

**Unit 14 • Session 3**  
**October 12-13, 2019**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson**  
**Israel Taken Captive**

**BIBLE PASSAGE:**  
2 Kings 17

**STORY POINT:**  
Israel ignored God's prophets and was captured.

**KEY PASSAGE:**  
2 Peter 3:9

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**  
Why should we obey God? We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.

**Kid Connect**  
(10 minutes)

**Large Group**  
(30 minutes)

**Small Group**  
(20 minutes)

## **LEADER Bible Study**

God's people had a history of disobeying God. Sin separated them from God. But man was created to know and love God, and God was working out a plan to bring His children back to Himself. Like any good father, God knows that disobedience needs to be punished. "The LORD disciplines the one he loves, just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights" (Prov. 3:12).

After the tribes of Israel split into the Northern Kingdom and Southern Kingdom, God sent prophets to both kingdoms to warn the people to turn from their sins and obey God. Over the course of 200 years, the prophets Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Amos, and Hosea spoke to Israel and warned them of the consequences of their idolatry. They called for Israel to repent and turn back to God. But Israel did not listen.

God had been very patient with the Israelites. He had helped them in times of trouble and delayed their punishment because He is gracious and compassionate. (See 2 Kings 13:23.) But God knew His people would not love Him with all their hearts.

Finally, God had had enough. Evil King Hoshea ruled over Israel, and God allowed Israel's enemies to send the people into exile. The king of Assyria attacked Israel and laid siege to Samaria. Assyria captured Samaria and forced the people to leave the city. The Northern Kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the people were scattered, just as God had said it would be. (See 1 Kings 14:15.)

Israel's exile was God's judgment on their sin, but God was not finished working among His people. God was still working out His plan to keep His covenant promises. As you teach, point kids to Jesus, the answer to God's promises. We too disobey God, but Jesus took God's judgment for our sin upon Himself. Jesus changes our hearts, brings us into God's presence, and keeps us there.



# KID CONNECT

## Welcome time

**Intro Music**

Play intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group.

**SAY** • Prompt kids to think of a time they faced consequences for their actions. Were they sorry for their actions or just sorry they got caught? How can consequences be helpful?

## Session starter (before Large Group)

### Optional: Red light, green light

Play a game of “Red Light, Green Light” using the traditional rules of moving on green and stopping on red. You may add in additional colors of light with different instructions attached to each, such as yellow lights for slow motion movement, blue lights for hopping, purple lights for moving backwards, or pink lights for dancing.

**SAY** • In that game, a red light meant you had to stop immediately, or risk being sent away from the goal. In our story, we will learn about a time God’s people did not obey even though God repeatedly warned them to.

## Transition to Large Group

# LARGE GROUP

## Countdown

**VIDEO: Countdown**

Show the countdown video as you transition to Large Group. Set it to end as the session begins.

## Large Group game

Bucket, rubber fish, pole net

**SFX: Game Intro Music**

**SFX: Fish Music**

## Fresh Catch

Select 2 teams (2 boys and 2 girls) to play. Ask the audience to make room in the middle. Choose 1 team to go first and have the other team stand to the side and watch. Make 1 kid the “thrower”, give them a bucket of rubber fish and have them stand ON the stage. Make the other kid the “catcher”, give them a pole net and have them stand OFF the stage. When you say go, the thrower has to throw a fish (underhanded) to their teammate who tries to catch it in the net. If they do, they get a point. They will have 30 seconds to get as many points as possible. If the bucket runs out, have their Small Group Leader run the fish back up to the thrower on the stage to keep trying. Then have the other team go. Whoever ends with the most points wins!



## Worship

[VIDEO: Wavewalker](#)  
[VIDEO: God is For Us](#)

Leader • Hi guys! Let's stand and worship!

## Introduce the session (3 minutes)

leader attire

[CG: Theme Background](#)

*[Leader enters wearing a rain poncho.]*

Leader • Welcome back to the docks, kids! I'm glad you could make it again. I set out tomorrow on a long fishing expedition, and I won't be back for weeks. That means this is our last chance to hang out and talk about the Bible together.

This week I was thinking about the way we catch fish. We drop huge nets into the water. Sometimes we drag them along, but for the most part, we just leave them there and wait for fish to swim into them. You might think a fish could learn to avoid nets, but the fish who get caught never get a do-over.

In a way, that reminds me of our Bible story. God's people had run right into the tangling net of sin. They worshiped false gods and repeatedly ignored the one true God's warnings. Eventually, the net closed around them, and they were caught. As you can imagine, it wasn't a fishing boat captain who caught them, but a brutal enemy nation. I'll tell you all about it.

## Big picture question (1 minute)

[CG: Big Picture Question](#)

Leader • As we hear today's Bible story, keep our big picture question in mind: *Why should we obey God?* Do you remember the answer? *[Allow kids to respond.] Why should we obey God? We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.*

## Giant timeline (1 minute)

[CG: Giant Timeline](#)

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

Leader • Our story today is a great example of God's best being very different from what people think is easiest. From the story of Jonah, we learned that **God loves all people and showed mercy to the Ninevites**. From Hosea's life we learned **God is faithful to His people even when they do not love Him**. This week we will see what happened when God's people still would not obey God. It's a sad story, but even in the sadness there is hope.

## Watch the Bible story

Bible

Show the Bible story video "Israel Taken Captive."

[VIDEO: Israel Taken Captive](#)

[CG: Bible Story Picture](#)

[CG: Story Point](#)

Leader • **Israel ignored God's prophets and was captured.** The Israelites were supposed to be different from other nations. God had saved them from Egypt and told them how to be holy like He is holy. The Israelites were supposed to love and follow God. They weren't supposed to worship idols. But that is exactly what the Northern Kingdom did.



The people made idols to worship, worshiped idols of all kinds, and followed the customs of the nations around them. God sent prophets to warn the people, but the people further refused to follow God.

This pattern happened over and over again. Like any good father, God knows that disobedience needs to be disciplined. [See *Prov. 3:12*.] Finally, the Northern Kingdom paid the price of their sin. God allowed them to be defeated by Assyria.

The Assyrians were known for being very mean. To keep the people they defeated from trying to fight again, they divided them up and scattered them, sending them to live in new places far away from their homes.

## Christ connection

Leader • When the Israelites disobeyed God again and again, God punished them by removing them from His presence. We disobey God, but Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself. Jesus brings us into God's presence and keeps us there. Because of Jesus, we can be close to God. We can know and love Him.

**Note:** You may use this opportunity to use Scripture and the guide provided to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.

## Key passage

Bible

**CG: Key Passage**

Show the key passage slide. Lead the kids to read together 2 Peter 3:9.

Leader • The Bible teaches us that God's view of time is very different from our view of time. It sometimes feels like God is taking forever to send Jesus back and fix all the brokenness of the world. Our key passage teaches us that what feels like slowness is really just God's being patient with us and giving more time for more people to believe in what Jesus did. We can use that time to share Jesus with others.

## Pray and dismiss to small groups

### Halloween Costume Announcement!

Leader • Before we head to small groups, I want to let everyone know that KidCity wants you to wear your Halloween costume to church on the weekend of October 26-27. It's going to be a lot fun! Please remember a few things: No masks or weapons, nothing scary, and please keep it kid friendly!



## SMALL GROUP

**Bible Passage:** 2 Kings 17

**Story Point:** Israel ignored God's prophets and was captured.

**Key Passage:** 2 Peter 3:9

### Key passage activity (5 minutes)

Key Passage Posters, scissors, paper bags

Before the session, make copies of the key passage poster. Cut each poster into several strips to make a puzzle. Keep each set in a separate bag. Then distribute the poster puzzle for kids to assemble. When a group finishes, help them read the key passage together.

**SAY** • God is so patient. We see in today's Bible story that instead of immediately punishing the disobedience of Israel, He sent prophets to warn them to turn back to God. But **Israel ignored God's prophets and was captured**. This story teaches us that God desires for everyone to know and love Him!

### Mini calendar

"Daily Calendar" printable & 1-Inch binder rings (1 per kid), scissors, hole punches, markers per group

Give each kid a daily calendar page. Instruct kids to cut apart the squares for each day of the month, arrange them in order, punch a hole in the corner of each card, and use a binder ring to keep them together. Kids may write in or draw icons for upcoming events or activities in the next month.

Challenge kids to find and read each Bible reference on its assigned day for the next month. Kids may remove the previous day from the ring each morning, or they can move it to the back and reuse the calendar each month.

**Option:** Review the gospel with kids. Explain that kids are welcome to speak with you or another leader if they have questions.

**SAY** • In today's Bible story, the time came for the Northern Kingdom to face the consequences of their sin.

Every day we have the choice of whether or not to follow God. When you update your calendar each morning, pray for God to help you follow Him during the day. Thank Him for Jesus, who brings us into God's family forever. *Ask kids how they can try to follow God this week.*

### Journal and prayer

pencils, Journal Page, "Captivity Quiz" activity page, 1 per kid

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page:

What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?

What does the story teach me about myself?

Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?

How does this story help me to live on mission better?

As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas. Then pray, confessing that like the people of Israel, we often choose to disobey. Thank God for loving us so much that instead of sending us away, He sent His Son into the world to bring us back to Him.

### Connect with parents/influencers

Send home the activity page for families to interact with during the week.

