

Unit 7 at a Glance

Divided Kingdom

Unit Overview

The students continue their Old Testament survey as they watch Israel divide into two kingdoms. By examining the fall of God's people, the students will see the dramatic and painful effects of selfishness and pride. Nevertheless, God's light shines brightest in darkness, and Elijah is a shining star for God as he takes a stand against the false prophets and trains Elisha to carry on God's message to his people. The unit concludes with the inspiring story of Josiah, the child king, who led the people to radical repentance and helped to restore God's laws.

Unit Goals

- The students will understand the importance of pleasing God.
- The students will understand that sin has serious and damaging consequences.
- The students will learn that they can take a stand for God at any age.

Unit Contents

Lesson 1 The Kingdom Divides

Scripture Memory Verse Psalm 119:112

My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

Rehoboam's selfish decision to rule Israel harshly leads to the painful division of this nation. The students will consider the consequences of this king's sin as they think of reasons why they should follow godly advice.

Lesson 2 The Northern Kingdom 1

Scripture Memory Verse 2 Timothy 3:12

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

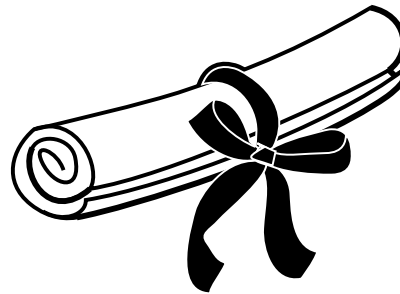
Elijah gets up on Mount Carmel as he takes a dramatic and compelling stand for God. Against overwhelming odds, Elijah remains confident and God makes him victorious. The students will consider how they, too, can take a stand for God.

Lesson 3 The Northern Kingdom 2

Scripture Memory Verse Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy.

"Joined at the soul" describes the relationship between Elisha and Elijah. Elisha's determination and devotion to his master is both compelling and inspiring. The students will consider how Elisha pleased God as they choose one godly person they will imitate.



Lesson 4 The Southern Kingdom

Scripture Memory Verse 1 Timothy 4:12

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

God's faithfulness to his people is loud and clear as he raises up godly leaders for the ungodly people of Judah. The students will see how one disobedient king can be followed by a godly king who will not be shaken. The students will consider Josiah's devotion to God and his leadership qualities as they determine ways that they can be godly leaders today.



3rd and 4th Grades

Dear Parent,

The students continue their Old Testament survey as they watch Israel divide into two kingdoms. By examining the fall of God's people, the students will see the dramatic and painful effects of selfishness and pride. Nevertheless, God's light shines brightest in darkness, and Elijah is a shining star for God as he takes a stand against the false prophets and trains Elisha to carry on God's message to his people. The unit concludes with the inspiring story of Josiah, the child king, who led the people to radical repentance and helped to restore God's laws.

On the reverse side of this page, you will find an outline and a description of the lessons that comprise this unit. Included with each lesson is a Scripture Memory Verse for you to review with your child at home.

Your active involvement outside the classroom is essential and will truly make the Kingdom Kids Curriculum a great success for your child. Here are some suggested ways you can reinforce these lessons at home:

- Have a devotional on pleasing God versus pleasing men. Talk about the consequences of both types of actions, and then examine the ultimate rewards of pleasing God as described by Jesus in Matthew 6.
- Create a podium or "soap box" or simply designate a special area in your home for preaching. Have a "Take a Stand for God Night" when your family members can express their own convictions about God and the Bible.
- Talk to your child about peer pressure. Let them share with you the ways that they feel pressured. Listen carefully to their concerns, and then share ways that you have overcome. Have a night devoted to prayer asking God for courage and conviction about each specific concern your child expressed. Get advice about new issues that arise, and let them see that your faith in God is bigger than their fears.
- Be a Bible Class volunteer! Offer to help gather or prepare craft materials, get books from the library, bring in snacks or meet some other class need. Pray for your child's teachers and encourage them with the ways you see your child learning and changing for God.

We look forward to being partners with you to help your child grow to know and love God more.

Thank you,

Your child's teachers