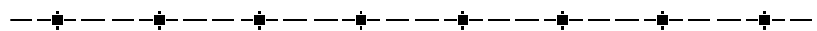


Old Testament

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

God Will Forgive

Last week we learned that because of their sin, God had sent locusts to destroy the land. God sent Joel to tell the people to return to Him. Joel said that God is full of love. God cared about the people. He said if the people would repent, He would take pity. God promised to send His Spirit.

Amos 9

Read the Bible

READ: Amos 9:1-15 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse

All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven.
(Acts 2:38 NIV)

Begin With Prayer

God called Amos to go and speak to the people. Amos was a shepherd. He took care of sheep. He also took care of sycamore fig trees. God told him to go and tell the people something important. God told Amos to go and tell the people that He was very upset. Amos told the people that they would have to pay the consequences for the wrong they had done. (Amos 1, 7:14)

Amos did not have an easy job. He had to give the people bad news. The people really didn't care about his message. Have you ever had to do something hard? Amos obeyed God and gave the people His message.

Goals

1. Understand that Amos had to give the people of Israel bad news.
2. Recognize that God was going to punish Israel.
3. Learn that God showed Amos a plumb line to show how Israel had sinned against Him.
4. Understand that God promised to forgive and restore Israel.

Have you ever wanted to continue doing something that you knew was wrong? When we do wrong, it is sin. God doesn't want us to sin because sin separates us from God. (Romans 3:23) God wants us to change our ways and do things differently. (Acts 2:38) The people of Israel didn't change their ways. They kept doing wrong and loving themselves more than others, or even God! God said that He was going to punish them. (Amos 5)

The Lord showed Amos a plumb line in a vision to show him how Israel had sinned against him. God said He could not ignore their sin anymore. (Amos 7:6-7) A plumb line is a line from which a weight is hung. When the weight is dropped, it tells if something is vertically (up and down) straight .

In Chapter 9 of Amos, the people realized that God was really serious. They knew that He meant business. They saw that God was going to punish them for the wrong that they had done. (Amos 9:1-10)

God Will Forgive — Bible Facts

1. Amos was a shepherd.
2. Amos told the people they were doing wrong.
3. The people refused to turn from their sins.
4. God said He would punish them, and then He would restore them.

God is merciful and gracious. In verses 11-15 God tells the people that He will restore them and forgive them. “The time will come when I will rebuild David's fallen tent. I will repair its broken places. I will rebuild what was destroyed. I will make it what it used to be.” (Amos 9:11)

God still loved His people—He always had. He just didn't like the things that they were doing. It separated them from Him.

God said, “a new day was coming,” and He would “bless them with great success again.” God said they would be able to rebuild. They would be able to plant. They would drink the wine they had produced. God said they would come back to Israel. (Amos 9:13-15 NIRV) After the people were punished, God restored them.

Review

1. **Who was Amos?** (Amos was a shepherd.)
2. **What did Amos do?** (Amos told the people they were doing wrong.)
3. **What did the people do?** (The people refused to turn from their sins.)
4. **What did God do?** (God said He would punish them, and then He would restore them.)

Do You Know Jesus?

God helped us so that we could be with Him. He knew that we would do wrong things just like these people. So, He made a plan. He sent Jesus to take our punishment for us! (Romans 5:8) We must trust Jesus with our lives. We must ask Him to forgive us of all our bad things and ask Him to come into our lives. (John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10) Jesus comes into our hearts forever—He will never leave. If you would like to know more about inviting Jesus into your heart, talk to your teacher.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to take our punishment.
3. Ask God to help you turn from your sin.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to turn from their sins.

Application

Because of their sin, God sent Amos to tell Israel that He would punish them. The people of Israel did not care about the bad news they received. God showed Amos a plumb line to show how Israel had sinned against Him. God punished Israel. But then God promised to forgive and to restore Israel. God is merciful and full of grace. If we repent and turn from our sins, God will forgive us. (Acts 2:38)

Planning for Next Week

Pride Causes Problems — Obadiah 1

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Amos 9:1-15 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Sing, "God is so good."

God had a messenger whose name was Amos. He was a shepherd. That means that he took care of sheep.

One day while Amos was taking care of sheep, God told him to give a message to the people. He told Amos that he had a very important message to tell them.

The people had stopped listening to God. They had lots of things and would not share with others. They cared only for themselves. This made God very sad.

He told the people that they would have to pay for the wrongs that they had done. They would be punished for not obeying God.

The people listened to Amos but they did not change!! They kept on doing wrong.

God was so sad to see how the people didn't care or listen.

Finally, after Amos kept talking to the people, they saw how their mistakes hurt God. They were sad at how they displeased God.

Amos told the people that God still loved them and He always had. Amos explained that God had always loved them but did not like their behavior.

After the people were punished, God helped them. The people were close friends with God again and listened to Him.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to take our punishment.
3. Ask God to help you turn from your sin.

Memory verse for younger children

Turn away from your sins. Acts 2:38

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Make sheep using construction paper and cotton balls. Write the verse on the paper plate.
- **Test your memory** — Bring toy sheep and a shepherd. Use these as you tell the story.
- **Taste activity** — Bring figs or cookies with figs in them.
- **Think about it** — Amos had to give the people bad news, but the people did not care. Talk about the importance of sharing God’s love even when people don’t care.

God promised to forgive and restore Israel. Talk about God’s forgiveness, mercy, and grace.

- **Touch activity** — Bring coloring pictures of fig trees. Bring figs for the children to taste.

God promised to forgive and restore Israel. Make stained glass windows. Check the internet for ideas.

- **Run and play** — Play “What Time is It Mr. Wolf.”

Play “Hide and Seek.”

Bring crates and ask the children to form a sycamore fig tree. The ones at the bottom may kneel. The next group will stand and lean in to form the trunk of the tree. The third group will stand on the crates with outstretched arms to form tree limbs. Make branches, leaves, and figs out of construction paper for everyone to hold. If possible, take a picture.

- **Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to turn from our sins.
- **Sing** — Sing, “God is so good.” “All We Like Sheep,” 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 handout with the Bible verse to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

All of you must
turn away
from your sins
and be baptized
in the name
of Jesus Christ.
Then your sins
will be forgiven.
Acts 2:38

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God

promised

to forgive

and restore

Israel

Word Search

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

AMOS

SYCAMORE

FIG

SHEPHERD

BAD NEWS

TURN

SINS

CHANGE

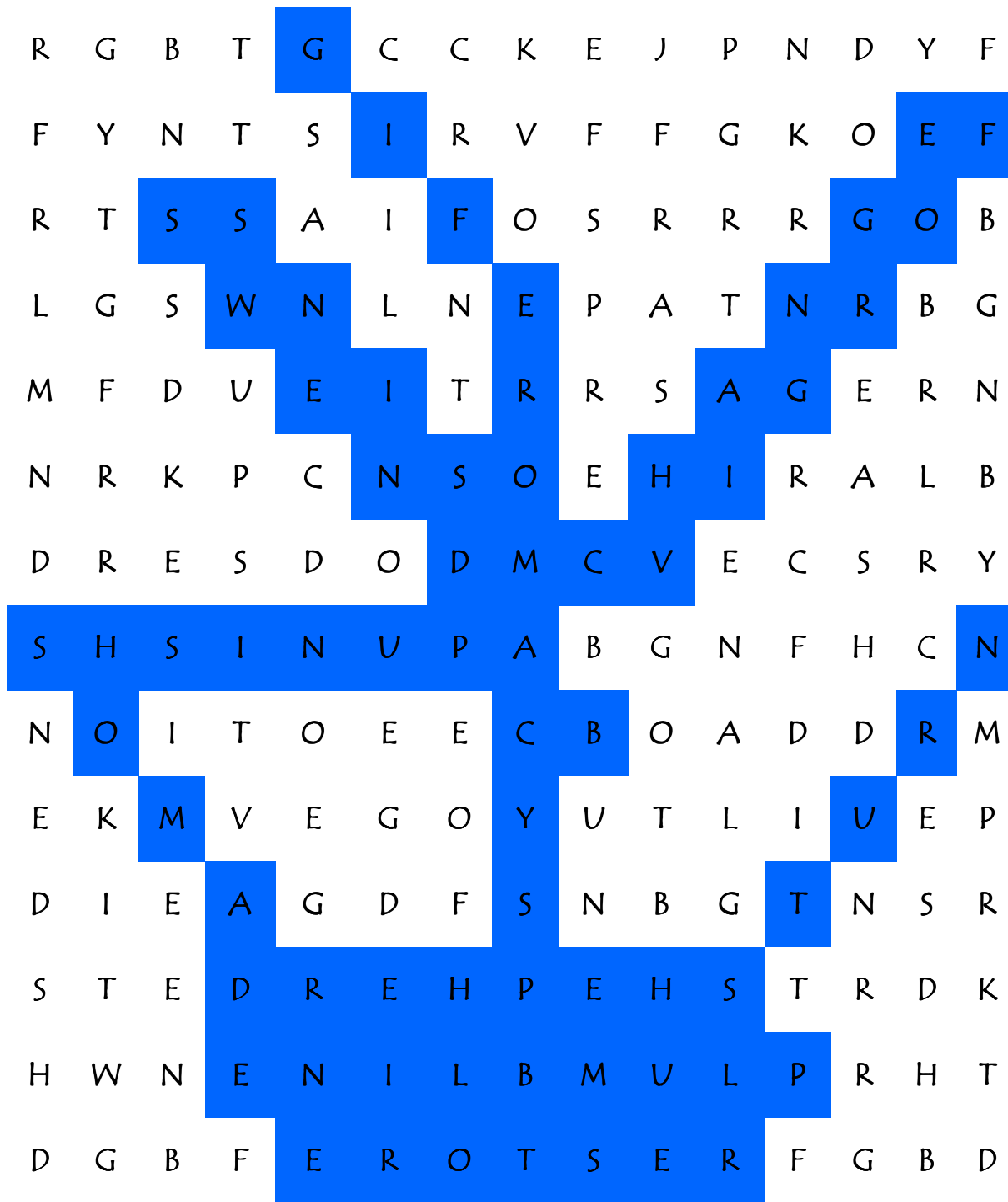
PLUMB LINE

PUNISH

FORGIVE

RESTORE

Word Search



AMOS

SYCAMORE

FIG

SHEPHERD

BAD NEWS

TURN

SINS

CHANGE

PLUMB LINE

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RESTORE

Word Search

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

AMOS

SHEPHERD

FIG

PROMISE

FORGIVE

RESTORE

Word Search

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

AMOS

SHEPHERD

FIG

PROMISE

FORGIVE

RESTORE

Anagram

LAL

NUTR

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DPTEIABZ

AEMN

EUSSJ

STRHIC

GEIORFNV

TACS

Anagram

ALL

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SIN

BAPTIZED

NAME

JESUS

CHRIST

FORGIVEN

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