**GOD’S STORY – YOUR STORY**

**SESSION 9**

**Hope in the Midst of Disaster**

Readings

1 Kings 16:29-33 Isaiah 40:1-11

1 Kings 18:17-46 Jeremiah 1:1-10

1 Kings 19:9-21 Lamentations 5

2 Kings 2:6-14 Amos 5:4-7 and 8:9-14

Ezekiel 10:18-19 and 11:14-25 Zephaniah 3:14-20

Prophets

Someone who has a special message from God

Works and words of the prophets recorded in:

1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles

Major Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel

Minor Prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah,

Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

The prophets would bring whatever message the people needed to hear.

Repentance

Hope

Only time reveals who a true prophet is.

The Northern Kingdom - Israel.

Israel lasted about 200 years after the death of Solomon.

The kings and the people fell away from God and often worshipped local deities. God sent prophets instructing them to repent.

Israel fell to Assyria in about 722 B.C. The Israelites were taken to Assyria and dispersed throughout the empire. They never returned and this was the end of the northern kingdom.

Prophets sent to Israel

Elijah

 Called the most important of the Old Testament prophets

 Miracles

 Fed by ravens, Widow’s oil, grain, Widow’s son

 The Baals

 Elijah taken directly to heaven

Elisha

 Elijah’s student and successor.

Amos

Hosea

The Southern Kingdom - Judah

Like Israel, the kings and the people would worship false gods and disobey God.

God sent prophets to warn them.

In 587 BC the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and the temple.

The people were taken to Babylon. This time in Babylon is called the Exile.

Prophets sent to Judah

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Obadiah

Ezekiel

Daniel

Joel

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Questions that the people of Judah had in Exile

Was their God really all powerful?

Was their God still going to keep the promises made to Abraham?

Did God break his promise that one of David’s descendants would always be king?

How would they survive as a people with no nation and no king?

How could they worship God when the temple had been destroyed?

How long would this last?

**Looking ahead:**

Luke 4:9-12

Luke 9:28-36

Matthew 16:13-16

Mark 15:33-39

Romans 11:1-6