

>>> COMMUNITY KIDS <<<

ZEPHANIAH WARNED GOD'S PEOPLE TO REPENT

Zephaniah

FAMILY
DISCUSSION
STARTERS:

- **Mornings:** Praise God for the promise to one day fix all things broken by sin. How does this promise help us worry less about when we are wronged or hurt?
- **Evenings:** Pray for urgency and excitement to share the gospel with others. Why should the Day of the Lord make us more eager to tell others about Jesus? How can we provide hope to those who fear God's judgment of sin?

>>> MAIN IDEAS:

CHRIST CONNECTION

THIS IS THE BIG IDEA OF HOW THIS WEEK'S BIBLE STORY POINTS TO JESUS:

ZEPHANIAH PROPHESED ABOUT THE DAY OF THE LORD—A DAY WHEN GOD WILL JUDGE THE WORLD FOR ITS SIN AND JESUS CHRIST WILL RETURN. JESUS WILL MAKE EVERYTHING LIKE NEW, AND EVERYONE WHO TRUSTS IN HIM WILL BE SAFE.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is repentance?

Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

>>> CONTINUE THE STORY AT HOME

ZEPHANIAH

Dear Families,

Have you ever felt that sick-to-your-stomach feeling that comes when you're waiting to be punished for doing a bad thing? You know you did wrong and undeniably deserve the coming punishment, but that knowledge still doesn't make it pleasant! The terrible sick feeling comes because you know the punishment is coming, and you just wish there was some way out of it!

The prophecy of Zephaniah told the people about a future day when God would judge all the sin of the world. He described the frightful day as a time of darkness, wrath, and destruction. Everyone who heard this news got that sick-to-your-stomach feeling because they knew punishment was coming.

But wrapped up in all the bad news of judgment, God provided good news for His people. Zephaniah gave the people hope because God would save all those who trust in Him. He will protect them from the punishment, and He will fix everything broken by sin. **On the same day that God will judge sin, He will make all things right and new for His children!** That's just what the doctor ordered to get rid of the sick feeling in your stomach!

Zephaniah prophesied about the Day of the Lord—a day when God will judge the world for its sin and Jesus Christ will return. Jesus will make everything like new, and everyone who trusts in Him will be safe.

Pray: *We know, God, that You will one day judge the world for sin. We all deserve to be punished for our sin, but we thank You for showing Your love by sending Jesus to die on the cross. You have promised to save those who trust in Jesus, and through Him You will make all things new.*

FAMILY ACTIVITIES<<<

For Fun: Mark your calendar for a “Special Day” later this week, but don't tell kids why the day is special. Talk about the day often and remind kids that it is coming. **When the day comes, surprise the family with a trip to get their favorite dessert.** As you enjoy dessert, talk about how the Day of the Lord is a day of hope and joy for those who believe in Jesus. Explain to kids what it means to trust in the Lord and how they might respond if God is leading them to believe.

To Serve: Set reminders on your phone for several moments throughout the week. Use these moments to text or call fellow church members and ask how you can pray for them. After praying for their needs, remind them that the Day of the Lord is coming. Jesus will fix all that is broken and make all things new.



UNIT MEMORY VERSE:

Therefore repent and
turn back, so that your
sins may be wiped out.

—Acts 3:19