

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: II CHRONICLES 36:15-20

The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

JERUSALEM FALLS

Supplies:

- large cardboard building blocks or cardboard boxes decorated to represent the wall of Jerusalem
- a statue or something to act as an idol
- weapons (cardboard knives and swords would be fine) for the Babylonians

Divide the class into three groups. One group is the people of Judah, another the Babylonians (note some translations call them the Chaldeans), and the third group is the angels of the Lord and the prophets.

On one side of the wall have the Babylonians with the cardboard knives and swords. On the other side of the wall give the idol to the people of Jerusalem. Have some angels stand guard holding back the Babylonians. Have two of the prophet group act as Jeremiah and Ezekiel (holding the idol high above their heads) warning Jerusalem to stop their idol worship.

Have the people of Jerusalem put down the idol but pick it back up three times. Then read 2 Chronicles 36:15-20.

When you get to verse 16, where it says there was no remedy, have all the angels and prophets step away and allow the Babylonians to knock down the walls and capture the people of Israel.

After the skit is complete ask the children to tell you in their own words what happened. Correct any mistakes and make sure they understand that “no remedy” means; no matter how God tried to warn the people they did not obey.

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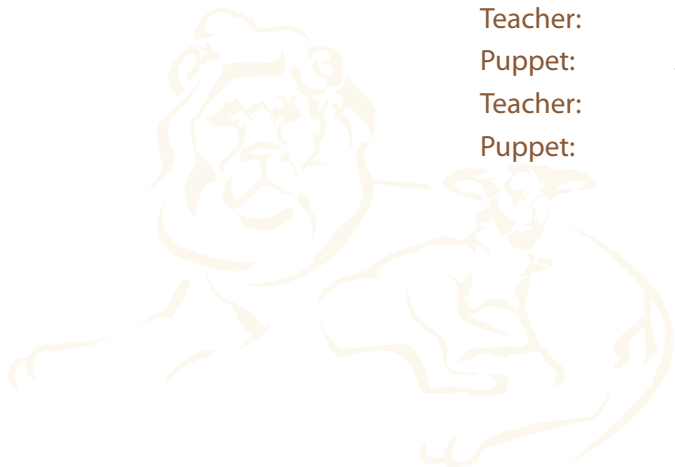
SICK WITH SIN

Supplies:

- a puppet
- toy medical kit with shot, medicine bottle, bandage

The object of this puppet skit is to communicate what “no remedy” means and demonstrate how God tried everything to save Jerusalem but the people would not comply, see 2 Chronicles 36:16.

Puppet: Oh, I have a headache.
 Teacher: Is it bad?
 Puppet: Oh, (moaning) it's terrible.
 Teacher: Let me try to help. My mom has an old headache remedy. She said close your eyes while someone rubs your head. (Teacher rubs puppet's head.)
 Puppet: Ouch, that made it worse . . . oh, my head.
 Teacher: Here puppet, try some pain reliever, maybe that will be a good remedy for your pain.
 Puppet: (Takes the pills.) Oh, now I feel sick to my stomach too!
 Teacher: Maybe if I rub your shoulders? (The teacher tries but the puppet just moans.)
 Puppet: Something has to work.
 Teacher: This is the last resort.
 Puppet: What is the last resort? Oh, my head.
 Teacher: You won't want to try it.
 Puppet: Oh, my head. I'll try anything.
 Teacher: Well, the last time you had one of your headaches the doctor told me that if no other remedy could be found I would just have to give you a needle. (Teacher holds up the needle.)
 Puppet: The last time I got a shot, it gave me a headache. Oh, my head!
 Teacher: The doctor said this is the only remedy that will work.
 Puppet: Oh, okay. But make it quick.
 Teacher: (Gives puppet the shot and throws the needle in a trash can.)
 Puppet: Just tell me when you're going to do it.
 Teacher: It's done! How do you feel?
 Puppet: I feel . . . Why, my headache is gone!



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Read 2 Chronicles 36:15-17 and ask the children the following questions:

- What did God use to try to cure the people of Judah of their idolatry? (God sent them many prophets to tell them to stop.)
- What did they say to the prophets? (They mocked and made fun of the prophets.)
- What did God finally use when there was no remedy left to remove the idol worship from Jerusalem? (God sent the Babylonians to attack and destroy the city.)

Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

God sent His prophet Jeremiah to warn the kings of Judah. The kings did not listen to Jeremiah and in the end God had no remedy, see 2 Chronicles 36:16. Jerusalem was ransacked and the people were taken into captivity.

God however, was not finished speaking through Jeremiah. There would be another king from the line of David. This king would be a Righteous branch and He would be called The Lord Our Righteousness, see Jeremiah 23:5-6. Jesus is that King!

