



Unit 11, Lesson 41

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

2 CHRONICLES
36:11-21;
2 KINGS
25:1-21

THE STORY @ HOME

King Zedekiah disobeyed God and refused to listen to God's prophet, Jeremiah, so God allowed King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian people to conquer Judah. They broke through the wall of Jerusalem, destroyed the Temple of the Lord, and the palace that Solomon and David had built. The strongest people were taken as slaves to Babylon. The weakest ones were left in Judah, but when the new governor was killed, everyone left in Judah escaped to Egypt. This exile lasted for 70 years, just as God told them it would.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- Why do you think King Zedekiah and the Israelite people refused to listen to God and God's messengers?
- What were the consequences for not obeying God?
- How do you think God felt when God watched His people being taken into slavery and God's Temple being destroyed? Why?
- What do you think will happen after 70 years in exile?

TOGETHER @ HOME

Being a slave isn't fun at all. Experience this to a small degree by taking turns being each other's slaves for a set amount of time by setting a timer. Give the "ruler" permission to (safely) boss the slave(s) around for the set amount of time. Then, switch roles. Talk about the difference between the roles. Then, talk about how different it would be if that was how you were forced to live in real life.

BIBLE MEMORY @ HOME

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." (1 Corinthians 16:13)

Draw a picture of the image that comes to mind when you hear this verse. Then, write the verse somewhere on the picture. Hang the pictures on the fridge or in another prominent place.

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OT Unit 11, Lesson 41, Take-home