



"My eyes will watch over them for their good." (Jer. 24:6)

Bible Study: Read Jeremiah 24, which takes place after the “first wave of exiles” in which Jehoiachin and many officials and prominent people (including Ezekiel, Daniel and three friends) were carried into exile. Jeremiah received from the LORD a vision that the exiles who were taken to Babylon would be like the good figs; they would be watched over, cared for, and brought back to Israel by God. This vision given to Jeremiah is consistent with the way God operated through the history of Israel; always being faithful to a **remnant** (Isa. 1:9; 6:13; 11:1), not because of their own merits, but for His own Name’s sake.

The Gospel in the Story: From the story of the fall of the Southern Kingdom of Israel to the Assyrians, we learn that Israel was powerless to follow God’s rules in their own strength. Later, this same bad news applied to the Tribes of Judah and Benjamin (Southern Kingdom), in their fall to Babylon. God knew this. In fact, in Isaiah’s commissioning (ch 6), God proclaimed that all of Israel would be reduced to a “stump”, (**remnant**) which would be saved. God’s faithfulness to a remnant (who were saved not by their strength or abilities, but his) is a consistent picture of **GRACE** in the Bible. The problem of sin is true for every person on earth; we all were born with a sin nature, and were born into captivity of sin, just like the scattered Israelites. But God had a plan to send one, born of the Jews, who would have the power to change people’s hearts **through Grace** so they could follow God and be reconciled to Him. And His name is **Jesus**.

Application:

Head: **What did we learn?**

Q: Who was Nebuchadnezzar? A: King of Babylon, a very powerful country.

Q: What did he do? A: Invaded and defeated the southern kingdom where Jerusalem was. Then he took many of the people from Judah to Babylon.

Q: Why did God allow this to happen? A: The leaders and the people had turned away from God and instead put their hope and faith in idols.

Heart: **Memory Verse**

"My eyes will watch over them for their good."
Jeremiah 24:6

Hands: **How does this affect the way I live?**

Though sin is rampant in the world, many have been saved by the Grace of God. With this comes new values and priorities.

Discuss as a family what it looks like to live with a grateful heart that understands the magnitude of grace given by God

Home: **How does this affect my household?**

Discuss how family values and priorities that flow from God are like good fruit, rather than bad stinky rotten fruit

Heaven: **How does this help us share our faith?**

Discuss how you may share the good news for your household with others who have not yet put their faith in God, and how to share that with others.