

Grades 1-3 Lesson Template

Where	Who and What	What you Need
Classroom	Teacher takes attendance Give students a sticker	Paper on table, check off who is here, put onto the clipboard
	Play “capture” by being in a circle, with a person in the middle, and a penny traveling on the outside of the circle. See directions on page 79.	Penny
Large Group	Large Group Time: Leader is Bryan. He will get you when he is ready.	
Classroom:	Ask questions from page 84 1. Why does God take sin so seriously? 2. What are ways that we are unfaithful to God? 3. How can we be faithful to God?	Bible Ask Questions
	It all Fell Down: Read directions on page 85	Blocks
	Worksheet: Warning or maze	Worksheet



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “How would you feel if you warned someone about something dangerous, but he didn’t listen? What are ways people receive warnings about danger?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Warning!” activity page.

SAY “Today, we will see that even though God warned Israel about their sin, they didn’t listen. **GOD JUDGED ISRAEL’S SIN, AND ASSYRIA DESTROYED THE NORTHERN KINGDOM.**”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: DOWN THE LINE

Form kids into two teams. Direct each team to line up shoulder to shoulder. Give the first kid in each line a stack of 20 sticky notes. When you say “go,” challenge the kid to pull one sticky note from the stack and pass it down the line. Each kid will pass the sticky note to his or her neighbor until it reaches the last kid. The last kid in line will stick the sticky note to the wall. Repeat, until one team is the first to pass down all the sticky notes.

SAY “Imagine each sticky note represents thousands of sins against God. The sticky notes still wouldn’t add up to all the sin God’s people committed over the hundreds of years after God rescued them from Egypt. Down the line of each generation, God’s people continued to turn away from Him and follow idols. They didn’t listen to the prophets God sent to warn them of their sin. Eventually, their sin was so great, and God judged their sin. Today, we will see how God allowed the nation of Assyria to attack Israel and destroy it.”

☐ OPTION 2: CAPTURED!



Lead kids to form a large circle. Choose one kid to be It and direct her to stand in the middle of the circle. Give one kid in the circle a penny. Tell It to close her eyes and count to 10. While It counts, direct kids to hold their hands behind their back and pass the penny around the circle. When It finishes counting, tell her to point to someone in the circle and say “captured.” If she points to someone holding the penny, that kid is out. If not, play continues. Remind kids to keep their hands behind their backs the whole time. After a couple of rounds, choose a new kid to be It. Play as time allows.

SAY “You didn’t want to be caught holding the penny, did you? Today, we will see how Israel was caught in the greatness of their sin. Because their sin was so great, **GOD JUDGED ISRAEL’S SIN, AND ASSYRIA DESTROYED THE NORTHERN KINGDOM.** Let’s get ready to learn how God’s people were captured and taken to Assyria.”



Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to 2 Kings 17. Tell kids that the nation of Assyria was hundreds of miles away from Israel. Tell kids that the capital city of Assyria was Nineveh, the same city God sent Jonah to preach against. Discuss how God used Assyria to judge Israel's sin, but Assyria would also be judged for their sin and violence (Isaiah 10:12).

Consider pointing out the location of Assyria (D11) on the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Kings 17:14-15 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud.

SAY 🗨️ Have you ever been told to do something, but you didn't listen? Israel continued to ignore God and disobey Him, even though God gave them many warnings. God warned His people of the judgment their sin deserved because He loved them. Following God was best for them because God leads His people to what is good and right. His commands are for our good because they lead people to love one another.

The Bible is God's Word to us, and when we listen to its words, we come to see how God has made the way for us to be saved. In the Bible, we learn that God sent Jesus to take the punishment our sin deserves. When we listen and obey God's call to trust in Jesus, we are saved from sin and death. 🗨️

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY 🗨️ Why does God take sin so seriously? 🗨️

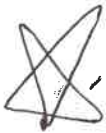
Remind kids that God is holy. Sin is disobedience and rebellion against God. God takes sin seriously because it affects His relationship with people, harms others, and has eternal consequences. Sin separates us from God, who we were made to be with. But God made the way to restore what sin has broken and bring people back to God through Jesus.

SAY 🗨️ What are ways we are unfaithful toward God? 🗨️

Guide kids to see how we can put things like money, popularity, friends, or activities, before God in our lives. We sometimes love these things more than we love God. When we place anything before God, it becomes an idol.

SAY 🗨️ How can we be faithful to God? 🗨️

Discuss how being faithful to God doesn't mean being perfect. Because of our sin nature, we won't be perfect. But we can strive to live like Jesus. We can be faithful to God by worshiping Him, obeying Him, following Him, and loving Him with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. We can trust that, in Christ, God will always be faithful to us. This truth encourages us to live for God no matter what.



Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





LIVE

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: IT ALL FELL DOWN

Before the session, gather two sets of wooden tower blocks and place a strip of masking tape on eight blocks from each set. On each of the blocks with tape, write each of the following: worshiped idols, ignored prophets, disobeyed God's commands, created idols, burned incense, did evil things, rejected God, and didn't worship God.



Build the two wooden block towers with the tape strips facing outward. Form two groups of kids and assign a tower to each group. Direct kids to take turns carefully removing the blocks with the statements and continue until the towers fall. Repeat as time allows.

SAY “Like the block towers were destroyed, the Israelites’ many sins led to their destruction. **GOD JUDGED ISRAEL’S SIN, AND ASSYRIA DESTROYED THE NORTHERN KINGDOM.** Like Israel, we sin and disobey God. The good news is that Jesus Christ came to take the punishment we deserve and save us from our sin. Through Jesus, believers can love God, obey Him, and worship Him rightly.”

☐ OPTION 2: DON'T BE STUBBORN



Form kids into groups of three or four. Provide each team with five index cards. Write the following references on a dry erase board: Nehemiah 9:29; Psalm 78:8; Jeremiah 5:23; Jeremiah 16:12; Zechariah 7:11. Then lead groups to copy each reference to an index card. Provide each group with a Bible. Challenge kids to find each reference in their Bible and place the index card at the reference. The first group to find all five wins.

Read the passages aloud and discuss how they all share how God's people were stubborn, choosing to ignore God's ways and follow their own way. Invite kids to share what the consequence is for rejecting God's ways and following our own hearts.

SAY “Time and time again God warned His people to turn from sin, but they were stubborn and did not obey. Today, ask God to give you a tender heart that hears His Word and obeys it. Remember that Jesus changes our hearts so we want to obey the Lord. God's ways are always best because He leads us to forgiveness, life, and joy.”

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

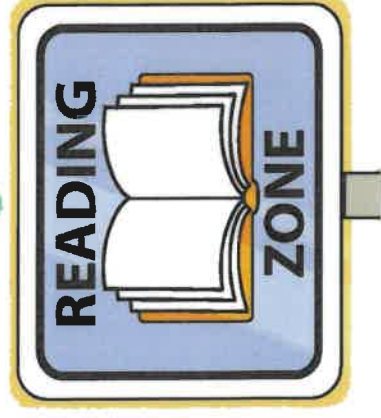
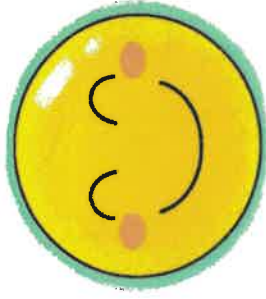
Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.

Warning!

INSTRUCTIONS: God loved Israel and warned them about their sin. Cross out every picture that displays a warning.



NAME: _____



The Northern Kingdom Was Destroyed

2 Kings 17

STORY POINT:

God judged Israel's sin, and Assyria destroyed the Northern Kingdom.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

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.

KEY PASSAGE:

Deuteronomy 13:4

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

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.



Scan the QR code
for resources to
use at home!



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?

2. What does this story teach me about myself?

3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?

4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?

5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 14 • Session 4

THE NORTHERN KINGDOM WAS DESTROYED

2 Kings 17

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.

In Hoshea's ninth year as king, the king of Assyria captured Samaria in Israel, put King Hoshea in prison, and moved all the Israelites to Assyria. The kingdom of Israel was destroyed. This happened because of the sin of the Israelites.

God performed powerful miracles for them and took care of them. He gave them instructions, including a commandment to worship Him alone.

But instead of worshiping God alone, they worshiped other gods. They did evil things, just like the nations who lived there before them.

God warned His people over and over through prophets. He said, "Turn from your evil ways. Keep my commandments and the law sent to you through the prophets." But the people did not listen. They followed worthless idols.

As the people ignored God's warnings over and over, God became very angry. He rejected them, removed them from His presence, and handed them over to the nation of Assyria. The king of Assyria moved all the Israelites out of the land and brought in foreign people to live in Israel's cities.

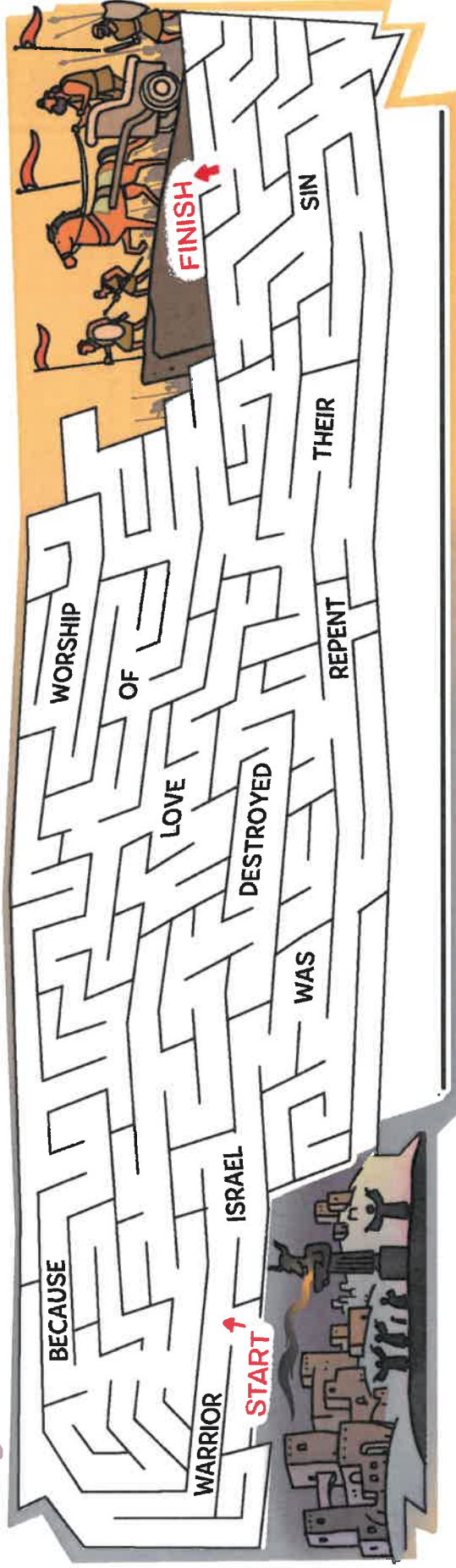
The kingdom of Israel was destroyed. Only the tribe of Judah remained.

Christ Connection: 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.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR RESOURCES TO USE AT HOME!

Message in a Maze | Find the correct path that leads Assyria into Israel. Circle the correct words as you go to reveal a message.



Captivity Crossword | Complete the crossword puzzle using the clues and word bank.

ACROSS

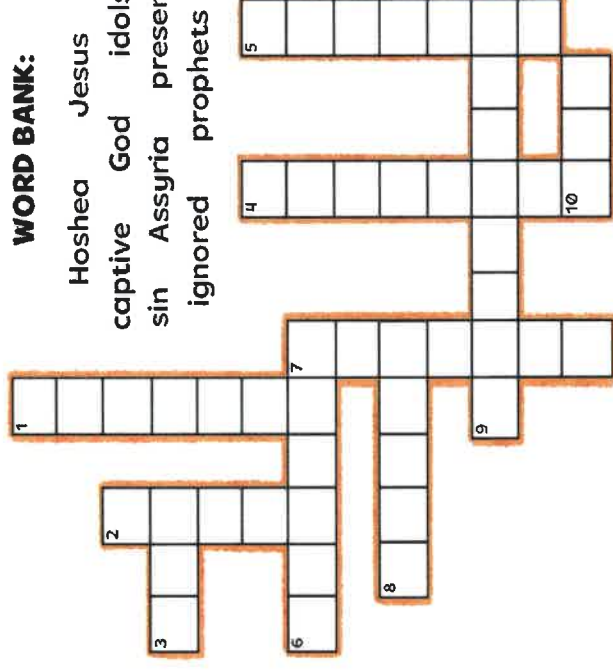
3. _____ brought the Israelites out of the land of Egypt.
6. _____ was the last king of Israel.
8. Those who trust in _____ will never be removed from God's presence.
9. God removed Israel from His _____.
10. The nation of Israel was destroyed because of their _____.

DOWN

1. The people of Israel were taken _____ to Assyria.
2. Israel worshiped worthless _____.
4. God warned His people about their sin through the _____.
5. The people _____ God's warnings.
7. The nation of _____ destroyed Israel.

WORD BANK:

Hoshea Jesus
captive God idols
sin Assyria presence
ignored prophets



the **GOSPEL** PROJECT