



Era 8: Exile

Because of snow we missed two weeks of lessons, so we have some catching up to do! Recap the eras up until Kingdom discussing important people they may know. The students may not know much about the kingdom era since we stopped at Judges. Here is how you could quickly cover Kingdom and Divided Kingdom:

“When we left off at Judges, the people decided that that wasn’t working for them so they asked for a king instead. God wanted to be their king so badly, but the people only wanted a human king. So he gave them what they wanted. Saul was the first king, then came David (think Goliath and Bathsheba) and then his son Solomon (think building the temple). There were lots more kings after Solomon and most of them were really bad at their job. People got angry and prideful and eventually they split into the northern kingdom and southern kingdom. Both kingdoms turned to idol worship but God continued to try to get his people back. This brings us to today’s era, the Exile.

Watch the video “The Way of Exile” by the Bible Project. Stop the video at “The Time of Jesus”. Now lets recap.

Have the kids fill out the sheet as we move through the story line of the exile. (The answers are underlined.)

When you hear exile what do you think it means? It means to take someone out of their own country.

That is exactly what happened. The king of Babylon invaded Jerusalem (the capital of the kingdom of Judah) and took a lot of the Jewish (also known as Israelite and Hebrew) people back with him. They traveled about 1, 678 miles!

How would you feel is someone came to America and demanded that we all go with them to a new place? A place that ate differently, spoke differently, dressed differently, and worshipped differently? Circle the things that the jewish people had to change in Babylon. Circle all 4.

Think back to the video we watched. What did some of the jewish people choose to do? Some decided to revolt. While others gave into the lifestyle.

What do you think you would do?

Like the video said, there was a third option. Some of the people decided to participate with the Babylonians and seek the Lord.

This week at home, we will talk all about one of the men who really relied on the Lord during his time in Babylon. His name is Daniel.

All of the Babylonians wished to go home where they belonged.

But isn't that the story since creation? Adam and Eve sinned in the garden and were kicked out. After that, they only wanted to go back home to where they belonged.

Have you ever felt out of place or like something just isn't right with your life? That's because as long as we are on this earth, we aren't home. We aren't where we truly belong.

Where do we belong? With the Lord in Heaven!

So since the beginning of time until now, people have experienced the same thing—longing to be home.

Our sin is what got us kicked out of the garden (our home). Just like Daniel and his friends, we have to choose whether to give in to what the world is asking us to do or to choose to follow God's rules for our lives.

If we are kicked out of our home, what gets us back in?

JESUS! Because of Jesus, we are able to go back to our home with God. Today spend time, thanking Jesus for coming to get us when we were lost and giving us a way to get back home.