



GODLY/UNGODLY LIVING

Please note that this teaching text has not been proofed.

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NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

Lesson #1

GOD HEARS PRAYER

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Have you used Volume 11 (Leviticus, Part 1) of this series? If so, your students will be familiar with the three (3) offerings mentioned in this lesson. This would be a good time to review the meaning of these offerings.

1. *Sin offering* (See 2 Chronicles 29:21; Leviticus 4:3). A required offering, given as a sacrifice for sin. The sinner acknowledged his guilt. The innocent animal died in the sinner's place.
2. *Burnt offering* (see 2 Chronicles 29:24, 27; Leviticus 1:3-4). A voluntary offering given to God. It was the person's way of saying, "I am willingly setting myself apart for God."
3. *Thank offering* (also called *Fellowship [Peace] offering*, see 2 Chronicles 29:31; Leviticus 3:1; 7:11-21). This happy offering was a gift of thanks to God.

You may want to divide each of these lesson in half. Therefore we have suggested a closing paragraph after the second point of each lesson. An opening for the second half of the lesson is also included.

Begin each lesson with a brief review asking questions. Your students will remember what they have opportunity to tell.

When we first began our study, Israel was a great nation. Solomon was the wise king. HE built a magnificent temple where the people of God could worship Him. God said, "My house will be holy. I shall put My name there forever. My eyes and My heart shall always be there" (1 Kings 9:3). Jerusalem was the capital of all Israel. It became a great city because God's wonderful temple was there.

After King Solomon died, the nation was torn apart. The Southern Kingdom was named for its larger tribe, Judah. The Northern Kingdom kept the name Israel. For more than 200 years, wicked kings led the Northern Kingdom away from God. So Israel had become a weak nation. Finally it was invaded by Assyria, a strong, wicked nation. And the people of Israel were captured because "they neither listened to God's commands nor obeyed them." (See 2 Kings 18:11-12.) So the Israelites, God's people, were swept away into foreign lands. There they lived among God's enemies. This, then, was the end of the large Northern Kingdom. Our lesson today begins seven years later in the Southern Kingdom, Judah.

Scripture to be studied: 2 Kings 18:1-19:37; 2 Chronicles 29:1-32:33; Isaiah 36:1-37:38

The aim of the lesson: To teach that God hears the prayers of His own and answers according to His will.

What your students should know: All sin must be confessed to God in prayer.

What your students should feel: Eager to pray to the Lord about everything.

What your students should do: Set aside a definite time for daily prayer.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. Hezekiah's prayer of worship (2 Chronicles 29:20-36).
2. Hezekiah's prayer for forgiveness (2 Chronicles 30:1-31:21).

3. Hezekiah's prayer for help (2 Chronicles 32:1-20; 2 Kings 18:13-17; 19:1-34; Isaiah 36:1-2, 13-22; 37:1-13, 21-25).

4. Hezekiah's prayer is answered (2 Chronicles 32:21-23; 2 Kings 19:35-37; Isaiah 37:36-38).

The verse to be memorized:

If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

THE LESSON

Judah, the Southern Kingdom, now had a good king, Hezekiah. (See 2 Chronicles 29:1-2.) Hezekiah's wicked father (King Ahaz) had turned the people away from God. So good