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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're learning about another famous prophet named Jeremiah. God spoke to Jeremiah and told him that he chose Jeremiah even before he was born to be a great prophet! And, like every prophet, God gave messages to Jeremiah who then shared it with the people. In Jeremiah's day, the people were once again rebelling. Even though they promised to follow God, they started worshiping false gods. Jeremiah warned them to keep their promise to God or else they would be punished. The people ignored Jeremiah's warnings and another nation eventually came and forced them from their land. But, like so many other times, God chose to be gracious and forgiving. God still had a plan and a promise to bless his people. And God kept his promise. Eventually, the Israelites were allowed to return to their land again. Kids, we see this pattern time and again in the story of the prophets. The people ignored God and did things their own way, God punished the people for their disobedience, and then he would forgive and bless them. You know why? Because God always keeps his promises!

Big Idea

God keeps his promises, even when people don't

Key Question

Why does God keep his promises?

Memory Verse

Jeremiah 29:13 "If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me."

Classroom Agenda

- 1. (5 min) Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.
- 2. (5 min) WARM UP: Share the last time you felt sad about something. (Tip: Maybe your best friend moved away or your sibling broke your favorite toy. God gets sad when we disobey but he's always willing to forgive.)
- 3. (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- 4. (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
- 5. (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
- 6. (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question. (Answer: Because he's perfect and he loves us! (God is perfect. He never makes mistakes, he doesn't forget things and he doesn't give up on us! So, God always keeps his promises. And, God loves us and wants relationship with us. That's why he sent Jesus-to fix our sin problem so we could be in relationship with him forever!)
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why does God keep his promises? How did God prove his love for us? **4-5th** Have you broken a promise you've made? Why is it important to keep your promises?
- 7. (5 min) EXPLORE: Read <u>John 8:12</u>. Who is our light? Why should we follow Jesus?

 (Answer: Jesus is our light! He came to set us free from sin and darkness. When we put our trust in Jesus, he shows us the right way to go and his path leads us all to heaven some day! When we stay on his path, we stay out of trouble and danger. If we step off his path, we invite trouble into our lives.)
- 8. (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES RELAY

Instructions:

- Before playing, tape 4 lines on the floor. Two at one end of the room and two directly across on the other side of the room. Divide the class into two teams and have them line up behind the two lines at one end.
- Give each team a set of the following items: Robe, hat, slippers, sunglasses.
- When you say, "Go!", have the teams race to get the items on the first kid in line, then that kid has to run to touch the other line and back. Then, the next kid in line gets help putting on the items. Continue until all the kids have had a turn. First team to do it, wins.
- After playing, read Jeremiah 1:1-8. Remind the kids that Jeremiah was called by God to be his prophet. Jeremiah warned the people to stop breaking their promise to God by worshiping false gods. Even though the people ignored Jeremiah, God was still gracious and kept his promise to free his people.

Supplies needed: Tape, 2 sets of the following (Robe, hat, slippers, sunglasses)

OPTION 2: JEREMIAH DOOR HANGER

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Door hanger template (page 5). Have them color their hanger and creatively write the list below onto their hanger.
 - Title "Jeremiah" at the top
 - Big Idea in the middle
 - Memory verse at the bottom
- As they work, read Jeremiah 1:1-8. Remind the kids that Jeremiah was called by God to be his prophet. Jeremiah warned the people to stop breaking their promise to God by worshiping false gods. Even though the people ignored Jeremiah, God was still gracious and kept his promise to free his people.

Supplies needed: Door hanger template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 per kid), Crayons, Markers

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Sometimes people break their promises, but God never will!

Key Points:

•	Jeremiah was a prophet who warned people not to break their
•	The people broke their promises and ended up
	for it.
•	Even though the Israelites messed up, God had
	for them.
•	God keeps his, even when people don't.

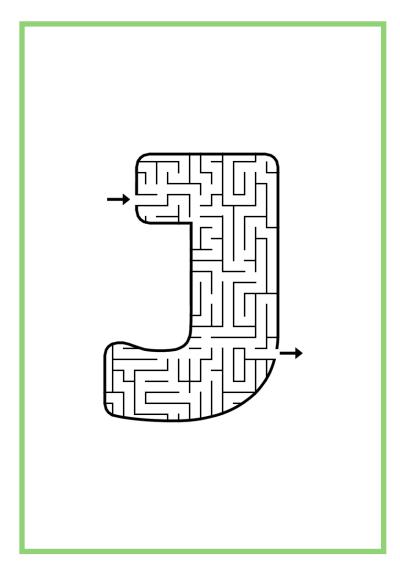
Memory Verse:

Jeremiah 29:13 If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.

Talk About It

- 1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
- 2. How do you feel when someone promises you something but then doesn't follow through?
- 3. Who was Jeremiah? What was his warning to the Israelites?
- 4. How does God respond to us when we break our promises to him?
- 5. Read John 8:12. Who is our light? Why should we follow Jesus?
- 6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzle and color the picture.



Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Jeremiah 29:___ "If you _____ for me wholeheartedly, ____ will find ____."

LIST YOUR 5 FAVORITE DINNERS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

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