

# THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: II CHRONICLES 36:15-20



## The STORY

Read 2 Chronicles 36:15-20 from the NIV Bible.

***Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What were the people of Jerusalem doing wrong? (They were worshipping other gods.)
- Who did God send to warn them? (God sent prophets like Jeremiah to warn them to turn back to God.)
- Did the people listen? (No. The people would not listen to God's prophets so God used the Babylonians to destroy the temple and bring an end to the idol worship there. God would rather have no temple than have His people worshipping other gods in a temple made for Him.)

## CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Jerusalem's walls broken down and Jerusalem on fire. Engage the children by asking:**

- Why is the city burning? (The Babylonians attacked the city, wrecked it, and burned it.)
- Did God warn His people to stop their idol worship? (Yes, but they didn't listen.)
- Would the temple ever get built again? (Yes, after 70 years the temple was rebuilt and the walls of Jerusalem restored.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack engage the children by asking:

- Why was the temple so important? (The temple was where God's presence lived and it was where all the sacrifices for sin were made.)
- Do we have a temple today? (We don't have a man made building anymore, but God lives in the hearts of His people.)
- Why don't we need a building any more? (Jesus died on the cross so that we would never have to sacrifice animals again. Now God can be with everyone who trusts in Him, not just in a building.)

### 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!

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

#### BE A DOER OF THE WORD

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*

