

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2010

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part Two



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

Old Testament

Comfort for God's People

Last week we learned that Hezekiah was the king of Israel. He worshipped and loved God. One day he became very ill. Hezekiah was about to die. He felt very sad and very sick. He was even angry, but Hezekiah cried out to God for help. God heard his prayer and healed him. Hezekiah wrote a song of praise.

Isaiah 40

Read the Bible

READ: Isaiah 40:1-11, 27-28 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse

Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us. The Scriptures give us strength to go on. They cheer us up and give us hope.
(Romans 15:4 NIV)

Begin with Prayer

God sent His prophet Isaiah to speak to Israel. God had announced to Israel that they would be taken captive. (Isaiah 39:6-7) But then God sent Isaiah to speak words of comfort to Israel. "Comfort my people," says your God." God wanted Isaiah to speak tenderly to them. He wanted Isaiah to tell them that their time in hard service would come to an end. (Isaiah 40:1-2)

Isaiah was to tell Israel that they had been punished enough and their sin had been paid for. (Isaiah 40:2) Jesus paid for our sins and took our punishment when He died on the cross. (Romans 5:8)

Goals

1. Understand that God wanted Israel to be comforted.
2. Recognize that Isaiah was prophesying about John the Baptist.
3. Learn that God's Word will stand forever.
4. Understand that God is the Creator of everything.

Then Isaiah was to give the people a message of hope. He was to announce that a messenger would come. Isaiah was prophesying about John the Baptist. "A messenger is calling out, 'In the desert prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight road through it for our God.'" (Isaiah 40:3; Luke 3:4) This happened 700 years before John the Baptist was born. Do you remember who else Isaiah prophesied about? John the Baptist called the people to repent. He told them to leave their sins and be baptized. God wants us to do the same.

John was preparing the way for Jesus. (Luke 3:4-22) God wants us to tell others about the Good News of Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:19-20)

Isaiah prophesied about the rough places being smoothed out. God would make a way for the people to get to heaven. Salvation would be made possible to all. (Isaiah 40:4-5) Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, and no man comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)

Comfort for God's People – Bible Facts

1. Israel was told they would be taken captive.
2. God told Isaiah to tell Israel to be comforted.
3. Isaiah prophesied that there would be a voice crying in the wilderness.
4. Isaiah said that God is the Creator of everything on earth.

Isaiah went on to talk about how “God’s Word will stand forever.” Isaiah said that things like grass and flowers fade and die but God’s Word does not. It will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:6-8)

Next Isaiah spoke to those who would proclaim the good news. He told them to speak without fear, to speak loudly, to speak publicly. “Go up on a high mountain and announce it.” Isaiah encourages those who proclaim the good news to tell the people that “The Lord King is coming with power... He has won the battle over their enemies.” (Isaiah 40:9-10 Nlrv)

Isaiah went on to add that the Lord takes care of his people like a shepherd. Isaiah said that “He gathers the lamb in His arms.” Isaiah said that the shepherd carried the lambs “close to his heart.” The good shepherd “gently leads” His flock. (Isaiah 49:11 Nlrv) Here Isaiah paints a picture of Jesus as a shepherd who cares deeply for his sheep. Jesus, Himself, said, “I am the good shepherd.” (John 10:11 Nlrv)

Also in this chapter Isaiah asks the people if they think God doesn’t know what is going on or that God doesn’t see their condition. Isaiah asks if they know that God is the Creator of everything on the earth. “No one will ever know how great His understanding is.” (Isaiah 40:27-28 Nlrv) God was aware of what Israel was facing. He sent Isaiah to let them know that He understood.

Review

1. What had Israel been told previously? (Israel was told that they would be taken captive.)
2. What did God tell Isaiah to do? (God told Isaiah to tell Israel to be comforted.)
3. What did Isaiah prophesy? (Isaiah prophesied that there would be a voice crying in the wilderness.)
4. What else did Isaiah say? (Isaiah said that God is the Creator of everything on earth.)

Do You Know Jesus?

God wanted Israel to be comforted. God sent Jesus to be our helper. He died on the cross for our sins. Jesus rose from the dead. If we trust Jesus we can be in Heaven with Him. (Romans 10:9-10) If you would like to know more, talk to your teacher about it.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus die for our sins.
3. Ask God to help you know God’s Word.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to know God’s Word.

Application

Israel would be taken captive. God wanted Israel to be comforted. God sent Isaiah to tell the people about John the Baptist. God wanted Israel to understand that His Word will stand forever. Isaiah also reminded Israel that God is the Creator of everything.

Planning for Next Week

Strength for the Weary — Isaiah 40:29-31

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Isaiah 40:1-11 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Make megaphones. Let the children use them to tell the Good News.

God told Israel that they would be taken captive. (Isaiah 39:6-7) Then God sent Isaiah to speak words of comfort to Israel. "'Comfort my people,' says your God." God wanted Isaiah to speak tenderly to them. He wanted Isaiah to tell them that their time in hard service would come to an end. (Isaiah 40:1-2)

Isaiah was to tell Israel that they had been punished enough and their sin had been paid for. Jesus paid for our sins and took our punishment when He died on the cross.

Then Isaiah was to give the people a message of hope. He was to announce that a messenger would come. Isaiah was prophesying about John the Baptist. "A messenger is calling out, 'In the desert prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight road through it for our God.'" This happened 700 years before John the Baptist was born. Do you remember who else Isaiah prophesied about? John the Baptist told the people to leave their sins and be baptized. God wants us to do the same.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.
3. Ask God to help you know God's Word.

Memory verse for younger children

[The Scriptures] cheer us up and give us hope. Romans 15:4

Learning Activities

- Memory verse activity** — Bring coloring pages of John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness. Write the Bible verse on the page.

- Test your memory** — Prepare booklets with blank pages for each child. Write key words about the story. As you tell each part ask the children to read, to say, and to write the word. Let the children decorate the book with stickers.

- Taste activity** — Bring string candy or candy grass.

Make a “King James Bible cake” (check the Internet) or bake a cake and decorate it like a Bible.

- Think about it** — Isaiah knew the Israelites would be taken captive. Talk about consequences for our actions.

Isaiah gave the people a message of hope. Talk about how Jesus gives us hope.

Isaiah said that God is like a shepherd. Talk about how shepherds care for their sheep.

- Touch activity** — Make megaphones. Let the children use them to tell the Good News.

Make a Wordless book. Use the colors gold to represent heaven; black to represent sin; red to represent the blood of Jesus; white to represent how Jesus cleanses us from all sin; green to represent spiritual growth. You may also make a beaded bracelet or necklace using the colors.

Isaiah said that God is the Creator of all things. Make a creation book that has pictures of the things God created. You may cut out pictures from magazines or bring coloring pages for the book.

- Run and play** — Sing “Shout to the North and the South,” and let the children turn in the direction the song indicates.

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

- Sing** — Sing “Tell the Good,” “Share His Love,” “Pass It On,” 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 the handouts to those who were absent. Take Wordless books and the coloring page with the Bible verse for them. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

Everything that was written
in the past
was written to teach us.

The Scriptures
give us strength
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and give us hope.

Romans 15:4

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Isaiah

preached

a message

of hope

Word Search

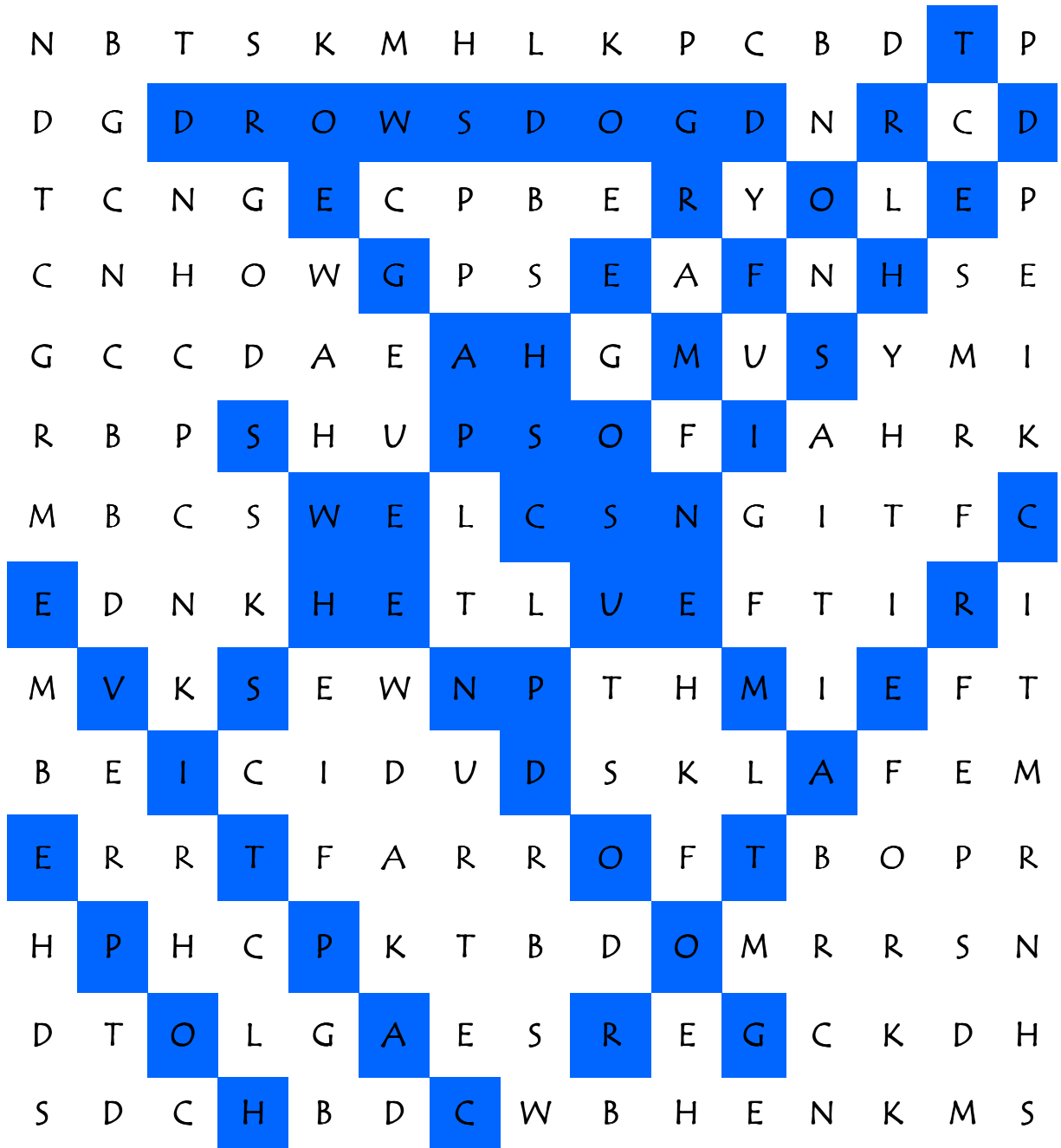
N B T S K M H L K P C B D T P
D G D R O W S D O G D N R C D
T C N G E C P B E R Y O L E P
C N H O W G P S E A F N H S E
G C C D A E A H G M U S Y M I
R B P S H U P S O F I A H R K
M B C S W E L C S N G I T F C
E D N K H E T L U E F T I R I
M V K S E W N P T H M I E F T
B E I C I D U D S K L A F E M
E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

CAPTIVE
MESSAGE
GOD'S WORD

COMFORT
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Word Search



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Word Search

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

CAPTIVE

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SHEPHERD

CREATOR

Word Search

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

CAPTIVE

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SHEPHERD

CREATOR

Anagram

RTHEEIVNGY

TTRNIEW

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HEATC

SSRRTIVECP

TTRNHESG

HEREC

OHEP

MNOSAR



Anagram

EVERYTHING

WRITTEN

PAST

TEACH

SCRIPTURES

STRENGTH

CHEER

HOPE

ROMANS