

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

Zechariah

Zechariah 12-13

Memory Verse

But now at last it has been told. The eternal God commanded his prophets to write about the Good News, so that all nations would obey and have faith.
(Romans 16:26 CEV)

Goals

1. Understand that God sent Zechariah to speak to Israel.
2. Recognize that Israel was disobedient to God.
3. Learn that God wanted Israel to return to Him.
4. Understand that God promised to send Jesus.

Last week we learned that God sent Haggai to speak to Israel. Israel was supposed to be rebuilding God's temple, but the people of Israel did not have their priorities straight. The people did not put God first. Haggai was to help Israel see that they were wrong in not putting God first. When the people heard Haggai's message, they listened and obeyed. God promised to be with them. He would be with them.

Read the Bible

READ: Zechariah 1:3-4, 12:6; 13:9 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin With Prayer

This week's lesson is on the book of Zechariah. Zechariah was a priest and a prophet. Remember a prophet is someone who tells the people what God says. Haggai and Zechariah worked together. Do you remember who Haggai was from last week's lesson? Do you remember what he told the people to do? (rebuild God's church) (Haggai 1)

God gave Zechariah messages to share with the people. Zechariah encouraged the people to keep working. Zechariah's name means "God remembers."

Zechariah was to tell the people of Israel that they should not be disobedient like their ancestors. God is merciful. God calls them to return to Him. "Return to Me. Then I will return to you." (Zechariah 1:3-4; 7:13) Zechariah told them that God sent messengers to their ancestors to tell them to stop doing evil but they did not listen. When God warned them they did not listen. God was once again calling Israel to obey. He warned Israel that He would punish their disobedience.

But then God said that He would be merciful. "City of Zion, be full of joy! People of Jerusalem, shout! See, your King comes to you. He always does what is right. He has the power to save. He is gentle and riding on a donkey. He is sitting on a donkey's colt." (Zechariah 9:9 NIV)

Zechariah encouraged the people to do their best and be ready for the time when Jesus would come. He shared that God remembered them and there was hope because Jesus was coming!

Zechariah — Bible Facts

1. Zechariah was a prophet of God.
2. Zechariah told Israel to return to God.
3. God told the people to return to Him. God said He would be merciful.
4. Zechariah told Israel many things about Jesus.

God continued to demonstrate His love and mercy to His chosen people. He says, ““I will make the family of Judah strong. I will save the people of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have tender love for them. It will be as if I had not sent them away. I am the Lord their God. I will help them.” (Zechariah 12:6 NIV)

God said He would purify His people. “I will make them as pure as silver. I will test them like gold. They will call out to me. And I will answer them. I will say, 'They are my people.' And they will say, 'The Lord is our God.'” (Zechariah 13:9 NIV)

Zechariah told us many things about Jesus’ life—before it actually happened! Listen to what Zechariah told us about Jesus:

He shared that Jesus would be a servant in 3:8. (See the result in Philippians 2:7)

He told us that Jesus would ride on a donkey in 9:9. (Jesus does in Luke 19:35)

He explained that Jesus is the good shepherd in 9:16 (Jesus says this in John 10:11)

He revealed that Jesus would be sold for 30 silver coins in 11:12-13 (It happens in Matthew 27:3)

He showed that Jesus’ hands would be pierced in 12:10 (Read about it in Luke 23:32)

He shared that Jesus would save the people in 12:10 (Look it up in John 3:16)

Can you believe that all of these promises came true? They were told 400 years before they actually happened!

Review

1. **Who was Zechariah?** (Zechariah was a prophet of God.)
2. **What did Zechariah tell Israel?** (Zechariah told Israel to return to God.)
3. **What did God say?** (God told the people to return to Him. God said He would be merciful.)
4. **What else did Zechariah tell Israel?** (Zechariah told Israel many things about Jesus.)

Do You Know Jesus?

God told us Jesus would come. He did! God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Jesus rose from the dead. (John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10) We can live with Him in heaven forever. We just have to invite Him to be a part of our lives. If you would like to know more, talk to your teacher.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.
3. Ask God to help you listen to Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to listen to God.

Application

Israel was disobedient to God. God sent Zechariah to speak to Israel. God wanted Israel to return to Him. He sent Zechariah to warn Israel. God reminded the Israelites that their ancestors had been disobedient. God promised to be merciful. God promised to send Jesus.

Planning for Next Week

Malachi — Malachi 3

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Zechariah 1:3-4, 12:6; 13:9 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Have a party to celebrate that Jesus came to earth. Use balloons and streamers to decorate.

Zechariah was to tell the people of Israel that they should not be disobedient like their ancestors. God is merciful. God calls them to return to Him. "Return to Me. Then I will return to you." Zechariah told them that God sent messengers to their ancestors to tell them to stop doing evil but they did not listen. When God warned them they did not listen. Again, God was calling Israel to obey. He warned Israel that He would punish them if they did not obey.

But then God said that He would be merciful. "City of Zion, be full of joy! People of Jerusalem, shout! See, your King comes to you. He always does what is right. He has the power to save. He is gentle and riding on a donkey. He is sitting on a donkey's colt."

Zechariah encouraged the people to do their best and be ready for the time when Jesus would come. He shared that God remembered them and there was a hope because Jesus was coming!

God continued to show His love and mercy to His chosen people. He says, "I will make the family of Judah strong. I will save the people of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have tender love for them. It will be as if I had not sent them away. I am the Lord their God. I will help them."

God said He would purify (make clean, take away the sin) His people. "I will make them as pure as silver. I will test them like gold. They will call out to me. And I will answer them. I will say, 'They are my people.' And they will say, 'The Lord is our God.'" God wanted Israel to love and obey Him. He wants us to love and obey Him. Ask God to help you love and obey Him.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.
3. Ask God to help you listen to Him.

Memory verse for younger children

He wanted all nations to believe and obey Him. Romans 16:26 (NIRV)

Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Color two sets of index cards. Tape one set of index cards to chairs. Put the other set of index cards in a box. Allow one child to draw a card from the box. The child whose color has been selected will try to say a word from the memory verse. Be sure to include the reference.

•**Test your memory** — As you tell the story create a grid with the promises of Jesus' coming and the fulfillment (in the lesson).

Promise	Fulfillment
Zechariah 3:8	Philippians 2:7
Zechariah 9:9	Luke 19:35
Zechariah 9:16	John 10:11
Zechariah 11:12-13	Matthew 27:3
Zechariah 12:10.	Luke 23:32
Zechariah 12:10	John 3:16

•**Taste activity** — Bring cupcakes for a snack.

•**Think about it** — God kept telling Israel to repent, to return, to stop sinning. He sends Zechariah to tell them again. Talk about how God is merciful.

Zechariah tells of Jesus' coming. Talk about God's love.

•**Touch activity** — Have a party to celebrate that Jesus came to earth. Use balloons and streamers to decorate.

Create a newspaper that tells the story of Jesus' coming. The newspaper should include stories based on Zechariah 3:8; 9:9, 16; 11:12-13; and 12:10.

Bring coloring pages of the Good Shepherd, Jesus washing the disciples' feet, Judas betraying Jesus, Jesus on the donkey, and Jesus on the cross. Make a booklet of Zechariah's prophecies.

•**Run and play** — Ask the children to recite one of the promises in Zechariah. You may help them. Once they have recited the promise, they may run a race against another child. You may have several pairs running at the same time if you have space.

Have the children line up facing each other to play Red Rover. Bring coloring pages with the letters in the words "Promise of God," and "Fulfillment." Write a promise of God on the back of each letter that says "Promise of God," and write the Scripture with the fulfillment on the letters that say, "Fulfillment." Allow one child to read a promise and another child will read the fulfillment. The child who read the fulfillment will decide who, on the opposing side, will try to break through. The next time a child who reads the promise will decide which member of his team will try to break through to the opposing team.

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

•**Sing** — Sing "Obedience," "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 to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

But now at last
it has been told.
The eternal God
commanded
His prophets
to write about
the Good News,
so that all nations
would obey
and have faith.
Romans 16:26

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God called

the people

to return

to Him

Word Search

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

ZECHARIAH

PROPHET

MESSAGE

RETURN

LISTEN

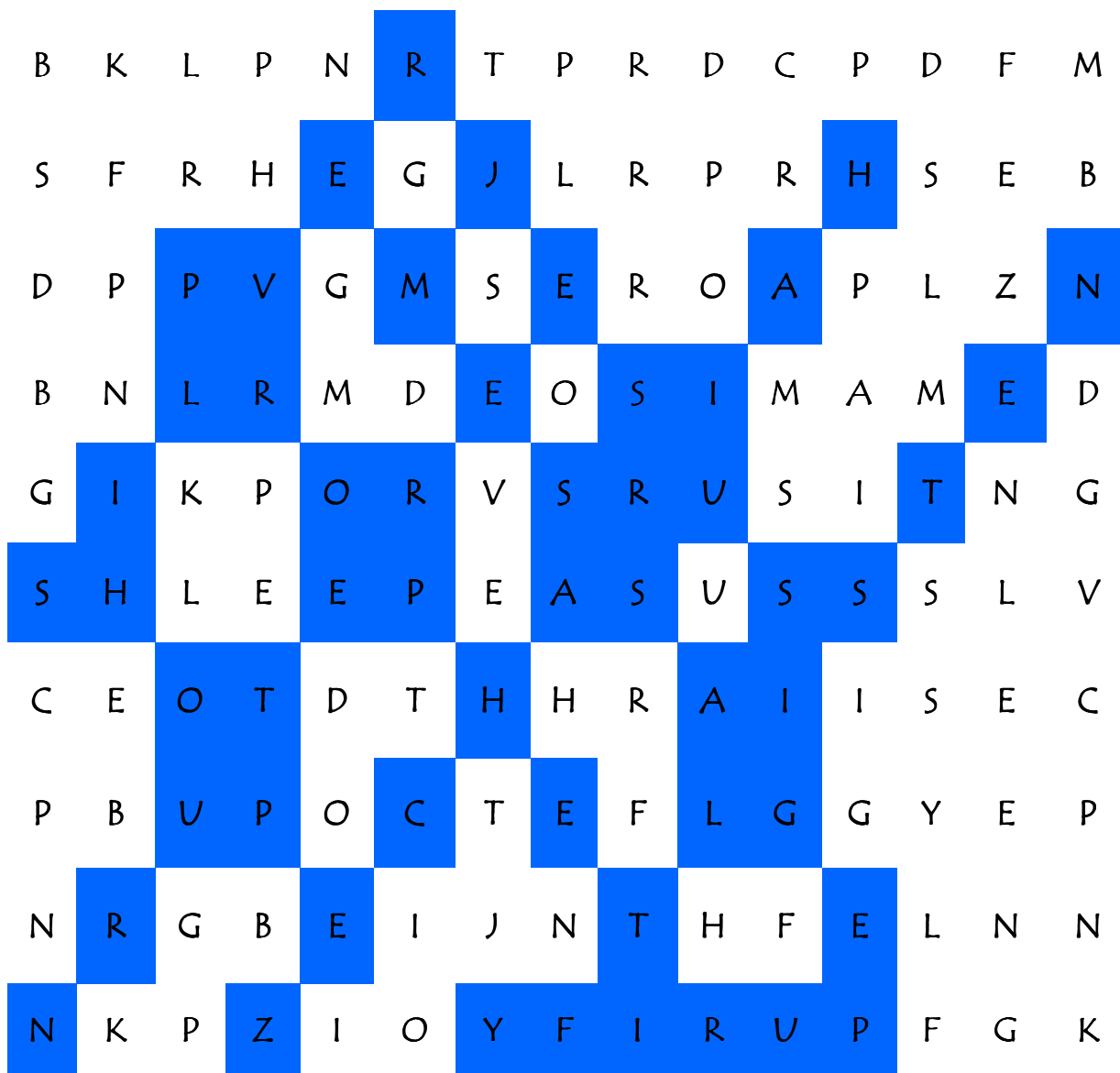
HOPE

JESUS

PURIFY

SILVER

Word Search



ZECHARIAH

PROPHET

MESSAGE

RETURN

LISTEN

HOPE

JESUS

PURIFY

SILVER

Word Search

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

ZECHARIAH

PROPHET

MESSAGE

RETURN

LISTEN

HOPE

Word Search

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

ZECHARIAH

PROPHET

MESSAGE

RETURN

LISTEN

HOPE

Anagram

ODG

MMDDONAEC

STPPHOER

TIERW

ODOG SEWN

NNSAOIT

YEOB

AITFH

NOASRM



Anagram

GOD

COMMANDED

PROPHETS

WRITE

GOOD NEWS

NATIONS

OBEY

FAITH

ROMANS