



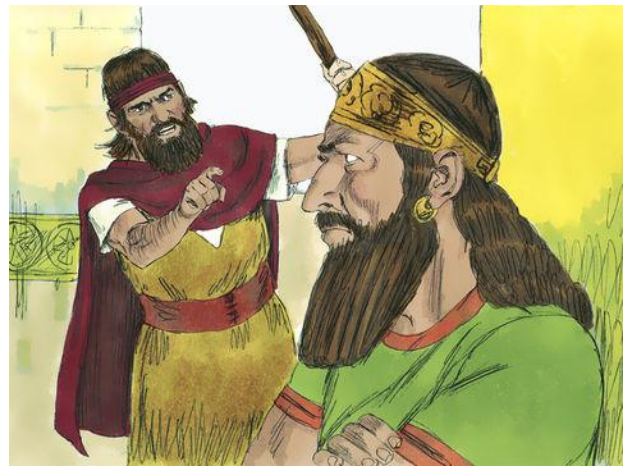
## L3.L42: Elijah

### 1 Kings 17-19

*Ahab became king of Israel, and he followed in the footsteps of his wicked ancestor, Jeroboam. He also married Jezebel, a Phoenician Princess of neighboring Sidon, and daughter of King Ethbaal. Not only was she a princess, but she was a High Priestess of Baal worship. Ahab, with wicked Jezebel at his side, did more to provoke God to anger than all the kings before him. Together, they made a powerful and evil pair, luring Israel into wholesale Baal worship. But the prophet Elijah was determined to defend against this unholy duo. His courage in defying Jezebel, Ahab, and all their cohorts was honored by God with miracles and signs that proved that God was still in charge, even during these dark days in the land of Israel.*

#### Discuss:

- Elijah knew God was with him. What were some of the miracles God performed to protect Elijah from Ahab and Jezebel?
- Did Elijah do as God told him even though he was afraid? Someone once said that courage is not the absence of fear; it is action in the face of fear.
- There was a great famine in the land because God withheld the rain for a long time. How did God provide food for Elijah when he was staying with the widow and her son?
- How did Elijah survive when he was hiding from the king? What does that tell us about God's ability to help us in the time of our need?
- Elijah invited the prophets of Baal to a showdown on Mount Carmel to prove who was the true God. How did God show the people that He is the only true God and that Baal and Asherah were just false, powerless idols?



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#### Memory Challenge:

##### 1 Kings 18:21

“And Elijah came to all the people, and said, ‘How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.’ But the people answered him not a word.”



## L3.L43: Elisha

### 2 Kings 2-7

*Elijah the prophet was getting older and God decided it was time to appoint a new prophet in Israel to take his place. Under God's instruction, Elijah went to find the man God chose and met a certain young man named Elisha plowing a field with twelve yoke of oxen! (1 Kings 19:15-21) Without delay, Elisha left his home, his family, his oxen and begin to serve and learn from Elijah in preparation for his new role as a spiritual leader in Israel. After learning what he could, the time came for Elisha to take over for Elijah. God was about to send Elijah away in a miraculous way, but the people would need to know that God was with Elisha. God had some exciting adventures planned for this courageous young leader, as well as number of miracles of his own.*

#### Discuss:

- Why do you think God wanted Elisha to spend time learning from Elijah before taking Elijah's position?
- Elisha performed his first miracle after Elijah his master was taken away. What was this first miracle? Why did God allow Elisha to perform miracles so soon after Elijah had gone?
- With God's help, Elisha performed many miracles. Which is your favorite of the miracles he performed? Why?
- What are some lessons we can learn from the story of Naaman and Elisha?
- The Syrians, enemies of Israel, wanted to capture Elisha because he had alerted the Israelites of their plans. How did Elisha's servant respond when he woke up to see the city surrounded by the Syrian army? How did Elisha respond? What can we learn from Elisha's example?
- What are some examples of Elisha's compassion?



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#### Memory Challenge:

1 Kings 2:9

And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."



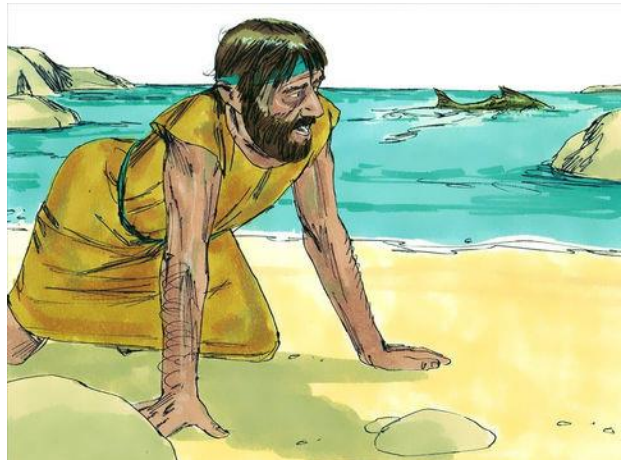
## L3.L44: Jonah

### Jonah 1 - 4

*After the death of Elisha, God raised up other prophets whom He used to speak His words to the people. One of those prophets was a man from a town called Gath Hopher whose name was Jonah (2 Kings 14:25). Jonah usually delivered messages from God to the people of Israel, but one day God told him to deliver a message to an entirely different group of people in a city called Nineveh. The people of Nineveh were not Israelites, but Assyrians and enemies of Israel, and Jonah wanted nothing to do with them. So, instead of following God's directions to deliver a warning to the people of Nineveh, Jonah decided to run away from God. But God wasn't finished with Jonah. He was forming a plan that would get the attention of both Jonah and the people of Nineveh.*

#### Discuss:

- Why do you think Jonah tried to run away from God? Is it ever possible to hide from God?
- Why do you think Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh to deliver God's message?
- Jonah knew that he was the reason God sent the storm, so he told the men to throw him into the sea. How did God save Jonah's life?
- What do you think it was like for Jonah to be in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights?
- What did the people of Nineveh do when they heard God's message from Jonah? What lessons can we learn from their response?
- Do you think Jonah learned the lessons God was trying to teach? What can we learn from his story?
- What can we learn about God's love, His mercy, and His compassion from the story of Jonah?



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#### Memory Challenge:

Jonah 2:7

“When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer went up to You, into Your holy temple.”



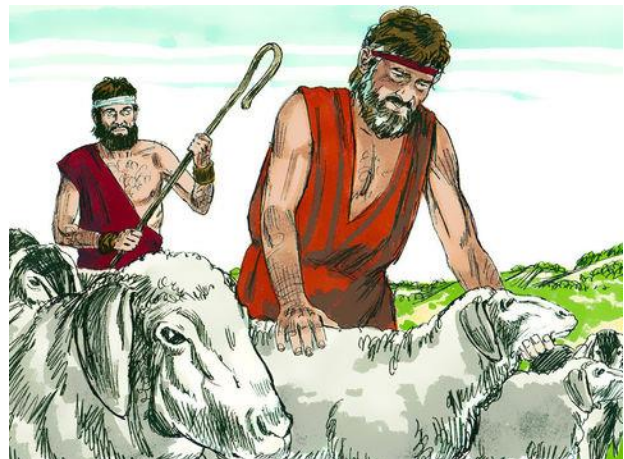
## L3.L45: Amos

### Amos 1-9

*Amos was a sheep breeder when God sent him to prophesy to Israel. He was a prophet during the reigns of Uzziah king of Judah and Jeroboam II king of Israel (2 Kings 15). This Jeroboam is not to be confused with Jeroboam I, the first king of Israel who caused Israel to sin. Jeroboam II was an evil king who continued the false religion of his ancestors. Yet, God allowed Israel to prosper during this time. It is in this context that Amos was sent to prophesy against Israel and the surrounding nations.*

#### Discuss:

- Why does God warn people through prophecy? Remember that transgression of God's law is sin (1 John 3:4 KJV) and sin causes suffering.
- How were things going in the land while Amos prophesied of bad things to come? Do you think this changed how the people heard his message?
- Did the people listen to Amos?
- Was Amos thought of as a traitor? What should we do if we experience ill feelings from others because of our faith?
- What were Israel's sins that Amos pointed out in chapter 2? Covetousness was a major source of their sins. Today, our society is filled with covetousness. How can we avoid being covetous?
- Did the people change?
- What nation took Israel captive not long after Amos' warnings?



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#### Memory Challenge:

Amos 3:7

Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.