



UNIT 15 | SESSION 3

GOD'S PEOPLE WERE TAKEN CAPTIVE

2 CHRONICLES 36

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: God made me. Psalm 139:14

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- The last kings of Judah did not obey God.
- God punished the people for their wrong choices.
- Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

King Josiah's three sons and his grandson did not love God like Josiah did. They did evil things, and God's people did evil things too. One by one, Josiah's sons were taken away by other kings because they would not obey God's words. God sent men to talk to the people. The men said, "Stop making wrong choices! Love and obey God!" Did the people listen? No. It was time for God to punish the people of Judah for their wrong choices. God allowed the king of Babylon to take God's people to Babylon.



BABIES ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to 2 Chronicles 36. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage phrase card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A HYMN

Sing the chorus of “Trust and Obey.” If you are unfamiliar with the tune, look it up before the session.

“Trust and obey, for there’s no other way

To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.”

SAY “We all make wrong choices. Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices. We can be happy in Jesus and obey God because we love Him.”

2 MAKE HANDS PICTURE

Print *God made me. Psalm 139:14* on bottom of a sheet of paper (one per baby). Provide paintbrushes, washable paint, painting smocks or bibs, and prepared papers. Sit infants in high chairs or at a table. Paint on each child’s hand and press onto his prepared paper. Keep baby wipes on hand for easy cleanup. Repeat with other hand as you say the gospel gems.

SAY “The last kings of Judah did not obey God. God made us. God made our hands to obey Him. We thank God for making our hands.”

3 POP BUBBLES

Spread out plastic tablecloths on the floor. Sit with a baby on your lap or secure a baby in a high chair. Fill a bin halfway with warm water and add a few squirts of tear-free baby shampoo or a gentle liquid dish soap. Provide plastic whisks for babies to make bubbles or use bubble wands to gently blow bubbles for babies to pop.

SAY “It’s fun to pop bubbles! We can ask Jesus to help us make right choices and be strong enough to ‘pop’ wrong choices. Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices.”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s big picture card. Repeat the Christ connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



TODDLER ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible story picture as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to 2 Chronicles 36. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the key passage phrase card and guide toddlers to say it. Pray for the toddlers.

2 MAKE A KEY PASSAGE PHRASE PICTURE

Print the key passage phrase, God made me. Psalm 139:14, on each paper (one per child). Provide markers, crayons, or other decorating supplies. Instruct toddlers to draw a picture of things God made. Provide suggestions as needed. Read the key passage phrase as a reminder of who God made.

SAY “ Even though our key passage phrase says, ‘God made me,’ we know God made everything! He wants us to make choices to love and obey Him. We can worship God by making right choices. ”

3 SING A SONG

Gather metal spoons (two per child). Demonstrate how to click the spoons together while singing to the tune of “The B-I-B-L-E.”

“God M-A-D-E me,
Like I’m supposed to be.
I can obey ‘cause that’s God way,
God M-A-D-E me!”

4 PLAY A TELEPHONE GAME

Instruct toddlers to sit in a circle. Whisper, “Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices” to one child. Then allow that child to whisper the message to the next child and so on until all have heard the message. Note how the message changes. Review the Bible story.

SAY “ God sent men to tell people to stop making wrong choices and to love and obey God. The people did not listen. God punished them for their wrong choices. We can choose to obey God. ”

5 SMELLY CHOICES



Collect spices (cinnamon, ginger, and nutmeg) for toddlers to smell. Permit each child to choose which spices he would like to smell. Warn them of strong smells and sweet smells.

SAY “ We chose which spices to smell and which spices not to smell. Some choices are right and some are wrong. We can all make a right choice to love and obey God. ”

GOD'S PEOPLE WERE TAKEN CAPTIVE

2 CHRONICLES 36

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: God made me. Psalm 139:14

1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: LISTEN AND ACT

Call on a volunteer to act out different animals. Instruct the child that she can not speak, but can make sounds. Be prepared to assist as needed. Animals include a tiny mouse [squat down and squeak], a big elephant [extend arms together in front of nose like a trunk], a lion [roar like a lion], a tall giraffe [stand on tiptoes and stretch neck], a hopping bunny [jump up and down], and so forth. Review the Bible story, emphasizing the importance of listening.

SAY “ In our story, God sent men to talk to His people. God’s people did not listen. In our game, listening was very important. When we didn’t listen, we made wrong choices and guesses. God’s people were punished for their wrong choices. Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices. ”

2 SING A HYMN

Sing the chorus of “Trust and Obey.” If you are unfamiliar with the tune, look it up before the session.

“Trust and obey, for there’s no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.”

3 ACT OUT THE STORY

Show the Bible story picture. Give each toddler craft sticks with various colors of precut felt pieces, markers, and glue. Allow toddlers to decorate their craft sticks into a person from the Bible story as you review the Bible story. Assist as needed. Encourage toddlers to use their craft sticks to act out the Bible story. Retell the Bible story.

SAY “ In our story, the last kings of Judah did not obey God. Because the people made wrong choices, God punished the people. Thankfully, Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices. ”

4 PICK UP AND BUILD

Line up foam or cardboard blocks in a path. Provide a container for toddlers to pick up the blocks as they follow the path. After all of the blocks have been picked up, suggest the toddlers build something together. Retell the Bible story as the toddlers build.

SAY “ You followed the instructions very well, but God’s people did not follow His instructions. In our story, God’s people made many wrong choices. The people did not obey God’s words. The people did not listen to God’s men. But Jesus came and always made right choices. Jesus took the punishment for our wrong choices. ”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church’s security procedures. Give parents today’s big picture card to reinforce today’s Bible story, Christ connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.