

Old Testament

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Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part Two



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Ezekiel

Last week we learned that God punished Judah and they were taken captive to a strange land. Jeremiah knew that as difficult as things were, he could hope in God. Jeremiah understood that God's mercy is great and His love never fails.

Ezekiel 2-3

Read the Bible

READ: Ezekiel 2:1-8 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse

We speak the truth...
We serve God in times of glory
and shame...whether the news
about us is bad or good.
We are true to our calling.
(II Corinthians 6:7-8 NIV)

Begin with Prayer

Ezekiel was another prophet of God. God also gave him messages to give to the people. One day, Ezekiel heard a voice telling him to stand up. (Ezekiel 2:1-2)

God told Ezekiel that he was sending him to the family of Israel. But God said that they were stubborn and rebellious. (Ezekiel 2:3)

God told Ezekiel to give the people His message whether they listened or not. God also told Ezekiel not to be afraid of them or anything they said or did. (Ezekiel 2:4-6)

Goals

1. Understand that Ezekiel was true to his calling.
2. Recognize that Ezekiel spoke words of truth.
3. Learn that Israel was stubborn.
4. Understand that God knew that Israel would not listen.

Ezekiel was to speak words of truth to the people of Israel. God encouraged Ezekiel to listen and obey. God also encouraged Ezekiel not to be like the rest of the people of Israel. His job was to speak words of truth. (Ezekiel 2:7-8)

Then, God told Ezekiel to eat a scroll that was unrolled in front of him. There were words of sadness and mourning. So Ezekiel ate and it tasted sweet like honey. (Ezekiel 2:9-10; 3:1-3)

Next, Ezekiel was to go to the people of Israel and give them God's message. God said that even though they spoke the same language they would not be willing to listen. They had not listened to God Himself, and they would not listen to Ezekiel. (Ezekiel 3:4-8)

Again God told Ezekiel not to be afraid of the people. God said that they were stubborn so he would make Ezekiel just as stubborn as they were. (Ezekiel 3:9)

Ezekiel's Call – Bible Facts

1. God said that Israel was rebellious and stubborn.
2. God told Ezekiel to give Israel the message whether they listened or not.
3. Ezekiel ate a scroll.
4. The scroll had words of sadness and mourning.

God said, "Speak whether they listen or not." (Ezekiel 3:10-11)

Seven days passed and God told Ezekiel that he must take the message to Israel. Ezekiel was a "watchman for the house of Israel." God wanted Ezekiel to warn them. God told Ezekiel that he was responsible for giving all the people His message. If God said to a bad man that he would die, Ezekiel had to give that man the message. God said that Ezekiel would be accountable for that man if he did not give him God's message. (Ezekiel 3:18-19)

Ezekiel had a very difficult job. Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel had bad news for God's people. They had sinned against God and God was going to punish them.

Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel was faithful to give the people God's message. Jesus came to give us God's message. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, no man comes to the Father but by Me." (John 14:6)

Review

1. **What did God say about Israel ?** (God said that Israel was rebellious and stubborn.)
2. **What did God say to Ezekiel?** (God told Ezekiel to give Israel the message whether they listened or not.)
3. **What did Ezekiel eat?** (Ezekiel ate a scroll.)
4. **What did the scroll say ?** (The scroll had words of sadness and mourning.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus preached the truth about God's love. God loved us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us so that we can know Him. If we confess our sins and turn away from them, God will forgive us. (I John 1:9) If we invite Jesus to be a part of our lives, He will come and be a part of our lives forever. (Romans 10: 9-10)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to show us He is the Truth.
3. Ask God to help you share His message.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to listen to God's message.

Application

Ezekiel was true to his calling. He spoke words of truth. God knew that Israel would not listen because Israel was stubborn. Ezekiel had to take the message to the people. God wants us to take His message to people, too. "We speak the truth... We serve God in times of glory and shame...whether the news about us is bad or good. We are true to our calling." (II Corinthians 6:7-8 NIV)

Planning for Next Week

Ezekiel, the Shepherds, and the Sheep — Ezekiel 34

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Ezekiel 2:1-8 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Make scrolls.

Ezekiel was another prophet of God. God also gave him messages to give to the people.

Have you ever not done something because you didn't want to? You knew what to do, but you didn't do it because you didn't want to do it. That is being stubborn. God told Ezekiel that He was sending him to the people of Israel. But God said that they were stubborn and rebellious.

Has your mom told you to do something and you ignored her? Or maybe you decided to do it later? God wants us to obey immediately. God told Ezekiel to give the people His message whether they listened or not. God also told Ezekiel not to be afraid of them or anything they said or did.

It is easy to do wrong when everyone else seems to be doing it. God wants us to be different. Ezekiel was to speak words of truth to the people of Israel. God encouraged Ezekiel to listen and obey. God also encouraged Ezekiel not to be like the rest of the people of Israel. His job was to speak words of truth.

Then God told Ezekiel to eat a scroll that was unrolled in front of him. There were words of sadness and mourning. So Ezekiel ate and it tasted sweet like honey.

Next Ezekiel was to go to the people of Israel and give them God's message. God said that even though they spoke the same language they would not be willing to listen. They had not listened to God Himself, and they would not listen to Ezekiel.

God loved us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us so that we can know Him. Jesus told people about God's love. He want us to tell others about His love.

Prayer Time

- 1. Take a moment to listen to God.**
- 2. Thank God for sending Jesus to show us He is the Truth.**
- 3. Ask God to help you share His message.**

Memory verse for younger children

We speak the truth. II Corinthians 6:7-8

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Bring bubbles. Students must say one word from the verse (in order) to take a turn blowing bubbles. Practice the memory verse.

- **Test your memory** — Make scrolls. Write key phrases in the scrolls. Let the children read the key phrases as you tell the story.

- **Taste activity** — Bring honey graham crackers.

- **Think about it**— God told Ezekiel to speak even though Israel would not listen. Talk about how difficult that must have been for Ezekiel.

God said Israel was stubborn and rebellious. Talk about how God wants us to behave.

- **Touch activity** — Play a game where one child is saying something using a quiet, inside voice. They may say the Bible verse. Ask the children to cover their ears so that they will not hear. Let the children take turns.

Make megaphones. Write the Bible verse on the megaphones.

- **Run and play** — Play Simon Says. Don't tell the leader, but ask the children not to follow the instructions. Talk about how Israel would not listen to God. Then play Simon Says and ask the children to follow the instructions. Next play and ask the children to do the opposite. You may want to help the leader. (sit down, stand up, walk forward, walk backward, lift your right arm, lift your left arm, etc.)

- **Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to obey Him.

- **Sing** — Sing "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," "Trust and Obey," or another song related to the story.

- **Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids who did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver handouts with the Bible verse to those who were absent. If possible take bubbles for them. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

We speak the truth...
We serve God
in times of glory
and shame...
whether the news
about us is bad or good.
We are true
to our calling.
II Corinthians 6:7-8

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Ezekiel

spoke

the

truth

Word Search

E S B F B G N I N R U O M P T
G R H B L V L T C Y H G S M R
A T K P O E D F C K P H G Y E
S M R I I F V F P B T M C H D
S S C K K P N R S U F R S K M
E E E R S E L R R S E P A F P
M Z P E T T B T N P E E S R W
E D T S R D F P R E P N I S R
R B I R T O S O L S D S D T P
F L K A S S P P G L P H D A D
S T P D R H R R B N O K N R S
K R R D E F G M F N F R R M S
S O C T P G A R E A S G C J D
W T D N R B S Y K P J D R S J

EZEKIEL

VOICE

SPEAK

HONEY

PROPHET

LISTEN

WORDS OF TRUTH

SADNESS

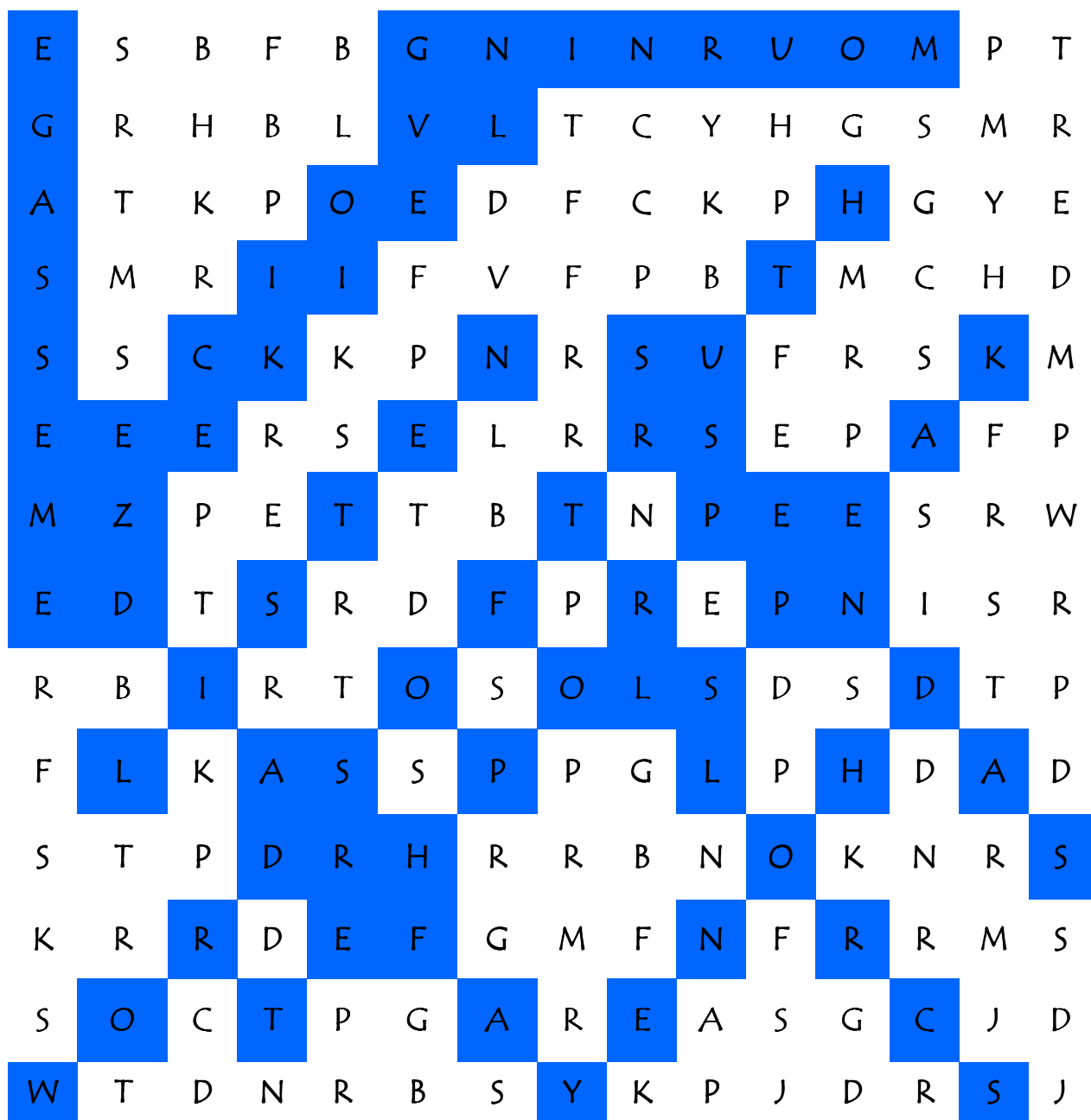
MESSAGE

AFRAID

SCROLL

MOURNING

Word Search



EZEKIEL

VOICE

SPEAK

HONEY

PROPHET

LISTEN

WORDS OF TRUTH

SADNESS

MESSAGE

AFRAID

SCROLL

MOURNING

Word Search

E Z E K I E L D R N B C T
D L R O S P E A K G C R C
T V D L R K H M P F P B C
C M N V O I C E H N W T S
G K D G B F K D T S R B M
R M E S S A G E B M S D H
M R P D N S F D P R S A F
S P F D M R B K M R D G S
M N P R O P H E T D F S R
S D R J H P V N M S W B D
N N P T R U T H G P A G S
H F P B M C K H S M R T S

EZEKIEL

PROPHET

MESSAGE

VOICE

SPEAK

TRUTH

Word Search

E Z E K I E L D R N B C T
D L R O S P E A K G C R C
T V D L R K H M P F P B C
C M N V O I C E H N W T S
G K D G B F K D T S R B M
R M E S S A G E B M S D H
M R P D N S F D P R S A F
S P F D M R B K M R D G S
M N P R O P H E T D F S R
S D R J H P V N M S W B D
N N P T R U T H G P A G S
H F P B M C K H S M R T S

EZEKIEL

PROPHET

MESSAGE

VOICE

SPEAK

TRUTH

Anagram

KEPAS

HUTTR

REESV

LOYGR

HSAEM

SENW

OGOD

ABD

TERU



Anagram

SPEAK

TRUTH

SERVE

GLORY

SHAME

NEWS

GOOD

BAD

TRUE