

## **Story Time - Read the story to the children**

### **Lesson 151: EZEKIEL'S CALL**

#### **EZEKIEL 2:1-3:15**

**\*added end of chapter 1 to give them background\***

I am the priest Ezekiel, son of Buzzi. I was in exile when I saw a vision of the LORD. At the end of the vision I saw what looked like a throne and saw what looked like a man sitting on the throne, with light shining all around Him. It was the Glory of the LORD. When I saw that, I immediately fell to the ground and bowed with my face to the ground, and then I heard a voice speaking to me. The voice said, "Son of man, stand up and receive into your heart all my words I speak to you, and hear them with your ears." Then the Spirit came into me and lifted me up on my feet, and I listened to the one who spoke to me. He said, "Son of man, I am sending you to speak to the family of Israel. Those people and their ancestors turned against me many times. They have sinned against me many times--and they are still sinning against me today. I am sending you to speak to them, but they are very stubborn. They are very hardheaded, but you must speak to them. You must say, 'This is what the Lord GOD says.' They are people who refuse to obey, so they may not listen to you. But even if they don't stop sinning, at least they will know that there is a prophet living among them. "Son of man, don't be afraid of the people or what they say. It is true: they will turn against you and try to hurt you. Their words will be sharp like thorns and will sting like scorpions. But don't be afraid of what they say. They are people who refuse to obey, but don't be afraid of them. You must tell them what I say, whether they listen or not. They are people who usually refuse to listen! "Son of man, listen to what I am telling you. Don't turn against me like those people who refuse to obey. Now open your mouth to receive the words I will give you to speak." Then I saw an arm reach out toward me. It was holding a scroll with words written on it. It rolled the scroll open in front of me. Words were on the front and on the back of the scroll. There were all kinds of sad songs, sad stories, and warnings. God said to me, "Son of man, eat what you see. Eat this scroll, and then go tell these things to the family of Israel." So I opened my mouth and he put the scroll into my mouth. Then God said, "Son of man, I am giving you this scroll. Swallow it! Let that scroll fill your body." So I ate the scroll. It was as sweet as honey in my

mouth. Then God said to me, "Son of man, go to the family of Israel. Speak my words to them. I am not sending you to some foreigners you cannot understand. You don't have to learn another language. I am sending you to the family of Israel. I am not sending you to many different countries where people speak languages you cannot understand. If you went to those people and spoke to them, they would listen to you. But you will not have to learn those hard languages. No, I am sending you to the family of Israel. Only, these people have hard heads--they are very stubborn! And the people of Israel will refuse to listen to you. They don't want to listen to me. But I will make you just as stubborn as they are, and your head just as hard. A diamond is harder than flint rock. In the same way you will be more stubborn than they are, and your head will be harder. Then you will not be afraid of them or those who always turn against me." Then God said to me, "Son of man, listen to every word I say to you and remember them. Then go to all of your people in exile and tell them, 'This is what the Lord GOD says ....' They will not listen, and they will not stop sinning, but you must still tell them my message." Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard a voice behind me. It was very loud, like thunder. It said, "Blessed is the Glory of the LORD!" Then the wings of the living beings around the throne in my vision began moving. The wings made a very loud noise as they touched each other, and the wheels in front of them began making a noise as loud as thunder. The Spirit lifted me and took me away. I was very sad and upset in my spirit, but I felt the LORD's power in me. I went to the people of Israel who were forced to live in Tel Aviv by the Kebar Canal. I sat there among them for seven days, shocked and silent.

## 151. EZEKIEL'S CALL (EZEKIEL 2:1-3:15)



“Then I saw an arm reach out toward me. It was holding a scroll with words written on it. It rolled the scroll open in front of me. Words were on the front and on the back of the scroll. There were all kinds of sad songs, sad stories, and warnings.”

**EZEKIAL 2:9-10**

# 151. EZEKIEL'S CALL

## EZEKIEL 2:1-3:15

### MEMORY VERSE:

*"Son of man, receive into your heart all My words that I speak to you, and hear with your ears."* EZEKIEL 3:10

### TRUE OR FALSE

1. The LORD told Ezekiel to receive into his heart all the words He was going to speak to him. TRUE or FALSE
2. Then the Spirit came to Ezekiel and knocked him down. TRUE or FALSE
3. Then He said to Ezekiel that He was sending him to the family of Israel, a rebellious nation. TRUE or FALSE
4. The LORD told Ezekiel that the family of Israel wouldn't listen to him. TRUE or FALSE
5. Then Ezekiel saw a hand stretched out to him, and it was holding a jar of honey. TRUE or FALSE

### ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. Did the LORD tell Ezekiel that when he spoke to them the words that the LORD told him to the family of Israel, they wouldn't listen to him?
2. What did the LORD tell Ezekiel to do with the scroll the hand held out to him?
3. What kind of things were written on the scroll?
4. What did the scroll taste like when Ezekiel ate it?
5. Did the LORD tell Ezekiel that the family of Israel was stubborn?
6. Was the LORD going to make Ezekiel more stubborn than the family of Israel?

## God's Promises

God promised to be with Ezekiel and to give him strength. God has also promised to be with us in everything we do. Here's instructions to make a "God's Promises" wheel. You will need a copy of both templates for each child, scissors, crayons, or markers, and paper fasteners.

Cut out all of the circles. Color the pictures and the writing using markers or crayons. Place the circle with the pictures on the bottom. The smaller circle with the scriptures will go on top of the circle with pictures. Then the "God's Promises" circle goes on top.

Poke a hole through the center of the three circles. Place a paper fastener or brad through the hole. All three wheels should be able to spin.

Have the children turn the picture circle and to find a picture. Then challenge them to match the scripture verse with the picture.

Any time we have a problem, we can go to the Lord for help!

## PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to follow God and to obey Him. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.

Template - God's Promises Wheel



