

Week/Dates	Title	Scripture Text	Bible Story	Faith Focus
Session 1 Week 1 Sept. 20	A new covenant	Jeremiah 31:31–40	Jeremiah speaks of a new covenant, which will be written on the people's hearts. All will know God. Jerusalem will be rebuilt and enlarged for the Lord.	<u>Younger</u> : We want to follow God. <u>Older</u> : In the new covenant we will know God in our hearts.
Session 1 Week 2 Sept. 27	The valley of dry bones	Ezekiel 37:1–14	Ezekiel has a vision of a valley filled with dry bones coming to life. This symbolizes the restoration and new life God plans for Israel, even in Israel's darkest hour.	God breathes life into us.
Session 1 Week 3 Oct. 4	God's messenger brings assurance	Isaiah 40	Isaiah comforts the people with a message of hope. God is coming to gather Israel as a shepherd gathers lambs in his arms. Those who wait for the Lord will not grow weary.	God comforts and strengthens.
Session 1 Week 4 Oct. 11	Job suffers	Job 1–2	God allows Satan to test Job. Job remains faithful to God despite losing his wealth and children. Even when he is physically afflicted, he refuses to curse God.	<u>Younger</u> : Good and bad things happen to God's children. <u>Older</u> : There is no simple explanation for suffering.
Session 1 Week 5 Oct. 18	God responds to Job	Job 38–42	God answers Job in a whirlwind. Job affirms that God can do all things. He asks for forgiveness for his friends. Job's fortunes are restored.	<u>Younger</u> : God listens to us. <u>Older</u> : God's ways are mysterious.
Session 1 Week 6 Oct. 25	Returning to Jerusalem	Ezra 1	King Cyrus of Persia sends the Israelites back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. Cyrus returns to them the temple items carried off by the Babylonians.	<u>Younger</u> : God brings us back. <u>Older</u> : God keeps covenant in unexpected ways.