

A NEW COVENANT

Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34



Key Verse:

I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.
Jeremiah 31:34

The Point:

No matter what we do, God promises a renewed relationship with us.

Making Connections:

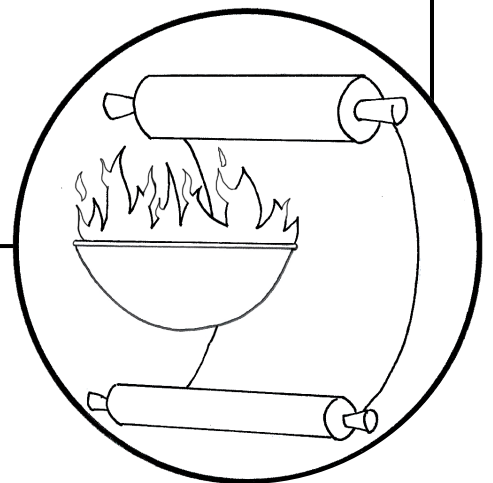
God Sightings

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Prophecy

Spiritual Practice:

Service



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

In our daily readings since last week, we have seen how God revealed God's holiness to Isaiah, and how God's power was shown through the faithfulness of two kings. God extended the life of King Hezekiah who was nearly dead and had prayed earnestly for more years of life. God used young King Josiah, who had turned to God with all his heart, soul, and strength to restore the people's worship of God. However, King Josiah's actions were not enough to change his descendants' behavior, and the consequences of the people's disobedience were coming soon.

Story Summary:

A New Covenant

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah with a message for the people of Israel. The message warned of future difficulties as a consequence of the people's poor choices. Jeremiah asked Baruch to write the words of God's message on a scroll. He sent Baruch into the temple to read the scroll to the crowd in hopes that they would tell God they were sorry and turn from their evil ways.

Baruch did as Jeremiah asked. When the ungodly king found out, the king then commanded that the scroll be sent to him. As the scroll was read to him, the king cut off the parts he heard and threw them into the fire. He did this until the entire scroll was burned.

The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah again. God said to rewrite the words on another scroll. Then God added more words to the message. Even though the people broke the last covenant—an agreement to worship and obey God alone—the Lord was being faithful to uphold the promise of a new covenant with the people. God promised to always be their God and to forgive their sins.

The Point

No matter what we do, God promises a renewed relationship with us. Our weakness does not have the final say. Our imperfections do not determine God's love for us. Our response does not change the fact that God is faithful to stand by the promise of a new covenant. In keeping with the covenant, just as was prophesied in the Old Testament, the Messiah came to earth to deliver humankind. Although we are undeserving, the Messiah—Jesus—died so that we can have new life.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Prophecy

The prophetic books of the Bible are records of messages given by God to the prophets to tell to the people. A prophecy, or God's message, was usually a warning about the consequences of the people's disobedience, a plea for them to return to God, or a promise of good things to come. The overall purpose of a prophet's message was to motivate change in attitudes or behavior. As we read through Scripture, we can see that the messages of God delivered through the prophets were always followed by fulfillment of those words.

Spiritual Practice: Service

Jeremiah had a message to tell, and nothing was going to keep him from fulfilling his calling. What little—or big—things can you do to spread the message of God's love? When you are out and about, be kind, caring, and patient.





Thanksgiving Word Search

S E L V E O D M R J B G G T G
M G J J N S Z T J L Y O H U F
I Y G N E R I G B B L Y Q B K
R O T Q F T Q N B P R B X U E
G E M Y B H U I V G A T N N Y
L I T H A N K S G I V I N G O
I Q J R T V V S M Q Y A X Y C
P S W O G Y N E H B P Q W N N
L F K C E I E R K Q L X H I O
R T A K K V F D N K X W G E D
A W R P F T M A Y F L O W E R
Q U M C R A N B E R R I E S U
T U E E D E G N I F F U T S U
P D P I E A U L P A R A D E M
K F R M P L L A B T O O F Z J

THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
PARADE
PUMPKINS
PILGRIMS
MAYFLOWER
ROCK
DRESSING
STUFFING
CRANBERRIES
PIE
FOOTBALL

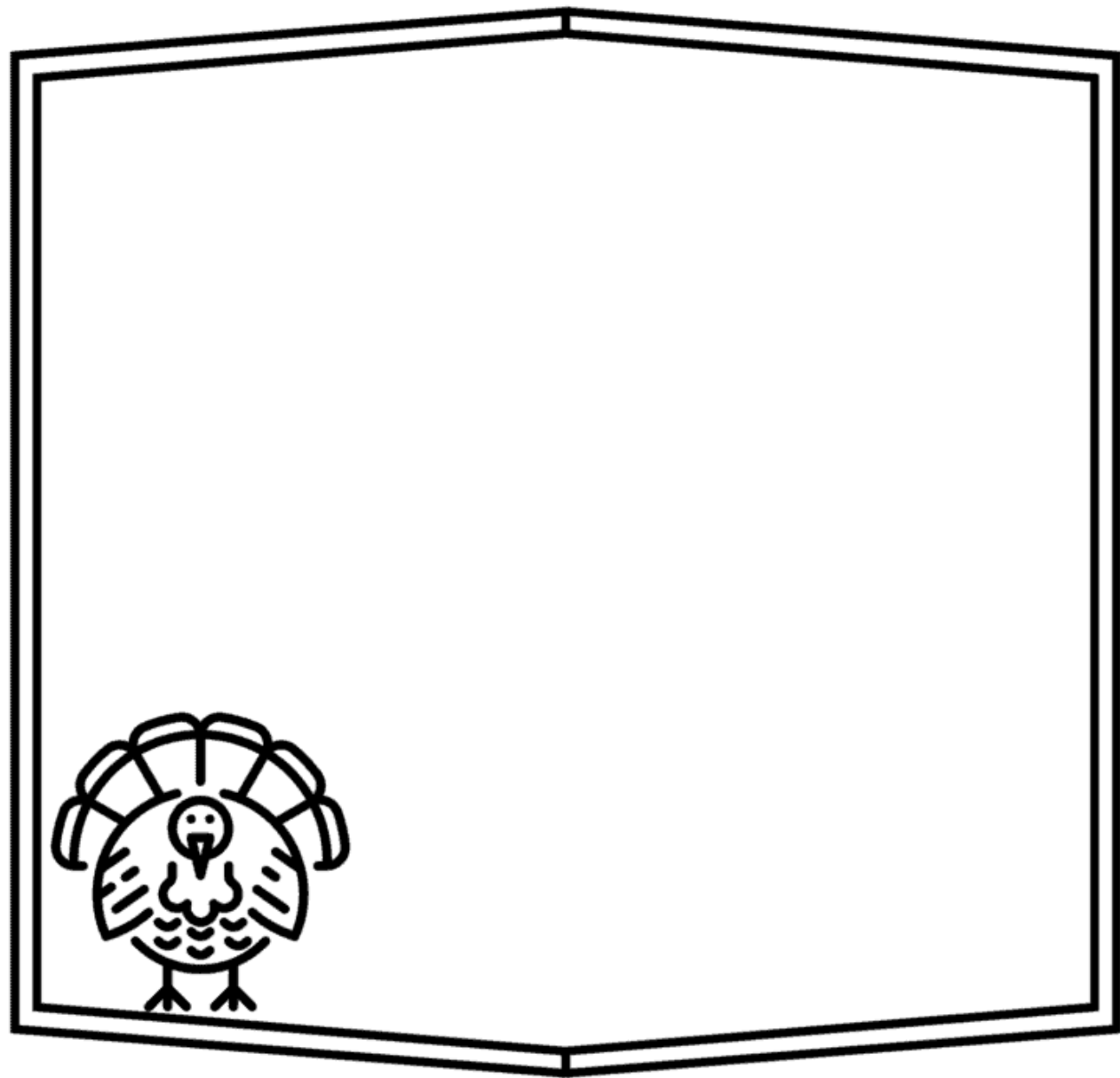


Abundantly Blessed.

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY

My Thanksgiving Menu

In the space below, write down or draw the foods you will serve for your family Thanksgiving meal!



A large, empty, house-shaped frame with a double-line border, intended for writing or drawing a Thanksgiving menu. The frame is oriented vertically, with the top edge slightly curved inward. In the bottom-left corner of the frame, there is a simple line drawing of a turkey, facing forward, with its tail feathers fanned out.

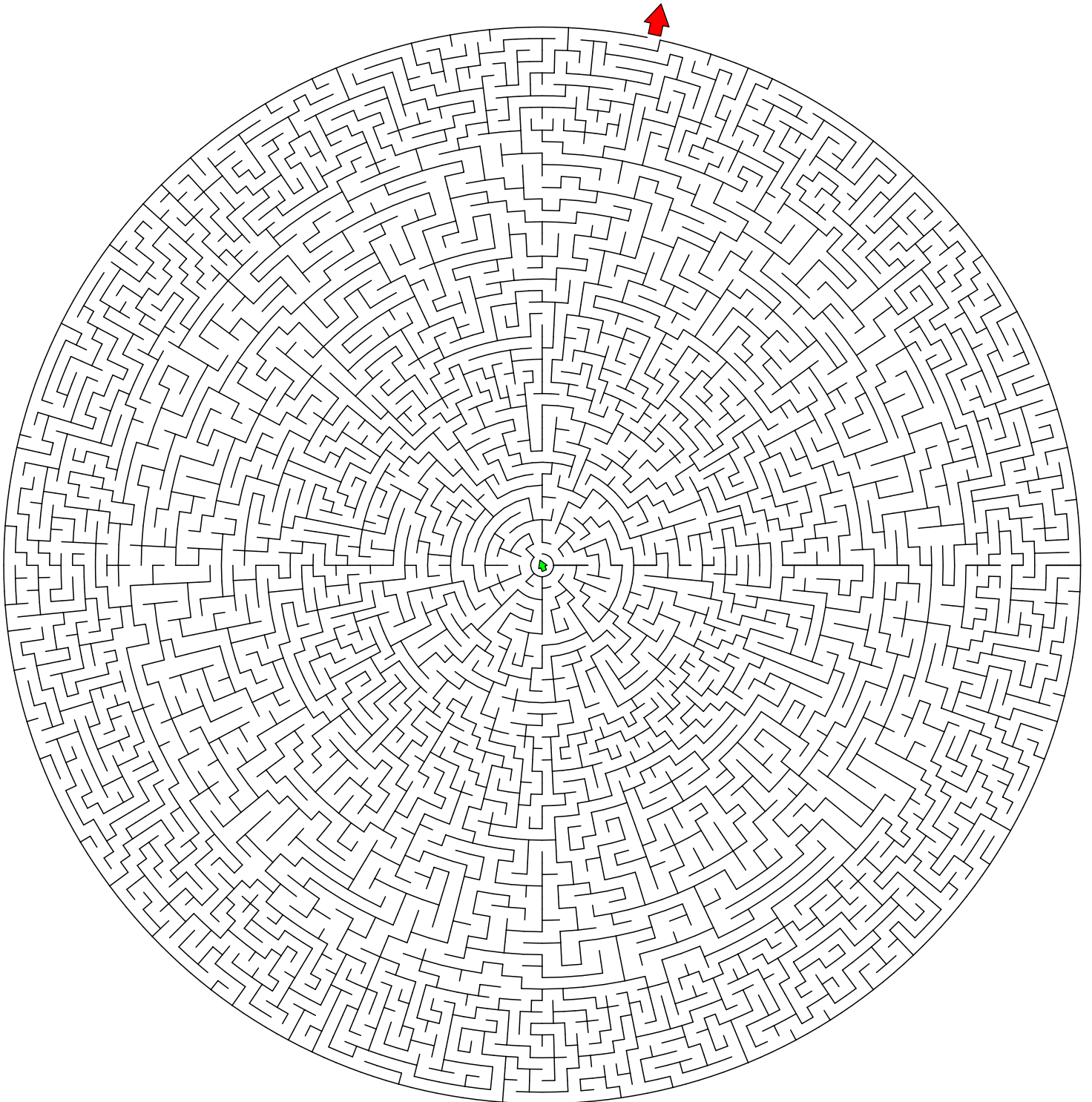
Thanks - No Thanks!

How thankful would you be if the following things happened to you?
Circle "Thanks" or "No Thanks" to describe your thoughts!

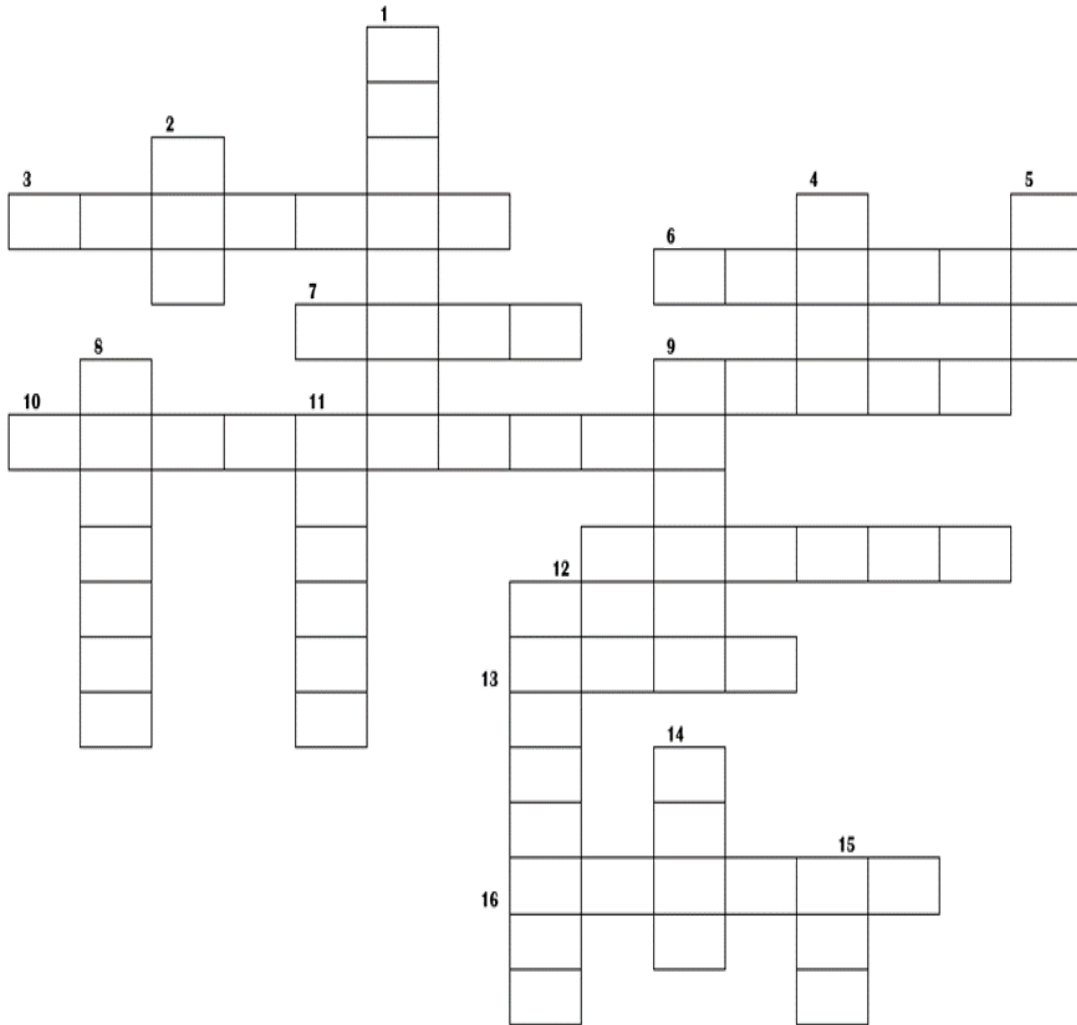


1. You win an all-expenses paid trip to Hawaii. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**
2. You left your favorite pair of shoes outside and they get destroyed by the lawn mower. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**
3. You over-sleep and miss out on breakfast before school. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**
4. You get a brand new game system for Christmas. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**
5. You get to hang out with your best friend at your favorite theme park.
Thanks! **No Thanks!**
6. Everyone forgets your birthday and all you get is leftover green bean casserole and an IOU. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**
7. You get a day off school and get to do whatever you want all day.
Thanks! **No Thanks!**
8. You find \$20 while folding laundry and get to keep it. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**
9. Your brother tells everyone at church your most embarrassing moment ever.
Thanks! **No Thanks!**
10. You win a year's supply of ice cream. **Thanks!** **No Thanks!**





CROSSWORD COMPETITION

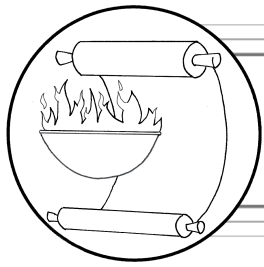


Down:

- 1 _____ was a prophet.
- 2 God promised to be the people's _____.
- 4 Another name for God.
- 5 The people did not keep their covenant with God, but God still gave them a _____ one.
- 8 What did God promise to do with the people's sin?
- 9 _____ read the scroll to the king.
- 11 The prophecy was written on a _____.
- 12 What did God promise NOT to do with the people's sin?
- 14 The people needed to _____ away from their ways and come back to God.
- 15 The king _____ the scroll as it was being read.

Across:

- 3 God told Jeremiah to write _____ scroll.
- 6 God said the people would be God's _____.
- 7 The _____ did not care about the words on the scroll.
- 9 God hoped the people of _____ would hear the message and change their ways.
- 10 Where was the scroll read the first time?
- 12 The king _____ the entire scroll.
- 13 The people's ways were _____.
- 16 The son of Neriah who wrote on the scroll was _____.



THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2024-2025)

Lesson #3-12
Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34

LAST WEEK

God calls Isaiah to be a prophet in a dramatic and frightening vision in the temple, but, unlike Jonah, he accepts the call (Isaiah 6:1-8).

THIS WEEK

The prophet Jeremiah has a message calling an unfaithful people to repentance with promises of forgiveness. The king burns the prophecy, but the prophet just writes it again (Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34).

THE POINT

No matter what we do, God promises a renewed relationship with us.

STORY SUMMARY

A New Covenant

God told Jeremiah that, if the people did not repent, they faced harsh consequences. Jeremiah sent Baruch to the temple to read the message to the crowd. The king commanded that the scroll be sent to him. As it was read to him, the king cut off each part and threw it into the fire until the entire scroll was burned. God told Jeremiah to rewrite the words on another scroll. God added words to the message. Even though the people broke their last covenant with God, the Lord would make a new covenant with the people. God promised to be their God and to forgive their sins.

NEXT WEEK

The people did not listen to the prophets and are sent into exile. Daniel refused to stop worshipping the God of Israel, so he was thrown into a lions' den. God kept him safe throughout the night (Daniel 6:6-27).

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Prophecy

In the Bible, a prophecy was not primarily saying what would happen in the future. It was usually a warning calling the people to repent to escape the consequences of their sinful behavior or a promise of hope for things to come. The overall purpose of a prophet's message was to change the people's behavior or give hope in a difficult situation.

PRACTICE: SERVICE

Jeremiah had a message to tell, and nothing was going to keep him from fulfilling his calling. What can your family do to spread the message of God's love even when a busy lifestyle leaves you with little extra time? Brainstorm ideas together and commit to doing at least one action each day.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ What does this tell you about God?
- ✚ What about this passage helps you want to trust God?
- ✚ What does this tell you about God's involvement in our lives?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34

God spoke through Jeremiah with a new covenant. Work together to memorize the last part of Jeremiah 31:34. Pause after each word, and take turns repeating it. Recite the verse together when you are done.

Monday—Read Jeremiah 39:11-18

When Jeremiah was captured, God told him that God would destroy the evil city but protect him. Sit in the car (or pretend to) and put on your seatbelt. Imagine God's love wrapping around you, protecting you from harm.

Tuesday—Read Jeremiah 42:7-16

Jeremiah prayed to God to know if the people should stay or move. God's said to stay in the land, and God would watch over them. Pray first and then make a simple decision together (what to eat or watch, where to go, etc.).

Wednesday—Read Jeremiah 44:1-10

The people continued to worship idols. God reminded them of the consequences experienced by their ancestors. What actions will you avoid because of what you have learned from others' poor choices?

Thursday—Read Daniel 1:1-17

Several Israelites served a foreign king but followed God's laws about food. Make a plan about how you can show respect to others who are different than you while you follow God's ways. Role play this plan in action.

Friday—Read Daniel 3:1-18

A king demanded that the people worship his golden image or be thrown into a fiery furnace. Listen to each others' heartbeats. Try the same with a stone. Why would someone worship an object instead of the living God?

Saturday—Read Daniel 5:1-8, 13-16, 23-28

Daniel was brought to the king to interpret writing on the wall. God told him its meaning. Make up a secret code using shapes for letters or words, or it can add a silly sound to the end of words Write and interpret messages.