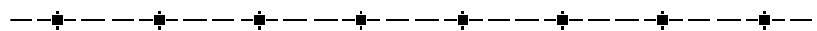


Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2010

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part Two



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Nahum

Nahum 1

Memory Verse

The Lord is good. When people are in trouble, they can go to Him for safety. He takes good care of those who trust in Him.
(Nahum 1:7 NIV)

Goals

1. Understand that God told the Ninevites that He wanted them to be loyal.
2. Recognize that they worshipped idols.
3. Learn that God takes cares of His people.
4. Understand that God is slow to anger.

Last week we learned that God told the people what He wanted them to do. God was punishing them because they did not do right, and they were cruel to each other. Micah's hope was in the Lord. He asked God to shepherd His people and show them His love and concern. Micah knew God would forgive His people.

Read the Bible

READ: Nahum 1:2-15 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin With Prayer

Nahum was another prophet whom God called. Nahum did not have good news for the people of Nineveh. God was going to punish them. Nahum said, "The Lord God demands loyalty. In His anger He takes revenge on His enemies." (Nahum 1:2 NIV)

Do you remember the story of Jonah? Remember the city where he went. It was called Nineveh. Remember that God was about to destroy the city. Jonah told the people how God felt and they changed their ways. They told God they were sorry and they started following Him.

Nahum is written 150 years later. Guess what? The people of Nineveh went back to their old ways. They stopped loving God and started loving themselves and idols instead. God said He would destroy the idols made of wood and steel that were in their temples. (Nahum 1:14 NIV)

God sent Nahum to tell the people that they were going to be punished for their disobedience. God wanted them to know that He loved them and wanted them to follow Him with all their hearts.

The Ninevites no longer listened to God and didn't care about Him. Nahum said, "The Lord will not let guilty people go without punishing them." Finally after telling them again and again to change their ways, God decided to destroy them! "The Lord is powerful yet patient." God is a powerful God. The Bible says, "When He marches out, He stirs up winds and storms. Clouds are the dust kicked up by His feet." God is slow to anger. (Nahum 1:3 NIV) His anger is controlled. God doesn't lose His patience. (The Message) Sometimes we allow anger to control us. God

Nahum — Bible Facts

1. God wanted loyalty
2. They worshipped idols.
3. God planned to punish the people.
4. God takes good care of those who trust in Him.

doesn't do that. He is patient and kind.

When someone disciplines you, why do you think they are doing it? (Wait for answers.) Parents should discipline children so that they can learn and follow God's ways.

Nahum told God's people that they would be safe, but the people of Nineveh would die. "God is good, a hiding place in tough times. He recognizes and welcomes anyone looking for help. No matter how desperate the trouble." (Nahum 1:7-10 The Message)

"God takes good care of those who trust in Him." (Nahum 1:7) Nahum said, "I see a messenger running to bring good news! He's telling us that peace has come!" (Nahum 1:15 NIV) This gave the people hope. They knew that God would do His best and they knew that He loved them.

We have hope because of Jesus. Without Jesus we have no way of getting to heaven. Jesus provided the way.

Review

1. **What did Nahum tell the Ninevites?** (God wanted loyalty.)
2. **What did the Ninevites do wrong?** (They worshipped idols.)
3. **What did God plan to do?** (God planned to punish the people.)
4. **What did Nahum say to Israel?** (God takes good care of those who trust in Him.)

Do You Know Jesus?

God sent Jesus so we would have a way to heaven. Jesus lived, died, and rose from the dead. He took our sins so that we could be forgiven. (Romans 10:9-10) If we invite Jesus to be a part of our lives He will come to be a part of our lives forever. If you would like to know more, talk to your teacher.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.
3. Ask God to help you trust in Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to trust God.

Application

God told the Ninevites that He wanted them to be loyal, but they worshipped idols. Nahum said that God is slow to anger. "The Lord is good. When people are in trouble, they can go to Him for safety. He takes good care of those who trust in Him." (Nahum 1:7 NIV)

Planning for Next Week

Habakkuk — Habakkuk 1-3

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Nahum 1:2-15 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: God is slow to anger. Make a happy and angry face using paper plates. Cut out the eyes. Use a craft stick to hold the paper plate.

Nahum was another prophet whom God called. Nahum did not have good news for the people of Nineveh. God was going to punish them.

Do you remember the story of Jonah? Remember the city where he went. It was called Nineveh. Remember that God was about to destroy the city. Jonah told the people how God felt and they changed their ways. They told God they were sorry and they started following God.

Nahum is written 150 years later. Guess what? The people of Nineveh went back to their old ways. They stopped loving God and started loving themselves and idols instead. God said He would destroy the idols made of wood and steel that were in their temples. (Nahum 1:14 NIV)

God sent Nahum to tell the people that they were going to be punished for their disobedience. God wanted them to know that He loved them and wanted them to follow Him with all their hearts.

The Ninevites no longer listened to God and didn't care about Him. God was going to punish them.

Then Nahum told Israel that God would take care of them. "God takes good care of those who trust in Him." (Nahum 1:7) This gave the people hope. They knew that God would do His best and they knew that He loved them. We can trust God, too. He sent Jesus so we can have a way to know Him and go to heaven.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.
3. Ask God to help you trust in Him.

Memory verse for younger children

[God] takes good care of those who trust in Him. Nahum 1:7

Learning Activities

- Memory verse activity** — Use cardstock to write the memory verse in blocks that are already printed on the page. Cut out the cards and mix them up. Ask the children to practice the verse by putting the cards in order.
- Test your memory** — Bring pictures of the wind, storms, and clouds. Use the pictures to tell the story.
- Taste activity** — Bring sugar cookies. Decorate with a “T” for trust.
- Think about it** — The people of Nineveh were doing wrong. Nahum had to tell them that God was going to punish them. Talk about what Nahum must have felt when he delivered the bad news.

Talk about worship and what it means. Remind the children that God wants us to worship Him only.

- Touch activity** — Nahum had to deliver bad news to Nineveh. Create a newspaper with words and pictures that give Nineveh the message.

Make clouds using cotton balls.

God is slow to anger. Make a happy and angry face using paper plates. Cut out the eyes. Use a craft stick to hold the paper plate.

- Run and play** — Brings instruments to help you worship. You can make rainsticks or tambourines. See the internet for ideas.

Decorate a box to look like a cave/place of refuge or create one with a tarp or bed sheet.

Talk about how God is our refuge.

- Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to trust Him.

- Sing** — Sing “Micah 6:8,” “Trust and Obey,” or another song related to the story.

- Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids who did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handout with the verse to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

The Lord is good.
When people are
in trouble, they can go
to Him for safety.
He takes good care
of those
who trust in Him.
Nahum 1:7

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God takes

good care

of those

who trust

in Him

Word Search

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

NAHUM
WORSHIPPED
POWERFUL
CLOUDS

NINEVITES
IDOLS
WINDS
SLOW

LOYALTY
PUNISH
STORMS
ANGER

Word Search

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

NAHUM
 WORSHIPPED
 POWERFUL
 CLOUDS

NINEVITES
 IDOLS
 WINDS
 SLOW

LOYALTY
 PUNISH
 STORMS
 ANGER

Word Search

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

NAHUM

NINEVITES

LOYALTY

WORSHIPPED

IDOLS

PUNISH

Word Search

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

NAHUM

NINEVITES

LOYALTY

WORSHIPPED

IDOLS

PUNISH

Anagram

ROLD

OGDO

LOTUREB

ESAFYT

RECA

SURTT

MUNHA

VIIENNTS

DHUPINES



Anagram

LORD

GOOD

TROUBLE

SAFETY

CARE

TRUST

NAHUM

NINEVITES

PUNISHED