

JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS +

For Children Ages 9 through 11



December
January
February

WINTER
2026-27

Junior Bible Class⁺

WINTER QUARTER

December 2026, January, February 2027

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Dear Juniors,

Welcome to *Junior Bible Class*⁺! We hope it helps you get excited about learning and applying God's Word!

Here are some of the features:

- The **Big Idea** highlights the main point of the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions** are interjected within the lesson to help you interact with the topic.
- The main ideas are **bold** in the lesson to help you see them at a glance.
- The **Big Question** addresses some doubts, fears, or concerns you may have about God, His Word, or life in general.
- **Next Steps** give you ways to be doing what the lesson is teaching throughout the week.
- **Christ Focus** shows how every lesson points to Jesus.
- **Talk About It** gives you ideas on things to discuss with trusted Christian adults in your life.

Lesson Text: Lamentations 3:1-3, 19-39

"God's compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23).

BIG IDEA: Even during times of great trouble, God was kind and good to His people.

LAMENTATIONS 3:1 I am the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.
2 He hath led me, and brought me into darkness, but not into light.
3 Surely against me is he turned; he turneth his hand against me all the day.

19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.
20 My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

22 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.
23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

24 The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

25 The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.

26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

27 It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

28 He smeth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him.

29 He purneth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope.

30 He groweth like a dumb, to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach.

31 For the Lord will not cast off for ever: **32** But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

33 For he doeth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

34 To crush under his feet all the prisoners of the earth.

35 To turn aside the right of a man before the face of the most High.

36 To subvert a man in his camp, the Lord appeareth not.

37 When he hath slain, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth a man: **38** Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil and good?

39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

BIBLE LESSON

Jeremiah was a prophet who delivered messages to God's people. But the Israelites listened to false prophets, who said things they wanted to hear. God was going to be angry at their sin and told Jeremiah to deliver a message. God was going to punish the people. They would be taken captive by a country called Babylon. The Israelites were not happy to hear Jeremiah's words. The false prophets hurt Jeremiah. Jeremiah probably felt as if God were far away. He had followed God's instructions, but God allowed him to suffer.

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QUICK QUIZ

Answer these three questions!

Which prophet was sad?

- a. Jeremiah
- b. Isaiah
- c. Zephaniah

Where would the people of Judah be taken?

- a. Babylon
- b. Greece
- c. Assyria

What does mercy show?

- a. forgiveness
- b. compassion
- c. both of the above

NEXT STEPS

Are you going through a difficult time? Maybe you're doing a new activity and you're scared, or maybe you're dealing with a bully. Ask God to help you through it. He will be with you no matter what's happening. Read the Bible to learn who God is and how to trust Him.

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus' love is faithful during good and bad times.

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask a trusted Christian adult what God can teach us when we're suffering.

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Later, Jeremiah was sad when enemies captured Jerusalem. But he knew something important: God loves His people and keeps His promises!

How would you feel if you were Jeremiah?

Jeremiah had hope that things would get better because he knew God is merciful, showing forgiveness and compassion. Jeremiah prayed and waited for God to rescue the people. Because Jeremiah asked for help, God gave him strength to get through times of suffering.

How does God use suffering?

God can use suffering to teach us to rely on Him. Relying on God makes us more like Jesus. Jesus suffered more than we ever will when He died on the cross. Jesus accepted God's plan for His life even though it hurt Him. God wants us to accept the troubles we go through too. God allows discipline in our lives but promises that it is always for our good. God does not enjoy when His people are hurting. God sees everything that goes on in the world, and He knows what is best for us.

Why does God punish us sometimes but show us mercy at other times?

God loves His followers. If you trust in Jesus, you are His follower. God promised to be with His followers, even when they face trouble. Sometimes God allows us to suffer bad things so that we will learn to ask Him for help. God does not promise to take away all our troubles, but He promises to give us strength to get through them.

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW ANYONE TO SUFFER?

God does not enjoy our suffering. He created a perfect world without suffering. Read Genesis 1 and 2 to learn about the world before sin changed to rely on Him for help. If you are a believer, He can also use them to make you more like Jesus. Sometimes we suffer because we have sinned, but not understand what God is doing, but we can trust who He is and what He says. He is good and kind. He has promised to always be with us.

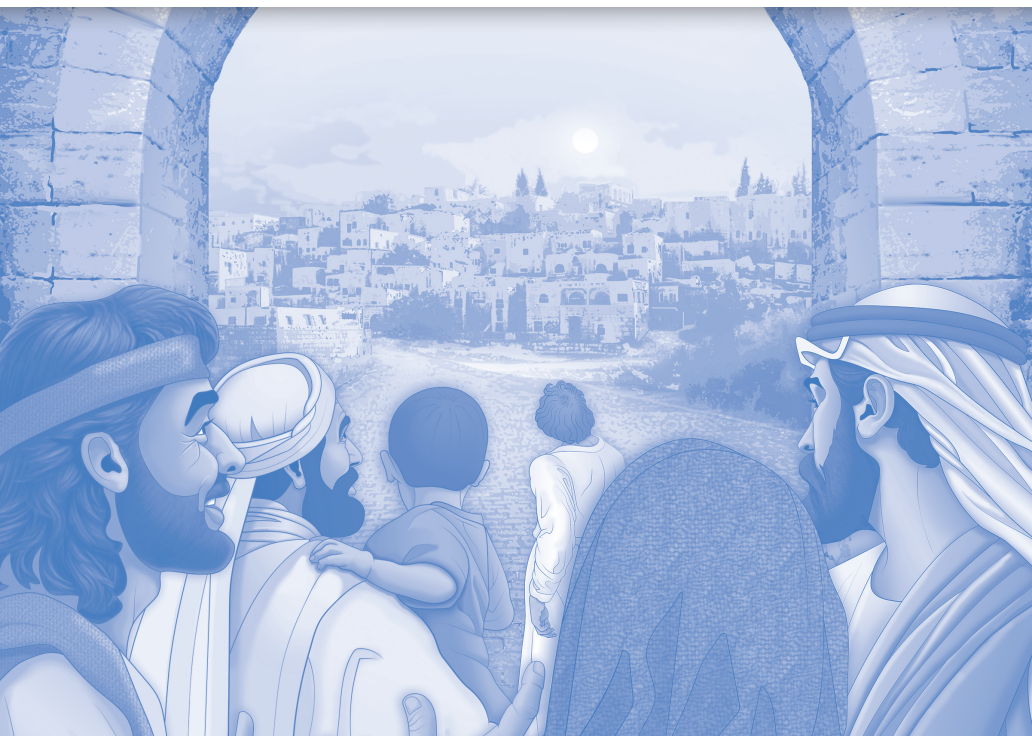
To trust God, you must know about Him. God tells us who He is in the Bible. You can read the Bible for yourself to learn more about Him.

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UNIT 1:

Love Sends a Savior



Lesson Text: Lamentations 3:1-3, 19-39

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WHY DOES GOD ALLOW ANYONE TO SUFFER?

God does not enjoy our suffering. He created a perfect world without suffering. Read Genesis 1 and 2 to learn about the world before sin changed everything. God can use the bad things that happen in your life to teach you to rely on Him for help. If you are a believer, He can also use them to make you more like Jesus. Sometimes we suffer because we have sinned, but not always. God has compassion on us when we are suffering. We may not always understand what God is doing, but we can trust who He is and what He says. He is good and kind. He has promised to always be with us.

To trust God, you must know about Him. God tells us who He is in the Bible. You can read the Bible for yourself to learn more about Him.



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