect. He also said that people cannot save themselves. But Jeremiah shared good news. He told the people that the person who trusts in the Lord will be strong and healthy, like a tree planted by water (Jeremiah 17:8).

Through Jeremiah, the Lord spoke of His everlasting love toward His people. He shared the promise of gathering His people, watching over them, and turning their mourning into joy. God promised His people a new covenant and eternal forgiveness of sin.

The old covenant required complete obedience to the law; yet no one can be justified by the law (Galatians 2:16). In His grace, God did what we cannot do. He promised a new covenant which would be accomplished by Him. Jesus is the fulfillment of the new covenant; He fulfilled the requirements of the law on our behalf. As Paul wrote, "For what the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering" (Romans 8:3).

Forgiveness that lasts forever only comes through faith in Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:11). As you reflect on God’s promise of a new covenant, take time to thank Him for His forgiveness in your life. Remind the children in your care of how God changes believers’ hearts to hearts that love and obey Him.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** God made a new promise. When we trust in Jesus, we are part of this new promise forever.
* **Younger Preschool**: The people couldn’t follow the old rules perfectly, so God made a new promise. When we trust in Jesus, we are part of this new promise, and God’s teachings stay in our hearts forever.
* **Older Preschool:** The people couldn’t follow God’s rules perfectly, so God made a new promise. When we trust in Jesus, we are part of this new promise, and God’s teachings are with us forever.
* **Kids:** Like God's people, we all have sinful hearts that do not obey God or love Him rightly. Through Jesus' death on the cross, God made a new covenant. Those who trust in Jesus have their sin forgiven and have the law written on their hearts.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Older Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Kids:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Younger Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Older Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9
* **Kids:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9

**\*\* Next week:** Judah Was Taken Captive (2 Chronicles 36)

Unit 15, Session 4

Judah Was Taken Captive (2 Chronicles 36)

A cartoon of a person in a white robe surrounded by people

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

Growing up, you likely learned that disobedience has consequences. The people of Judah learned that the consequence for their disobedience to God was exile to Babylon. Despite their sin and unfaithfulness, God had been very patient with His people and was slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Not only had God sent the prophets to warn and encourage the people, but He also gave them good kings to help set an example. Still, the people continued to sin and worship idols. In today’s text, the people of Judah once again find themselves in the hands of evil kings.

King Jehoahaz, son of the final good king, Josiah, was dethroned by King Neco of Egypt after only three months of ruling. King Neco made his brother, Jehoiakim, king in his place. Jehoiakim, however, was captured by King Nebuchadnezzar eleven years later. Next came his son, King Jehoiachin. He also did evil in the Lord’s sight and was quickly replaced by Zedekiah.

King Zedekiah ruled over Judah for eleven years. He is described as a hard and stubborn man who refused to turn to the Lord (2 Chronicles 36:13). In the same way, the people and priests became more and more unfaithful to God.

Because of the sin of the people and their disregard for the many warnings they received, God allowed the Babylonians to destroy the nation of Judah. The Babylonians took all the treasures from the temple and palace and burned them down. This all came to pass just as God had said through the prophet Jeremiah. God's people were captured and taken to Babylon. Yet, hope remained: after 70 years, God promised to rescue and restore His people to their land.

When we disobey God, we also face consequences. For those who have not trusted in Jesus, the consequence is eternal death in hell. The good news is that Jesus bore the consequences for all who trust in Him. The Bible shares how Jesus “bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:24). Our sin has been paid for by His death and defeated by His resurrection.

Remember that we serve a God who is faithful to keep His word. Pray for the children in your care to understand the consequences of their sin, so they can experience the gift of Jesus’ forgiveness and eternal life.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus died for our sins and rose again. If we trust in Him, God forgives all our sins.
* **Younger Preschool**: Doing wrong things has consequences. But the good news is that Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died for us. He came back to life! If we trust in Him, God forgives all our sins.
* **Older Preschool:** Sin has consequences. The good news is that Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died for us. Jesus came back to life, showing that if we trust in Him, all our sins are forgiven.
* **Kids:** The people of Judah continued to sin and were destroyed by Babylon. Even though God was patient, all sin deserves judgment. God's patience is meant to lead us to repentance. Those who repent and trust in Jesus will escape God's judgment.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Older Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Kids:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Younger Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Older Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9
* **Kids:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9

**\*\* Next week:** Ezekiel Gave Hope (Ezekiel 37)

Unit 15, Session 5

Ezekiel Gave Hope (Ezekiel 37)

A person walking in the desert

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Dear families,

Have you ever had a lingering question or been in a difficult situation in which you knew only the Lord could truly answer or provide clarity? God presented an interesting question to the prophet Ezekiel amid a dire setting. The Spirit of God took Ezekiel to a valley of bones and asked him, “Son of man, can these bones live?” Ezekiel replied, “Lord God, only you know.” (Ezekiel 37:3).

God then instructed Ezekiel to speak to the bones, saying, “Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Lord God says to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you will live” (Ezekiel 37:5). Ezekiel did as God said, and as the prophet was speaking, the bones began to rattle and reconfigure into human bodies. After that, God told Ezekiel to prophesy to the breath, commanding it to breathe life into the dead bodies. Ezekiel did as he was instructed, and the beings came to life.

Ezekiel's prophecy was a picture of the people of Israel. They were like dead bones with no hope, but God would give them life. God would make the way for those dead in their sin to have life resurrected.

Then God had Ezekiel take two sticks—one for Israel and one for Judah. He told Ezekiel to take the sticks in front of all the people and join them to make one stick. Through this imagery, God was demonstrating how He was going to take the Israelites out of the nations where they were scattered and bring them into their own land. God was going to unite His people and give them one King to rule over them.

Ezekiel reminded the people of the promise God had made to David hundreds of years before. The new King would come from the family of David, and He would have the power to raise dead, sinful people to life.

Without Jesus, we are like the dead bones with no future hope. We are dead in our sins. But by faith in Jesus Christ, we are made alive (Ephesians 2:1-5). God’s promise to Ezekiel remains true: King Jesus will unite all who trust in Him, and through the Holy Spirit we will walk in His ways.

Thank God for the hope we have because of Jesus. Remind the children in your care of the new life Jesus gives to those who trust in Him. As you point boys and girls to the God who can make dead bones come to life, pray for each kid to understand that nothing is too difficult for God.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

**FAMILY TALKING POINTS**

**CHRIST CONNECTION**

*This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** God gives us new life when we trust in Jesus. God will always be with everyone who believes in Jesus.
* **Younger Preschool**: God made the dry bones alive again, and He gives us new life when we trust in Jesus. God will always be with everyone who believes in Jesus.
* **Older Preschool:** Like God made the dry bones come to life, He gives us new life when we trust in Jesus. God will forever be with everyone who believes in Jesus.
* **Kids:** God breathed life into dead bones in front of Ezekiel. The apostle Paul said that we are dead in our sins, but God gives us new life in Him when we trust in Jesus. God will forever be the God of all people who trust in Jesus.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Younger Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Older Preschool:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.
* **Kids:** What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

**KEY PASSAGE**

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

* **Babies & Toddlers:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Younger Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone. Psalm 145:9
* **Older Preschool:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9
* **Kids:** The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made. Psalm 145:9

**\*\* Next week:** Daniel Obeyed God (Daniel 1)