In the Beginning...Jesus

Lesson 29
God's Anointed One

Themes:

- Through His prophets, God predicted the re-building of Jerusalem and the temple, and the return of His people.
- God promised to send His Anointed One to bring good news to His sinful people.

Scripture:

Portions of Isaiah 44-45; 61:1

Memory Verse:

Review John 1:1-10

Today's Clue:

GOD'S ANOINTED ONE

Home and Heart:

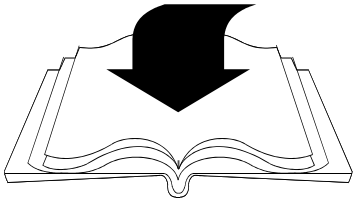
Read and discuss Isaiah 44:24, 28; 45:13b; and 46:10b-11. The prediction about a man named Cyrus was made long before Cyrus was born. Could Cyrus have made himself be born at just the right time and in just the right place? Read Ezra 1:1-3. What words does the Bible use to show that the idea to rebuild Jerusalem and the temple came from God and not from Cyrus? Should knowing this make you more in awe of God and His Word? Why?

Read Nehemiah 9:6-37. These verses give a summary of Israel's history. The people are reminded of God's goodness, faithfulness, and mercy, and of Israel's wickedness and faithlessness. Why was it important for the people to be reminded of this? Why is it important for each of us to be reminded of this? Is there something you were disciplined for as a young child that you still remember clearly? As you look back, do you better understand why your parents disciplined you? Do you remember your parents' forgiveness? Does that help you to better love and trust your parents? What does God want His people to learn from their past history? Do you need to learn these lessons, too? Why?

Read Isaiah 61:1-3 concerning God's Anointed. What does the word "anointed" mean? [To be chosen and equipped for a special purpose.] The Jewish people often use the word "Messiah" to refer to this Man. How are sinners like poor people? (What do sinners need?) How are sinners brokenhearted? Do you feel this in your own heart? How are sinners like captives or prisoners? What do the words "bind up" mean? What would it be like for a sinful heart to be "fixed"? What would liberty be like for a sinner? Why couldn't Cyrus do this for God's people? Do you know the identity of the Man speaking in this verse? Why do you think it is Jesus? How has Jesus set sinners free from their captivity to sin and death? Have you experienced this? Or do you still feel like something is weighing down your heart?

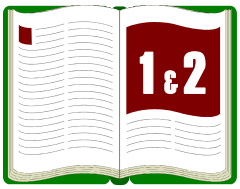


DISCOVER MORE



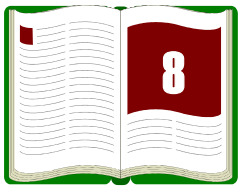
NEHEMIAH

Nehemiah describes the return of God's people from exile to the land God promised them. Nehemiah was an Israelite living in Persia. The king of Persia sent Nehemiah back to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. This week, read the chapters of Nehemiah listed below and answer the questions.



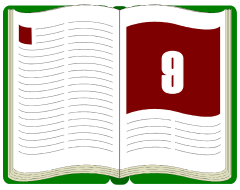
What did Nehemiah do when he heard about the condition of Jerusalem?

Why did the king grant Nehemiah's request to rebuild Jerusalem?



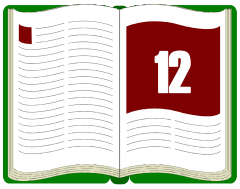
Did the people understand what was read from the book of the Law?

According to verse 9, what was Ezra's "job"? What was Nehemiah's "job"?



Write down four different words that this chapter uses to describe God:

Write down three different words that this chapter uses to describe God's people:



How did God's people celebrate the dedication of the wall?

What was heard far away?