



UNIT 14 | SESSION 2

ISAIAH WARNED OF GOD'S JUDGMENT

ISAIAH 22; 48

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 3:19

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God sent Isaiah to warn of His coming judgment. A greater day of judgment is coming when God will judge sin for a final time. Jesus came to die on the cross and rise again. Everyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus will be safe from God's judgment and have eternal life.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



LEADER Bible Study

The judgment of God can be found all through the Bible among people who turned from God to their own ways and sought to make a name for themselves or, at the very least, to satisfy themselves at the cost of their disobedience.

In Isaiah 22, we find a warning from God regarding the selfish ambitions and pursuits of God’s people. Though many strong, knee-shaking statements are made by God in this rebuke, one statement captures the heart of the rebellion of God’s people: “You made a reservoir between the walls for the water of the ancient pool, but you did not look to the one who made it or consider the one who created it long ago” (v. 11).

God’s people had set their hope in themselves and forgotten the Maker and Sustainer of all the good that had come to them. God was reminding them that every ounce of provision, every victory won, and every bit of directional clarity had come from Him. God was rebuking them for neglecting to remember that He was the one behind it all.

We are easily blinded by pride. After all, when we experience great accomplishments, unlikely victories, and significant provisions, it is difficult to not assume our own great work. But, as God reminds in Isaiah 22:23-25,

He is the one who raises up and tears down leaders. And in Isaiah 48:11, He will not share His glory with another. Finally, as Isaiah 48:17-18 reminds us, He teaches us the way we should go, if only we would listen.

God is the author of all that is good in our lives, God is the giver of all that is good in our lives, and God is the sustainer of all that we need. When we believe the lie that it is any other way, we deceive ourselves. But when we embrace the reality of God’s goodness and provision, we will find great rest and hope. We will walk more humbly and confidently through the mountains and the valleys of life, knowing from whom every good and every perfect gift comes.

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Isaiah: prophet to the Southern Kingdom of Judah who warned of God’s coming judgment against Judah’s rebellion



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 “ If you were able to see the future, what would you want to know? Why would you want to know that particular thing? ”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “From Sin to Salvation Maze” on the activity page.

SAY “ In our Bible story today, Isaiah warned the people of Judah that God’s judgment was coming because of their sin. But, he also gave them hope because God had a plan to rescue them. ”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: WARNING SOUNDS



Invite kids to sit in a circle. Discuss some of the various warning sounds we have in our cities, schools, and homes. Provide some examples of warning sounds such as a fire alarm in the home, police sirens, tornado sirens, the beeping of a truck backing up, and so forth. Lead kids to explain why we have these different warning sounds and why they are important.

(Tip: Consider using a search engine on your phone to play different warning sounds or challenge kids to imitate various warnings sounds they have heard.)

SAY “ We have alarms and sirens for a reason: they help us to avoid danger. We would be foolish to ignore an alarm that warned us of harm. In today’s Bible story, the prophet Isaiah gave a warning. However, the people ignored his warning. ”

OPTION 2: CHOOSE HOPE

Write the following Bible verse references on index cards: Isaiah 65:2-3,17-18; Psalm 14:3,7; Ephesians 2:1,4-5; Titus 3:3-7. Form four groups of kids and provide each group with an index card. Lead groups to look up each reference in their Bibles and read it together.

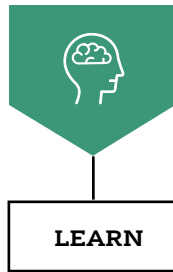
Direct groups to decide what the bad news is for the Bible references. Then ask each group to determine how the Bible verses also give hope.

Invite each group to share how these Bible verses are hopeful.

SAY “ Our sinfulness before God is bad news. Because of our sin, we are separated from Him and deserve death. Yet, the Bible is full of hope for our sinful state. In today’s Bible story, the prophet Isaiah saw a vision full of bad news. But, he also gave the people of Judah a message of hope. ”

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





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Hi, everyone! How are you all doing today? My name is [your name]. Hold up your Bible if you brought it with you today! [Pass out Bibles to kids who need one.]

The Bible is God’s Word to us. When we read the Bible we learn more about God and we are able to understand His plan is to rescue humans from sin. Does anyone remember the first sin? [Allow kids to respond.] In Genesis 3, Adam and Eve ate from a tree that God told them not to eat from. In today’s story, God’s people were still choosing to disobey Him. Rather than trust God and believe His words are good, the people of Judah turned their own way. When we read the Bible, we should be reminded that God’s ways are best because He always leads us to life. ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

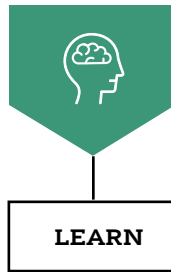
SAY “ The Bible has many stories of humans disobeying God. In fact, everyone still disobeys God today. Even when we don’t always mean to, we think that our way is best. When we disobey God, we need to repent. **What is repentance?** [Allow kids to respond.] **Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.**

When we repent of sin, we are showing God that we trust Him and want to live for Him. We also show that we believe it is only Jesus who can save us from our sin and that following Him in obedience is best. Let’s say the big picture question and answer together again. **What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.** ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ In last week’s story, King Joash reigned over the kingdom of Judah. What did Joash do during his reign as king? [Allow kids to respond.] Joash worked to restore God’s temple, but after the priest Jehoiada died, Joash turned away from God and worshiped idols. God sent prophets to warn the people to repent, but the people of Judah ignored the warnings. In today’s Bible story, the people of Judah continued to turn away from the Lord. Let’s read our Bible to learn what God told the people of Judah through the prophet Isaiah. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Isaiah 22; 48. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Isaiah Warned of God’s Judgment.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

ISAIAH WARNED OF GOD’S JUDGMENT

“**Isaiah was a prophet to the kingdom of Judah. He had seen a vision of what would happen to the city of Jerusalem.** Jerusalem was the capital of Judah. Isaiah told the people of Judah about this vision. **He warned that God’s judgment was coming to the people.** God would punish the guilty.

God’s people had chosen to turn away from Him and worship idols and false gods like their neighbors did. God always judges sin. **Isaiah said that God’s judgment was coming for the nations around Judah.**

Then he said that judgment was coming to Judah too. Judah’s enemy—the Babylonians—would come into Jerusalem and take over the city. The people would try to get away, but they would be killed or captured.

Isaiah told the people to repent. In his vision, Isaiah saw that instead of turning back to God, they ignored his warning. They danced in the streets and said, “Let’s eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!” Isaiah warned the people, saying, “This will all happen, just like God said.”

The people of Judah would be punished for their sin, but Isaiah also brought them a message of hope. God’s people would be captured by the Babylonians, but one day they would be set free.

Through Isaiah, God told His people to listen and obey. **God would punish their sin because He wanted what was best for them. God would act for His glory and their good. “When you escape from Babylon,” Isaiah said, “Go tell the good news of what God has done for you.”**

Christ Connection: God sent Isaiah to warn of His coming judgment. A greater day of judgment is coming when God will judge sin for a final time. Jesus came to die on the cross and rise again. Everyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus will be safe from God’s judgment and have eternal life. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Ask kids to predict: Lead kids to predict what the people’s response will be to each part of Isaiah’s message. Allow them to respond.

Move around the room: Direct kids to sit on one side of the room while you tell of God’s judgment. When Isaiah tells the people to repent, guide kids to move to the middle of the room. When Isaiah tells of God’s plan of hope, lead kids to the other side of the room.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “Isaiah was a prophet who told the people of Judah messages from God. He told the Israelites to repent for disobeying God. He saw a vision that, if Judah continued to sin and not repent, God would bring judgment upon them. Why did God promise judgment would come to the people of Judah? [Allow responses.] The people of Judah turned away from God. They chose to worship idols. God disciplines those He loves because He wants us to be holy and turn away from sin (Heb. 12:10). So, God disciplined the people of Judah because He loved them and wanted them to repent.

Did God’s punishment mean He rejected His people forever? [Allow responses.] No, Isaiah also gave the people a message of hope. God had a plan to restore His people. One day, they would be set free from the Babylonians.

An even greater freedom would come when God would send His Son, Jesus, to free people of their sin. By sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise from the dead, God defeated sin and death. If we trust in Jesus, we no longer need to fear God’s judgment or be a slave to our sin. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “God sent Isaiah to warn of His coming judgment. A greater day of judgment is coming when God will judge sin for a final time. Jesus came to die on the cross and rise again. Everyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus will be safe from God’s judgment and have eternal life. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 14, Session 2” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Are all the bad things that happen in our lives because of sin?
2. How does Jesus give you hope when bad things happen?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

SAY “Adoniram and Ann Judson traveled on a large ship to tell people about Jesus in Burma. When Ann had to return to America for two years due to illness, Adoniram continued translating the Bible into the Burmese language and telling people about Jesus. It took Adoniram 24 years to translate the entire Bible into the Burmese language. ”

Emphasize how challenging it can be to translate the Bible into another language. As an example, mention that translating a phrase such as “white as snow” into a language of a people group living in a tropical climate, who have never seen snow, can create challenges. Other times, words in one language do not always mean the same thing in other languages. Translators must work carefully when translating the Bible.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Ask a volunteer to pray for the people working to translate the Bible into different languages. Thank God for people who have worked to translate the Bible into many languages so more people can know about God and His Son, Jesus.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Acts 3:19 together.

Write a word or phrase from the key passage on strips of paper. Make sure there are enough strips of paper for every kid. Lead kids to randomly choose a strip of paper until all strips of paper are drawn. Guide kids to say their words or phrases popcorn-style in the order of the key passage. Continue practicing and see how fast the kids can say the key passage.

SAY “Just as Isaiah told the people of Judah to repent of their sin, we need to repent of our sin too. God is merciful, and through faith in Jesus, washes away our sin so that it is remembered no more. That’s good news!”

Lead kids to sing “Repentance (Acts 3:19).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “God, You know everything from the beginning of time to the end. Thank You for having a plan to save us from our sin through Your Son, Jesus. Please help us tell others about repentance so they can live with You forever. Amen.”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**

