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Dear Parents,

I feel really blessed to have the opportunity to work with your child this quarter. We will explore God's Word together through these fourteen lessons. My prayer is that your child will learn a lot and that the learning will result in his or her having a closer relationship with God.

The study this quarter focuses on justice.

Unit I, "God Requires Justice," is a five-lesson study from four of the minor prophets. The prophets communicated God's call for repentance and justice in the conduct of human affairs. Amos and Habakkuk convey that the laws of God require justice for the poor and the oppressed. In lesson 3 (for children), Psalm 37 is used to emphasize the reward for those who practice justice. The last two lessons from the books of Micah and Malachi are a study of the responsibilities of leaders for practicing justice.

Unit II, "God's Just Kingdom," is a four-lesson continuation of God's justice. The lessons for Palm Sunday and Easter examine the promised Messiah as the defender of justice. In lesson 8, Esther's triumph is reviewed as demonstrating the prevailing of God's justice. The unit concludes with the narrative from Solomon as an example of God's justice.

Unit III, "Called to God's Work of Justice," has five lessons that explore ways that people are called to demonstrate justice. Zephaniah presents both a judgment against the wickedness and injustice of Jerusalem and a vision of restoration. Zechariah calls for a return to God's ways of justice. In the book of Jeremiah, God's rigorous standards for justice are defined and God's people are given a choice either to execute justice or to face destruction. Hosea uses early history to call the people to love and justice.

You can have a discussion with your child about giving his or her life to God with help from the ABCs of Salvation, listed below.

A. Say, “Admit you have sinned (see Psalm 32:5), or done wrong.” Go through just a few of the Ten Commandments—stealing or lying and so forth. Tell how our sins separate us from God (see Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 3:23).

B. Say, “Believe Jesus is God’s Son. He took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross (see Romans 5:8). We must believe that Jesus is God’s Son and that God raised Him from the dead.”

C. Say, “Call on God to forgive you (see Acts 2:21). When we are sorry for our sins and want to stop doing wrong, we can ask God to forgive us (see Acts 16:31).”

I look forward to helping your child understand what it means to have faith in Jesus Christ. Thank you for the opportunity to help shape your child's spiritual life.

__________________________________
Your Child’s Teacher
Empty Treasures

It will be terrible for anyone who is looking forward to the coming of God’s Day of Judgment. Amos asked why anyone would want that day to come. God’s Day of Judgment will bring darkness for the people, not light. That time will be as bad as when a man who is running for his life from a lion runs into a bear. It will be bad like a man going into his house and putting his hand on the wall and getting bitten by a snake. Amos again said that God’s Day of Judgment will bring darkness to the people, not light. It will be a time of sadness, not a time of joy.

God told the people that He hates their feasts and their religious meetings. He saw them as bad. The people offered burnt offerings and grain offerings to God—but He would not accept them. When they brought the best fellowship offerings, God would ignore them. God wanted them to stop making music. He would not listen to their music.

Amos told the people to let justice and righteousness flow like a river. In other words, they were to show never-ending fairness and goodness.

Key Verse: “Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps.” (Amos 5:23)
Victory in Fairness

“Give that back!” Jacey shouted, reaching for her tablet. Her older brother, Morgan, had stolen it from her to play his game. He was in trouble for not making good grades, so his tablet was taken away.

“I’ve got to beat this level,” Morgan said, keeping it high above Jacey’s head so she could not reach it.

“That’s not fair!” Jacey cried. “It’s mine. You got in trouble, so you can’t use yours.”

Morgan straightened up and puffed out his chest. He looked bigger than ever as he stood over Jacey, with a mean look on his face. Even though she knew he was not right, Jacey did not want to make Morgan any angrier. She was afraid of what he might do if she told.

But he had stolen her tablet to play his game! He should not get away with that. Jacey walked away and Morgan continued to play her tablet. But when their parents arrived home for dinner, they saw that Morgan was not doing what he was told and Jacey was upset.

“Morgan, why do you have a tablet in your hands?” his mother asked. Morgan knew he was in trouble.

Exploring the Story

In Ruby’s Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This lesson is a really great one about doing what is right or fair. Many of us have been in this same position as Jacey in today’s story. Even though we understand that it’s not right, we sometimes feel that we have no choice but to give in to pressure. How would you feel if you were Jacey? What would you have done to Morgan? Do you think that Jacey felt a little bit afraid or intimidated by Morgan?

No one likes to be taken advantage of—even by their own brother or sister! Can you name things that Jacey could have done in this situation?
## Searching for Words

Find the listed words from today’s lesson in the word search.

### WORD BANK

goodness • judging • light • Lord
noise • offering • sadness • songs

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True or False?

Read each sentence below and circle T if the statement is true, or F if it is false (not true).

T or F 1. The Day of Judgment will be a day of happiness and wonder.
T or F 2. On the Day of Judgment, justice will flow like a river.
T or F 3. The Day of Judgment will be a day of sadness and darkness.
T or F 4. On the Day of Judgment, God will bless the people.
T or F 5. God will not listen to the people’s false worship and praise of Him.
Habakkuk [Huh-back-uck] the prophet received information in a message. He had asked God for help many times, and he thought that God was not listening. While Habakkuk cried out to God about the violence surrounding him, God did not save him. Habakkuk asked why God continued to let him see bad things. Why did God keep putting up with evil? People were hurting people. They were arguing and fighting. People did not feel that they needed to obey the teachings. There were no fair trials. Evil people gained while good people lost. Judges did not make fair decisions.

Habakkuk pointed out that the Lord, the holy God, lives forever. Surely God would not let those who trusted in Him suffer? Yet, God had chosen to let the Babylonians surround and punish His people. They were created to punish the people.

The Lord God was too good to look at evil. He could not stand to see people do wrong. How does the Lord put up with these evil people? How could He be quiet when wicked (evil) people defeat people who are better than they are? It was like God made the people like fish in the sea without a leader.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a really cool lesson about making wrong things right! Have you ever been involved in a situation that didn’t seem to be fair? How did you handle it? How are we supposed to handle these situations?

As we were studying this lesson, I realized that people face unfair situations every day. Many times, these people are poor or abused and feel that they don’t have any choice but to take the abuse. What are we supposed to do when we face these types of situations? How can we make these situations better for everyone involved? Discuss this as a class.

Making It Right

This was not right at all! Kayden’s class sat in the school meeting and watched as Mr. River’s students from next door won the school spirit contest. This year, every class was supposed to decorate their classroom to show off their school spirit. Kayden and his classmates in Mrs. Owens’s room picked the theme of space adventure and worked hard to make the classroom look awesome!

“That’s a cool idea,” a student from Mr. River’s class said when they visited during lunch break.

“Thanks! I think we’re going to win!” Kayden replied. He did not think it was a big deal at the time. But when the winning class was chosen, the principal chose Mr. River’s kids. They won after choosing the theme of space voyage! Kayden could not believe it!

“We should have been the ones to win,” Kayden told Mrs. Owens after the assembly. “We picked space adventure first and we finished before all the other classes!”

“I know . . . I don’t think it is right, either,” Mrs. Owens answered. “We are going to get to the bottom of this.”

Hearing that Mrs. Owens felt the same way made Kayden less upset.

Exploring the Story in Ruby’s Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a really cool lesson about making wrong things right! Have you ever been involved in a situation that didn’t seem to be fair? How did you handle it? How are we supposed to handle these situations?

As we were studying this lesson, I realized that people face unfair situations every day. Many times, these people are poor or abused and feel that they don’t have any choice but to take the abuse. What are we supposed to do when we face these types of situations? How can we make these situations better for everyone involved? Discuss this as a class.
What’s Missing?

Fill in the missing words to complete the Key Verse from today’s lesson. (Challenge: See if you can complete the verse without looking back at the first page of the lesson.)

Your ______________ are too ______________ to look on ______________; you cannot _______________ ______________."

(Habakkuk 1:13a)
A “Make It Right” Crossword Puzzle

Use the clues and the Word Bank below to fill words from today’s lesson into the crossword puzzle. (A few letters have been filled in to get you started.)

**WORD BANK**
- Babylonians
- evil
- fair
- gained
- Habakkuk
- people
- violence
- wicked

**Across**
3. This person was a prophet.
5. The people were doing _______ things.
7. There was crime and _______.
8. Evil people ______ while good people lost.

**Down**
1. ______ people were hurting others.
2. There were no _______ trials.
4. The ________ surrounded the city.
6. The ________ were not obeying the laws.
Rewarding Patience (and Trust)?

Do not let evil people make you become upset. Do not be jealous of anyone who is doing wrong. People who do bad things will not be able to do it for long. They will soon give out.

As believers, we must put our trust in God and do good. Then we will live safely in the land and prosper (get ahead). When we serve God, He will meet all our needs. When we depend on God and trust Him, He will take care of us. Then our goodness will be seen by others. We will be fair with others.

Wicked (evil) people make evil plans against good people. When they are angry, they show just how bad they are. But God laughs at those who are wicked. He knows that one day they will be judged by their actions.

Stop doing evil and do what is good. When you do good, you will live forever. God loves justice. He will not abandon those who worship Him. He will protect them and give them the land. The children of wicked people will die.

We must wait on God’s help and follow Him. Then He will honor us and send the wicked people away.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! What a great experiment! It could have lots of different outcomes! They could start over and only choose one this time, or they can have those that took a larger amount share with those who didn’t get any. What would be the fair solution to this experiment? Have you ever been in this type of situation? What would you have done?

Have you ever made a choice while considering those who are coming after you? Or are most of your decisions based on what you need or want? This is a great lesson on doing what is fair for all!
Search for the Clue

Locate the letter in the Puzzle Box below and follow the directional arrows to locate the missing letter. Write the letter on the line. When completed, you will discover a key word from today’s lesson to plug into the statement at the bottom. (Example: U ↑ ↑ → = W)

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4. P ↓ ↓ ← =  
5. Y → ↓ ↓ =  
6. G → → ↓ =  

Wait for the Lord’s help and ____________ Him.
Word Scrambler
Unscramble the scrambled-up words below that are related to today's lesson. Use the Word Bank to help you.

WORD BANK
evil • fairness • forever • honor • justice
shine • trust • wrong

1. NOORH __________________________
2. RVEEFRO _________________________
3. IEVL ___________________________
4. EHNSI ___________________________
5. TJSCUEI _________________________
6. GNWOR ___________________________
7. RTTSU ___________________________
8. FSRSNAEI _________________________
Key Verse:
What does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

Loyal and Obedient

In today’s Scripture text, Micah was giving the people a message from God. God wanted His people to discuss, while in the mountains and hills, the issue that they had with Him.

Then, God gave His complaints against the people of Israel. He wondered why they had turned against Him. Were they tired of waiting for Him? God had brought them out of slavery in Egypt. He had sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to lead them.

Did they not remember how King Balak of Moab tried to curse them, or how Balaam, the son of Beor, blessed them instead? God reminded them of their past journey from Acacia to Gilgal, where He showed them His faithfulness to them.

How could they make up for what they had done? Should they bow before God with offerings of calves? Should they offer thousands of rams or rivers of olive oil? Would the Lord God be pleased if they sacrificed (gave up) their firstborn children to pay for their sins? Would God be happy with that?

All God requires is for His people to do what is right, to show kindness to others, and to live humbly and trust Him.
Is That Right to Do?

Every Tuesday, Peter would race to the cafeteria and grab up one of those homestyle baked cookies. It was the best part of his lunch!

When the class dismissed one Tuesday, Peter got ready to run out of the classroom—but his teacher called his name and held him back to talk about his late project. So, when he got to the lunchroom, the cookies were gone! He stayed mad the whole lunch period.

“I can’t believe I missed the cookies today,” he huffed, crossing his arms.

“They were really good too!” his friend Rafe said as he gobbled down his cookie.

Peter saw the tray of food on the other side of Rafe. There wasn’t anyone sitting there then. And the cookie on the tray looked great!

“I’m going to take that one,” Peter told his friend. “They must not want it because they left their tray here for so long. No one is going to eat it. They are just going to throw it away, right?”

Peter said a bunch of things to make it sound like he would not be stealing from the person’s plate. What do you think about his plan and reasoning?

Exploring the Story
in Ruby’s Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Can you imagine someone or something so powerful that it can save everyone? I have recently been doing some experiments on power and alternate power and I better understand how much power it takes to conduct just one of my experiments. Imagine someone powerful enough to save people from experiencing the lasting consequences of wrongdoing. That’s a lot of power!

Now, I want you to imagine how powerful God is to be able to include all of us in His kingdom—and all we need to do is be loyal and obedient to Him!
Decode the Message
Use the Letter Key to decode (figure out) the hidden message related to today's lesson.

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22 15 8 20 3 6 11 .
Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks of the sentences to complete statements related to today’s lesson. Use the Word Bank to help you.

WORD BANK

complaints • firstborn • humbly • mountains • right • slavery

1. Should the people offer their ______________ child to God?

2. God wanted the people to do what is ______________.

3. While in the ______________, the people should discuss their complaints against God.

4. God had brought the people out of ______________ in Egypt.

5. God wanted the people to live ______________ and trust Him.

6. God had ______________ against the people.
March 29, 2020

Key Verse:
“| the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.”
(Malachi 3:6)

Challenging the Leader

In today’s Scripture lesson, God was preparing the people for His return to His Temple. When He returned, He would be like a blazing fire or a strong detergent that whitened clothes. He would purify (cleanse) the Levites like precious metals. They would bring their offerings to Him and He would accept them as it had been done in the past.

Because the Lord God is always good, the descendants of Jacob (God’s people) were not destroyed. They had turned away from God. He wanted them to turn back to Him and He would return to them. But they wondered what they were doing that was displeasing to God.

They had cheated God by not giving back to Him some of what He had given them, known as tithes. They were cursed because of this. God wanted them to bring their tithes to the storehouse so there would be enough food in the Temple. Then He promised to pour out blessings from heaven so great that they would not be able to collect them all. God promised to give them abundant crops and grapes that would not wither and fall from the vines. People would say they were blessed.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Do you have an older cousin or sibling whom you look up to? How would you feel if he or she disappointed you like Whitney’s cousin Felicia disappointed her? Would you have a talk with him or her, or just let it all go?

We read about how excited Whitney was to hang out with her cousin Felicia. Felicia’s harsh words really hurt Whitney. Would you have been hurt by Felicia’s words? Although she is hurt by Felicia’s words, how should Whitney treat her cousin Felicia? Should Whitney let Felicia know that she overheard her conversation?

“Aww, aren’t you just so cute?” Whitney’s older cousin Felicia said. Her family was visiting from out of town for her grandmother’s birthday, and Whitney was excited to talk to Felicia. Her cousin was smart and beautiful, popular at school, and the nicest person she knew. Whitney wanted to be just like Felicia when she got older.

“Thanks, Felicia!” Whitney replied. “Do you want to play with my new drawing set I got for Christmas last year? It has a bunch of cool pieces.”

“I think that would be a lot of fun,” Felicia said with a big smile on her face. “Let me go call my friend first, and I’ll be right back.”

Whitney waited for fifteen minutes before she started to wonder what happened to Felicia. She decided to go find her, but when she did, she could not believe her ears.

“I don’t want to be here for this birthday party . . . my little cousins are so annoying!” Felicia groaned into the cell phone.

The things that Felicia said hurt Whitney’s feelings. Whitney could not believe that the cousin she looked up to was not the nice person she thought she was.

No One Would Believe It!
The Right Places for the Words

The words found in the Word Bank belong in the incomplete sentences below that are part of a verse from today’s lesson. Do you think you can fill in the words in the right places to complete the statements? Try it and see!

WORD BANK
Almighty • food • says • storehouse
test • whole

Bring the ___________ tithe into the ________________, that there may be _________ in my house. ________ me in this,” _________ the LORD ___________________.

"Bring the _______ tithe into the ________________, that there may be _______ in my house. ________ me in this," _________ the LORD _______________.
Mining for Words

See how many common words you can make from the letters in the words “FAIR LEADERSHIP.” Write them on the lines below. Words can be any length. Thinking of words that rhyme with each other (such as rat, hat, cat, bat) can help you remember more words.

FAIR LEADERSHIP
Doing What Is Just!

Jesus and His disciples went to Bethphage, a town on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two disciples to find a donkey with its colt tied to a tree and bring them to Him. When they did this, they threw their garments over them and Jesus sat on them.

People spread their coats on the road ahead of Jesus. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road for Jesus.

Later, after Jesus entered the Temple courts, He drove out the merchants (sellers) and their customers. He knocked over the money changers’ tables and the dove sellers’ stalls. He said the Scriptures taught that the Lord’s Temple was a place to pray in, but it had been turned into a den of thieves.

Then the blind and the lame (those unable to walk) came to Jesus in the Temple and He healed them there. The head priests and teachers of religious Law saw this and heard the children shouting praise to God for Jesus. They were angry and asked Jesus if He heard the children shouting. Jesus asked them if they read the Scriptures that state that God called children to praise Him. After this, He went to Bethany.
When Mac walked outside to the recess area during school, he never thought that he would find some balled-up money on the ground. But that is exactly what happened. He could not believe it! A whole ten dollars was in the corner near the swing sets and the sandbox. No one else saw it on the ground, so he bent down fast and picked it up.

“Wow, a whole ten dollars,” he said to himself as he thought of all the stuff he could buy with it. He looked around the playground to see if someone was searching for something on the ground. It did not seem like anyone lost anything, so he put it in his pocket.

Still, he felt guilty. Mac knew what it would feel like to lose that money if it was his. Even though it was not stealing, it just did not seem right for him to keep it. He decided to hold on to it and listen to see if one of the other students talked about losing it during lunch.

“Hmm . . . that might be too late,” Mac thought to himself, walking over to give it to the teacher.

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a very interesting lesson! Do you think Mac did the right thing? How would you have reacted? Ten dollars can seem like a lot of money! Why do you think Mac felt guilty when he put the money in his pocket and decided not to tell anyone about it? What do you think the teacher will do with the money?

This lesson teaches us that we must do the right thing even if no one knows about it but us! How many of us follow all the rules even when others are not watching?
Search for the Clue

Locate the letter in the Puzzle Box below and follow the directional arrows to locate the missing letter. Write the letter on the line. When completed, you will discover a key word from today’s lesson to plug into the statement at the bottom. (Example: U ↑ ↑ → = W)

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1. N → ↓ ← = ____________
2. U ↑ ↑ ↑ = ____________
3. Y ← ← ← = ____________
4. W ↓ ↓ ← = ____________
5. G ← ↓ ↓ = ____________

The people spread their coats and branches on the road before ________________.
True or False?

Read each sentence below and circle T if the statement is true, or F if it is false (not true).

1. Jesus went to the Temple and cleared out the money changers and their customers. **T**

2. The people laid their coats on the road before Jesus. **T**

3. Jesus told the disciples to go and purchase (buy) a donkey for Him. **T**

4. The people turned their backs on Jesus as He rode into the town. **F**

5. Jesus sent two disciples to find a donkey and its colt tied to a tree. **T**
Key Verse:
“Don’t be alarmed,” [the young man] said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!” (Mark 16:6)

Alive!

Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary the mother of James purchased burial spices to put on Jesus’ body. At sunrise on the next day, they went to the tomb where Jesus’ body had been laid. They discussed who would roll the stone away from the front of the tomb. When they arrived, they saw that the stone had already been rolled away! They entered the tomb and saw a man dressed in a white robe sitting there. They were surprised, but the angel told them not to be surprised. He knew they were looking for Jesus, the Nazarene, who had been crucified. But He was not there! He had been raised from the dead!

The angel said, “Look at where His body had lain. Go and tell His disciples that Jesus has gone ahead to Galilee. They will see Him there, just as He had told them before He died.” The women were afraid and ran from the tomb. They did not say anything to anyone because they were too afraid to talk.

Early on Sunday morning, Jesus rose from the dead! The first person to see Him was Mary Magdalene, the woman out of whom He had gotten seven demons.
A Good Day for a Good Day!

“I feel like we keep having the same day over and over again!” Briona groaned to her classmate Stephanie. For the past few weeks, their school had been getting ready for testing. All her teachers gave their students drills and practice tests. It was driving her crazy!

“You are all doing a great job,” Mrs. Hughes said to her class at the end of the day. “I know this is tough on you guys. But if you do well on these tests, I’ve got something special planned.”

Briona talked about her promise to her classmates at lunch. Even though she doubted Mrs. Hughes, she wanted all her friends to try their hardest on the test—just in case.

When the tests came and went, Briona’s class had performed the best in the whole school! Mrs. Hughes was very proud of her class and wanted to share a special announcement with them.

“I planned on buying you all pizza for lunch today if you did well,” she started, with the classroom filling with cheers and clapping, “but the school wanted to surprise you all with a cool field trip to Amazing World Theme Park!”

Exploring the Story in Ruby’s Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! What a great treat Briona’s class had waiting for them at the end of all of that practicing and boredom! How do you feel when you have to face the everyday boredom of practicing for tests? How can you still have hope during those times?

We have all had times of anxiety (nervousness) or worry when we are not sure how a situation will turn out. Most often, it is when we face a major test. But, what a great reward for a job well done! It almost makes the practice seem worth the work!
It’s Coloring Time!

Today’s lesson is about Jesus being raised up from the dead. He came out of the tomb where His body lay. Color the picture of the tomb with the stone rolled away.
Searching for Words
Find and circle the listed words from today’s lesson in the word search below.

WORD BANK

ANGEL • CRUCIFIED • GALILEE • MESSAGE
NAZARENE • RAISED • SABBATH • STONE • TOMB

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Punished for Doing Wrong

As the king and Haman were drinking wine at Queen Esther’s banquet, the king asked her what she wanted. He loved her so much that he would give her half his kingdom, if that is what she wanted.

Queen Esther told him that she wanted her life and the lives of her people to be spared (saved). She told him that there were people who would kill them. King Xerxes [Zerk-sees] demanded to know who would do this. Esther told the king that Haman was responsible. Haman became frightened as he stood before them. The king became angry and went out into the palace garden.

Haman begged Queen Esther for his life. He fell on the couch where Queen Esther was sitting. When the king returned, he thought that Haman was attacking the queen right in front of him! The king’s attendants covered Haman’s face.

Harbona, one of the king’s servants, told Xerxes about the gallows that Haman had built in his courtyard. Haman wanted to hang Mordecai on them. Mordecai was the man who had saved the king’s life.

Instead, the king ordered that Haman be hanged on the gallows he had set up for Mordecai.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Is there ever a time to treat others poorly? When you witness mistreatment or if it happens to you, how do you feel? Sometimes it seems that those people get what they want without ever facing punishment! Is there ever a good time to be rude?

We all know how to treat people nicely and we should go out of our way to be kind and fair to others. While we might not know it, those people are only hurting themselves—and when their punishment comes, it will be fair!

While at Burger Place, Tyree waited patiently in line beside his parents for it to be their turn to order.

“Move out of my way!” someone yelled from the back of the line. It was a mean-looking man pushing his way through the crowd of people.

“I’m in a hurry, so I get to go first. You can go after me,” the man shouted at the line of people behind him. He was even rude to the people behind the counter and did everything he could to get his meal for free. Tyree was so angry that he did not know what to do!

Just as Tyree’s father started to place their order with the lady behind the counter, they all heard a shout from outside. When they looked, they saw that the rude man had tripped and dropped his entire order onto the sidewalk!

Embarrassed, the man got into his car and drove away. All that negative attitude and he did not even get to eat his food!

When it was their turn to order, Tyree saw how calm and kind his father was and decided not to let his anger toward the situation make him act like the other guy.
### Match the Sentence Parts

Connect the first part of each statement in Column A with its matching ending in Column B by drawing a line between the two.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Haman had set up</td>
<td>a. on the gallows that he had built to hang Mordecai.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Queen Esther only wanted</td>
<td>b. went out into the gardens.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Haman became frightened and</td>
<td>c. gallows in his courtyard.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. The king became angry and</td>
<td>d. her life and her people's lives to be spared.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. The king ordered that Haman be hanged</td>
<td>e. pleaded with Queen Esther for his life.</td>
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Word Finder

Circle all the words found in today’s Key Verse. Then write the complete Key Verse on the lines below.

do  a  woman  dog  no

has  asked  is  to

King  man  funny  thing

Xerxes  is  what

he  who  what  Queen

serious  dared  he  such

Where  thing

____________  ___________  ___________  ___________

____________, “____________  _______  ________?"

____________  _______  _______  —  __________  __________

____________  _______  _______  __________  __________

____________  __________  ___________  ____________  __________

____________  ___________  __________  ____________  ___________?”
Lesson Scriptuure:
1 Kings 3:16-28

Key Verse:
When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice. (1 Kings 3:28)

Justice Is Done!

Two women went to King Solomon with an issue. Both women claimed to be the mother of the same baby. They lived in the same house and each had her own baby. The second woman’s baby died, so she took the first woman’s baby while the woman slept. She laid her dead baby in the other woman’s arms. The next morning, the woman saw that her baby was dead. But when she looked closer, she realized that it was not her baby at all.

The women argued back and forth before the king. After hearing the story, the king called for a sword to have the baby cut in two in order to give each woman half to end the argument.

The woman who was really the mother of the living baby cried out for the king to spare the baby. The other woman wanted the king to divide the baby. So, the king gave the baby to the woman who wanted him to live—because she was his mother!

The news of the king’s decision spread quickly throughout the land. The people were amazed by the great wisdom that God had given the king to help him to make fair decisions.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Have you ever had a disagreement with someone? It can be very frustrating! Sometimes, someone who can see both sides of the situation can help make it a peaceful time. What should you do when you are in a disagreement with someone? How should you treat that person? Do you know when it’s time to call in someone who can help ease the situation?

Sometimes, we are so busy trying to prove our point that everyone loses! That’s what makes this lesson so valuable. Wisdom is always welcome when there is a disagreement!
Word Scrambler
Unscramble the scrambled-up words below that are from today’s lesson. You may use the Word Bank if you need help.

WORD BANK
argument • awed • child • decision
divide • justice • living • sword

1. CJSUTIE _______________________
2. LGVIIN _______________________
3. RWDOS _______________________
4. TMRNUGAE _____________________
5. CSIIODEN _____________________
6. WDAE _________________________
7. DVEDII _________________________
8. HDLIC _________________________
Decode the Message

Decode (figure out) a message related to today’s lesson by writing on each dash the letter that comes between the combination of letters in the alphabet. (The letter combination is found under the dash.) (For example, z-b = a; l-n = m.) See if you can decode the message without looking back at the Scripture passage.

,  

f-h n-p c-e r-t  

i-k t-v r-t s-u h-j b-d d-f  

c-e n-p d-f r-t m-o n-p s-u  

!  

e-g z-b h-j k-m
Justice Wins the Day

At this time in Bible history, Jerusalem (Israel) did not trust in God. It is sad that Jerusalem was so wicked (evil) and sinful (full of wrongdoing) that it hurt its own people. The people were wicked and stubborn and would not listen even to the voice of the Lord God. The people did not listen, and they could not even be taught to do what is right. They did not trust God and would not worship their God.

But God’s presence was still in the city. God does no wrong. He is always good. Every day, He shows justice and fairness toward the people. And though the people could trust in the Lord God, they were not ashamed of the evil things that they did.

Only those who are lowly and humble will be left to survive in the city. They will put their trust in God completely. The Israelites who survived would be different. They would not do anything wrong. They would not lie to one another. They would not try to deceive (trick) one another. They would be like sheep that eat and lie down—no one would bother them.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This lesson reminds me of some experiments in my lab. Sometimes, experiments don’t work out like you think they will when you start out. If Jonas goes back on his agreement with Michael, what do you think will happen? Do you think they will remain friends? Or will they be too angry and hurt to continue their friendship?

The outcome relies on whether or not Jonas holds up his end of the bargain. How would you feel if you were Michael? After all, the game is half yours too! Would you let Jonas forget all about your agreement?

"I can’t believe we finally got it!” Jonas said to his friend Michael. When the new StarDestroyer game came out a few weeks ago, Jonas did not have enough money to get it on his own. But when he and Michael put their allowances together, it was just enough to buy the game.

“You get it this week, and I get it next week,” Michael said. “Deal?”

“Deal!” Jonas agreed and shook Michael’s hand. But before Jonas knew it, his week was almost up. He was not even close to finishing and Michael was going to want his turn on the game. Jonas wanted to see if Michael could wait another week or two for him to finish the game.

“I know you want to beat it first, but I’ve been waiting all week to start it,” Michael said. “I promise you’ll get it back next week. But I really want to start playing it now.”

Jonas thought about what to do on his last day of the week with the game. He could hold onto it until he finished—or he could give it to Michael like he promised to do. What would you do?
Mining for Words

See how many common words you can make from the letters in the words “JUSTICE AND PEACE.” Write them on the lines below. Words can be any length. Thinking of words that rhyme with each other (such as rat, hat, cat, bat) can help you remember more words.

<table>
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Fill in the Letters

The words of today’s Key Verse are incomplete. Review the Key Verse, then fill in the missing letters to complete the verse. Once everyone is done, read the completed verse aloud as a class.

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T__e  L__r____ is __ig__/te__us;
he _oe_  no w_on_.  o_ni_g
by m__r__in__ he
  d_sp__ns_s  h_s  us__ic__,
  a_d  _ver_  _ew
  da_  he do_s n_t f__i__.

(Zephaniah 3:5)
Better Days Are Coming

In today’s lesson, the Lord God told Zechariah about His great love for Jerusalem.

God talked about returning to Jerusalem and living there. While there, Jerusalem would be called the Faithful City, and the mountain would be called the Holy Mountain.

God said that old people would once again sit along the streets, which would be filled with children playing and having fun. The Israelites may think that this was too good to be true, but nothing is too difficult (hard) for God to do. God would save His people and return them to Jerusalem. They would be His people and He would be their God.

The Lord God promised not to treat these people like He had treated the ones in the past. Their seeds would sprout (grow) and their grapevines would bear fruit. They would have good crops and the rain would fall from the sky. Judah and Israel would be saved.

The people had made God angry and He punished them without mercy. God was blessing them, but they should be fair to one another. They should not hurt each other or lie to one another. These things were hated by God.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! How important is it for you to keep your word? It's pretty important, right? What do you think happens when you do wrong and then you promise to do better, but you don't keep your word? Not only have you shown bad behavior, but now you add not keeping your word to the list!

This is a great lesson on changing your wrong behavior and making it up to those that you have mistreated. It is also a great lesson on keeping your promises to correct your actions! Which action do you think is the most important?
Imagine and Draw

Today’s lesson discusses what it will be like when God returns to Jerusalem. Can you imagine it? Your teacher will read today’s Scripture passage to you, and then you are to draw the scene where children are playing in the streets and old people are standing around with canes in their hands.
A “Better Days” Crossword Puzzle

Use the clues and the Word Bank below to fill words from today’s lesson into the crossword puzzle. (Several letters have been filled in to get you started.)

**WORD BANK**
children • difficult • fairly • Jerusalem • mercy
people • return • sprout

**Across**
3 God punished the ____________ for their wickedness.
5 The seeds would ____________ out of the earth.
6 Nothing is too ____________ for God.
8 God’s ____________ restores the people of Israel.

**Down**
1 God promised to return to ____________.
2 God promised to ____________ the people to the city.
4 There would be ____________ playing in the streets.
7 God wanted the people to treat one another ____________.
Choosing Life

The Lord God sent Jeremiah with a message for the people of Jerusalem. They had to choose whether to live or to die. He warned that anyone who stayed in Jerusalem would die—either from war, hunger, or a terrible disease. But anyone who surrendered to the Babylonians surrounding Jerusalem would live. God had decided to bring disaster down on the city. He was giving the city to the king of Babylon to destroy.

The message to the royal family was for them to hear the words of God and treat the people fairly. They should protect the people from being robbed. If they did not, then God would become angry and His anger would go on for a long time. This was happening because the people had done evil (bad) things.

The people sat on top of the mountain looking over the valley, believing they were safe from attack. They thought that their city could not be harmed. But God would give them the punishment they deserved. He would start a fire in the forest that would burn up everything around them.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This lesson is a very important one about choices and consequences. Just like in my lab, when I am conducting an experiment, I have to make choices and then live with how my decisions affect my experiments. I’ve learned that it is like that with my life outside of my lab also.

In this lesson, we learn that we have to choose wisely in order to have the outcome that is best for us. Sometimes we have to choose to do something that we don’t necessarily want to do in order to have a better result!

Heads or Tails?

Nicky always carried a coin in her pocket. When she did not know what to do, or had to pick between two things, she would flip her coin and get her answer.

“Do you want to go with us to the library and read after school?” her sister Mackenzie asked one day. Nicky loved reading and there was a new book available that she wanted to check out from the library. But she needed to work on her homework with Ms. Garza. She was struggling in her math class and needed help knowing how to do some of the problems from class.

Nicky reached into her pocket and pulled out her coin: “Heads, I go to the library with you guys. Tails, I go study with Ms. Garza.” Nicky flipped her coin into the air. But while she watched for it to come back down, she had a thought.

Even though she was excited to check out the new books, she really needed to choose Ms. Garza. Her grades were important and would help her in the future. Nicky did not stick around to find out on which side the coin had landed. She made her choice.

Exploring the Story in Ruby’s Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This lesson is a very important one about choices and consequences. Just like in my lab, when I am conducting an experiment, I have to make choices and then live with how my decisions affect my experiments. I’ve learned that it is like that with my life outside of my lab also.

In this lesson, we learn that we have to choose wisely in order to have the outcome that is best for us. Sometimes we have to choose to do something that we don’t necessarily want to do in order to have a better result!
Fix That Phrase!

Oops! There seems to be a word out of place in each of the sentences below. Read through the sentences and/or phrases below (which are pulled from today’s Scripture passage). See if you can find the misplaced word and move it to where it belongs in the statement. Put a circle around the misplaced word and then draw a line to where it should go. (You may use your NIV Bible.) Refer to the example below.

Example: "'It will be into the hands given of the king of Babylon.'"

1. “‘I will punish as your deeds deserve, declares you the LORD.’” (verse 14a)

2. “‘I have and determined to do this city harm not good, declares the LORD.’” (verse 10)

3. “‘I am you, Jerusalem, you against who live above this valley.’” (verse 13a)

4. “‘Whoever stays in this will die by the city sword, famine or plague.’” (verse 9)
True or False?

Read each sentence below and circle **T** if the statement is true, or **F** if it is *false* (not true).

1. The people obeyed the Lord God at all times.

2. God sent Jeremiah with a message warning the people about His anger.

3. God’s message tells the people how they could get back right with Him.

4. The people could not be defeated—they were too strong.

5. God was warning the people what they would face if they continued their evil ways.
Lesson 13
May 24, 2020

Key Verse:
"This is what the Lord says: Do what is just and right... Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood." (Jeremiah 22:3)

Changing Our Ways

Jeremiah went to the king of Judah with a message. He told the king, his officers, and all the people in the city to listen carefully to the Lord God’s message. God wanted them to do what was fair and right and protect those who had been mistreated. He wanted them to remember to be fair to the widows and orphans and to protect innocent people. If they obeyed this command, then the king who sat on the throne of David would be able to return to the palace. But, if they did not, then the palace would be destroyed.

God recognized the palace in Judah as a grand place, that was as magnificent as the cedar forests in Lebanon. But He promised to destroy the palace and make it a place in which no one could live. He promised to send in an army to destroy the palace completely.

When people from other nations passed by the city, they would ask why God had destroyed such a great city. It was because the people of Judah did not keep their agreement with God and worshipped other gods.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a great lesson about changing our behavior. Sometimes it’s difficult to see the benefits of change. We become set in our ways and we are comfortable doing what we do—whether it is good or bad. Do you have any habits that you should change in order to have a better life? Do you think it would be too hard to change? Do you think you would lose your friends if you changed?

The benefits of change might outweigh the benefits of staying the same. Think about it . . . it might all be worth it!
Unscramble and Match

Unscramble each scrambled-up word below and then connect the word to its matching picture by drawing a line between the two.

1. ALACPE ____________________________  a.

2. HRONET ____________________________  b.

3. GTEAS _____________________________  c.

4. RHSOES ____________________________  d.

5. FEIR _________________________________  e.
Searching for Words
Find the listed words from today's lesson in the word search below.

WORD BANK
EMPTY • JERUSALEM • JUDAH • MESSAGE
PALACE • PROPHESY • PUNISH • THRONE

M P U N I S H B E P
J U D A H P A E T R
E V T J Z W F G H O
R J W E M P T Y R P
U K P R E C W E O H
S S E V S P H S N E
A Z H L S B W M E S
L B M P A L A C E Y
E R W E G L D H A E
M S E F E N M K L E
Lesson 14
May 31, 2020

Key Verse:
You must return to your God; maintain love and justice, and wait for your God always. (Hosea 12:6)

Hold On to Love

God loved the people even when they rebelled against Him. God loved them like a father loves his children. But the more God reached out to them, the farther they moved away from Him.

The prophets called for the people to turn back to God, but they refused. God did not want to punish them in His anger and destroy them again. The people were telling lies and making agreements with their enemies. The people should do what was honest and just. The merchants used dishonest scales to cheat people. The people bragged about being rich so that no one would know about their sins (wrongdoings). But God had brought them out of Egypt and He could make them live as they did when they were in the desert.

The people of Gilead were evil and they sacrificed (gave up to God) bulls at Gilgal. God would make their altars piles of stone. Their ancestor, Jacob, had fled to Mesopotamia and worked as a sheep tender to pay for a wife. God’s prophet led Jacob’s descendants (future family members) out of Egypt. He cared for God’s people. The people deserved to die for the shameful things they had done.
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a great lesson on recognizing what others do for us out of love. Sometimes it is easy to overlook someone’s demonstration of love as something owed to us or something that we deserve. Many times, people do things for us because they want us to know how much they love us. God showed His love to His people in today’s lesson.

How should we respond when someone does something wonderful for us? How can we show others that we appreciate what they do for us? How can we share that love with those in our communities who are in need?

Alison had gotten everything for her birthday that she had asked for. There were new clothes, the new toys she wanted, and even a little costume makeup from her auntie Carol. It was all wonderful and she was another year closer to double digits.

“Happy birthday, Alison!” her friends and family said as they left her party at the end of the day. She asked her parents for a princess party. There was a jump castle, a huge birthday cake with a princess doll on top, and lots of balloons and streamers. Her backyard looked like a magical kingdom.

As Alison took all her new stuff to her room to put it away, she heard some noise from outside. When she went to look out the window, Alison saw her parents. They were cleaning up from her party and the sun had set almost an hour before!

Alison realized how very hard they had worked to make her day special. Alison sighed as she headed downstairs to help them clean up. It was the least she could do to thank them for such a wonderful day... and she could not thank them enough!
The people of Israel had forgotten the goodness and compassion that God had shown them. The people had turned to worshipping false gods and burning incense to idols. But God loved the people and He would not destroy them through His anger.
Search for the Clue

Locate the letter in the Puzzle Box below and follow the directional arrows to locate the missing letter. Write the letter on the line. When completed, you will discover a key word from today’s lesson to plug into the statement at the bottom. (Example: U ↑ ↑ → = W)

1. K → ↓ ← = ___________
2. H ↓ ↓ ↓ = ___________
3. M ← ← ← = ___________
4. V ↓ ↓ ← = ___________
5. A ← ↓ ↓ = ___________
6. I → ↓ ↓ = ___________
7. C ↓ ↓ ← = ___________
8. J ← ← ← = ___________
9. P ← ← ↓ = ___________

Love and justice are the _____________________ of God’s love.
Extra Activity 1

Color the Bible picture from lesson 1.
Extra Activity 2

What Is Different?
The two pictures below from lesson 3 are the same scene—but there are some differences. Circle what is different in the second picture.

![Picture 1]

Picture 1

![Picture 2]

Picture 2
Extra Activity 3

Do you remember what happened in lesson 6? Review the Bible story and then draw a picture of what you think happened in the story.
Extra Activity 4
Color the Bible picture from lesson 7.
Extra Activity 5
What Is Different?
The two pictures below from lesson 9 are the same scene—but there are some differences. Circle what is different in the second picture.

Picture 1

Picture 2
Extra Activity 6

Do you remember what happened in lesson 11? Review the Bible story and then draw a picture of what you think happened in the story.