The group will be starting a new set called The Major Prophets. These five books, written by four authors, begin a section of the Old Testament called the Prophets. It might be a good time to remind the ladies that Jesus stated in Luke 24:25 “O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!” The Prophetical Books are vitally important and God expects that we will read them and know why they were written and believe them!

**Homework:** If the participants have JUST completed the Poetical Books the week before then the following homework may be discussed. (The leader may need to remind the participants to bring the Poetical Workbook with them when they come to class.) However, if several weeks have passed then there will be no discussion of the homework.

- Second question on page 130
- Question at the top of page 133
- All questions on page 135-6
- Question at the top of 139

If new participants have joined the group, take this time to review the workbook with them, explaining the Complete Read and the Quick Read, along with the chart on page 146, and the memory cards. The answers to the DVD outline fill-ins are in the back of the book beginning on page 147 and the answers to the “Review It” are in the side columns at the end of each day’s homework. Also review the format of the class and give time for introductions.

**Oral Review:** This is a lot of information but the purpose is to review for students as they begin a new set and also to give a little help to the new participants. It helps a great deal to review in story form. The below is only a suggestion. Each facilitator may tell the story in her own words. Please emphasize the idea of “sets” (Pentateuch, Kingdom, Post Exilic, Poetical) as that helps the student remember in a more organized way!

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**The story thus far:**

**The Pentateuch** (Review the story of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy)

**Genesis:** God created Adam and Eve who rebelled against Him and sinned entered the world. As wickedness increased God flooded the world except Noah and his family. Later He confused the languages and nations were formed. God raised up one man, Abraham, and gave him three promises: many descendents, land and that one of his descendents would be a blessing to the whole world. Abraham’s grandson and his family of 70 moved to Egypt and were living in peace at the end of the book.
Exodus: Four hundred years later the Israelites were now about 2.5 million people and the Egyptians had enslaved them. God brought ten plagues on the people of Egypt and Moses led them out of the land and to Mt. Sinai. There God gave them the Ten Commandments and instructions for building the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle was placed in the center of the camp. Upon completion, the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle signifying that God was indeed with His people. Now God’s first promise had been fulfilled as Abraham’s family was now a nation of about 2.5 million people. They spent one year at Mt. Sinai.

Leviticus was a rule book for the priests and contained instructions for properly approaching God through animal sacrifice and also included laws for holy living for all of the Israelites. Leviticus did not add to the historical story but was an instructional book that clarified the way to God through sacrifice and the walk with God through sanctification.

The laws given at Mt Sinai were civil, moral and spiritual and would be the foundation for the nation as they settled in the land God was about to give them. They were now prepared to begin the journey to the Promised Land!

Numbers: God led the people from Mt. Sinai heading to the Promised Land. Once at the border, 12 spies were sent in to access the country. They reported back that there were giants in the land and they were too afraid to go forward. Two Spies, Joshua and Caleb knew that God would protect them and fight for them but the people refused to listen because of unbelief. God punished them with forty years of wandering until all of that generation had died. Only those children 20 and younger along with Joshua and Caleb survived.

Deuteronomy: Once again the people were at the border of the Promised Land. Moses gave three sermons that reviewed Israel’s history, the law, and called for obedience and courage. Moses died at the end of the book and Joshua took his place as leader of the people. The people were now prepared to conquer the land God had promised Abraham.

Kingdom Books: (Review stories in Joshua, Judges, Ruth, First and Second Samuel, First and Second Kings)

In Joshua God parted the Jordan River and Joshua led the children of Israel across into the Promised Land. It took seven years to conquer all of the land and eighteen years to divide it among the twelve tribes. Now God’s second promise had been fulfilled. Abraham’s descendant had land of their own.

The book of Judges covers the next 340 years. God was to be their king, but time and time again, the people would turn to other gods and live in disobedience to God’s laws thus bringing about corrupt societies. God would discipline through enemy oppression, the people would cry out to God in repentance, God would rescue and they would once again live in peace. Seven sin cycles are recorded in Judges. Deborah, Gideon and Samson are three of the most well known judges.
Ruth is a love story that took place during the time of the Judges. In it God revealed the concept of the Kinsman Redeemer. There Ruth met Boaz who became her kinsman redeemer, married her and they had a son who became the grandfather of King David.

In First Samuel, Samuel led the people as a judge, priest and prophet. Toward the end of his life, the people demanded a king and Saul became the first king of Israel but his heart was far from God. In the end, Saul was killed in war.

Second Samuel is devoted entirely to the reign of David as the second king of Israel and a man after God’s own heart. God promised that David would always have a king on the throne of Israel.

David died in First Kings and his son Solomon became king and built the temple in Jerusalem and brought Israel to its Golden Era. After his death, his son Rehoboam became king. Under his reign the nation divided…northern 10 tribes were called Israel under King Jereboam, and the Southern two tribes were called Judah under King Rehoboam. Judah always had a king that was a descendent of David and worshiped in Jerusalem at the temple Solomon built. The Levitical order remained temple servants and the descendents of Aaron were the priests as God ordained. Israel, however, in disobedience established two places of worship, Bethel and Dan. Golden calves were the center of that worship and the priesthood was perverted. Israel never had a good king on the throne. This book covers about 120 years.

Second Kings continued the history of Israel and Judah and the kings that reigned during that time. As sin increased Israel was conquered by Assyria in 722 BC and scattered. One hundred and thirty-six years later Judah was conquered and exiled to Babylon.

The Post Exilic Books (Review the books of First and Second Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther)

First Chronicles reviewed for the exiles living in Babylon the genealogy of the twelve tribes and then moved on to cover much of the reign of King David. There is great religious emphasis on David’s reign including bringing the ark to Jerusalem, the Davidic covenant, collecting the materials to build the temple, the organization of the Levites, and his last instructions to the people. This book parallels 2 Samuel.

In Second Chronicles the story continued from First Chronicles. King David died and his son Solomon became king and built the temple to David’s specification. Nine chapters are devoted to the building of the temple, the dedication of the temple and Solomon’s fame. Rehoboam’s poor judgment divided the country into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. The reigns of the rest of the kings of Judah are then described from a priestly point of view. In the end the nation is conquered and exiled. However the last two paragraphs describe Cyrus, king of Persia’s proclamation allowing the exiles to return to Judah and Jerusalem. This book parallels 1 and 2 Kings.
In the book of **Ezra** God kept His promise and made a way for the people to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. Almost fifty thousand people returned and began the rebuilding process. But soon opposition stopped the work. God sent Ezra to renew the spiritual lives of the people and rebuilding began again and was soon completed.

**Nehemiah** was given permission by the king of Persia to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the wall. This book chronicles the progress on the wall, the opposition Nehemiah faced and the rebuilding of the people’s spiritual lives through the renewing of the covenant with God.

**Esther** is the story of a young Jewish woman who was chosen to be the wife of the King of Persia. Her uncle uncovered a plot to annihilate all of the Jews living in Persia but Esther’s wisdom and courage saved the Jews from destruction. This book fit into the historical book of Ezra between chapters 6 and 7.

**The Poetical Books** (Review the books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon)

**Job** is an exquisite poem written during the times of the Patriarchs that asks the universal question “Why do good people suffer”. The main theme is the sovereignty of God.

**Psalms** is called the Jewish Hymnbook and was used for temple worship during the Kingdom Period. It is made up of 150 lyrics that were to be set to music. These express many human emotions and point man to God in worship and adoration. This book is the most quoted book in the Bible. Most of the Psalms were written during the time of King David and King Solomon.

**Proverbs** is a book that was compiled of short pithy statements so the reader could gain wisdom for righteous living in an easy and memorable way.

**Ecclesiastes** was probably written by King Solomon in his later years. It asks the question “What is it that satisfies the soul of man?” Solomon had the resources and time and power to try out all that life had to offer yet his conclusion was “all is vanity”. Only God satisfies.

**Song of Solomon** is a beautiful poem that reveals God’s great stamp of approval on married, romantic, sexual love.

**Written Review:** Because the class is beginning a new set and the oral review will take more time, there will be no written review.

**Watch DVD** for Isaiah

**Teacher:** Eleanor Lewis
Testimony: Kay Arthur
Music: Unto Us
Vocalist: Joy Fowler Waters

Learning For Life: Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What to Remember in Isaiah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who:</strong> Author: Isaiah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Characters:</strong> Isaiah and the nation of Judah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What:</strong> Prophecy warning of God’s judgment for rebellion; prophecy promising hope through God’s salvation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>When:</strong> Isaiah’s ministry of sixty years during the time of 2 Kings (740-680)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Where:</strong> Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Why:</strong> To call Judah to repentance and hope in the coming Messiah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wrap Up: Isaiah stood firm during turbulent political times, confident that salvation was from God. Pray the participants will have the courage and convictions of Isaiah to stand and live firmly grounded in the Word of God and that they will know that salvation is from none other than through Jesus Christ.
Session Twenty-Four: Jeremiah
Israel’s Final Judgment

Homework: Answer the following questions from their daily homework in the book of Isaiah. The facilitator may choose other questions that may be more appropriate to the group. These are just suggestions:

1. The question at the bottom of page 32 and the top of page 33.
2. The last two questions at the bottom of page 36 and the question at the top of page 27
3. Discuss the impact the question at the bottom of page 40 had on each participant as they recorded their answer.
4. Question at the bottom of age 43

Oral Review:
The Story So Far: Review of the book of Isaiah.
Isaiah begins the series of Prophetic Books. These seventeen books fit into the history of Israel and Judah in 1 and 2 Kings and Post Exilic Books. The first five books are called Major Prophets because they are longer than the other Prophetic Books. Isaiah is a Bible in miniature as it has sixty-six chapters, the first thirty-nine are of great warning and judgment and the last twenty-seven are mostly of consolation. It was written to warn the people of Judah and Israel of the impending discipline that was going to take place if they did not turn back to their God. More information is found here about the person and work of Jesus Christ than in any other book in the Old Testament.

Written Review: Divide the class into smaller groups. Have each group come up with five facts about each one of the Poetical Books. The first group finished, stands and gets a prize.

Watch DVD for Jeremiah
Teacher: Pat Harley
Testimony: Betty Seabolt Oliver
Music: I Believe In God
Vocalist: Christ Church Choir
Learning For Life Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

What to Remember in Jeremiah
Who: Jeremiah
What: Prophesied to Judah during the final forty years before her destruction
When: 627-580 BC
Where: Judah
Why: Warned of the coming judgment and destruction of Jerusalem.

Wrap Up: God told Jeremiah “If you can’t run with the horsemen, then how can you run with the horses”. Through the Spirit of God we can gain supernatural strength in times of
great turmoil and hardship. Pray that the participants would be bathed in the grace of God to endure with God’s strength the difficulties in life.
Session Twenty-Five: Lamentation
Jerusalem’s Destruction Mourned

**Homework:** Answer the following questions from the daily homework in the book of Jeremiah. The facilitator may choose other questions that may be more appropriate to the group. These are just suggestions:

1. Review the chart on bottom of page 55
2. Discuss the steps of moving from true devotion to spiritual hypocrisy on page 58-59
3. Questions on page 61-62
4. Questions on page 66

**Oral Review:**

**The Story So Far:**

*The Major Prophets* begins the series of prophetical books. These seventeen books fit into the history of Israel and Judah in 1 and 2 Kings and the Post Exilic Books. The first five books are called Major Prophets because they are longer than the other Prophetical books.

*Isaiah* is a Bible in miniature as it has sixty-six chapters, the first thirty-nine are of great warning and judgment and the last twenty-seven are of consolation. It was written to warn the people of Judah and Israel of the impending discipline that was going to take place if they did not turn back to their God. More information is found here about the person and work of Jesus Christ than in any other book in the Old Testament.

*Jeremiah* lived during the last years of Judah. God chose him to preach warning and judgment to Judah but the people would not listen. At the end of the book, Babylon had conquered the city of Jerusalem and destroyed the temple, wall and most all of the buildings. Those who did not die in the conquest were exiled to Babylon.

**Written Review:** Written review follows.

**Watch DVD** for Lamentation

**Teacher:** Linda Sweeney

**Testimony:** Jennifer Campbell

**Music:** Fear God

**Vocalist:** Brooke Burton

**Learning For Life** Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

**What to Remember in Lamentations**

**Who:** Author: The prophet Jeremiah, according to most scholars

**Main characters:** Jeremiah and the people of Jerusalem

**What:** Five poems of mourning over the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple at the hands of the Babylonians.
When: Probably written just after Jerusalem’s destruction in 586 BC and before Jeremiah was taken captive to Egypt.
Where: Jerusalem at the time of total devastation.
Why: To commemorate/remember the terrible destruction of Jerusalem

Wrap Up: Pray that each participant would know for certain that the faithfulness of God is indeed great, His loving kindnesses never cease, and His mercies are new every morning and that their soul would rejoice in that fact!
Written Review for the Book Of Lamentations

Answer the following questions.
1. To whom did Isaiah write? In other words, who was his audience? _____________
2. Who was Jeremiah’s audience? __________________________
3. How does the book of Isaiah picture in miniature the entire Bible? _____________
4. What is the theme of Isaiah? _____________________________
5. What book has more prophecy about Jesus Christ than any other Old Testament book? _____________
6. What city did Jeremiah live? ____________________________
7. What nation conquered Israel? __________________________
8. What nation conquered Judah? __________________________
9. When Jerusalem was conquered, where were the exiles taken? ________________
10. What is the theme of Jeremiah? ____________________________
11. What are two things a prophet does? _________________________
12. What prophet saw God high and holy and lifted up? ________________
13. What prophet was thrown in a well? _________________________
14. Why are major prophetical books called “major”? ________________
15. How long did Jeremiah say the exiles would be in Babylon? ________________
17. Was Jeremiah exiled to Babylon? ____________________________
18. Why did God discipline the nation of Judah? _________________________
19. What did Jeremiah say to the people to give them hope while they were in Babylon? ________________
20. How does tradition say Isaiah died? ____________________________
Written Review for the Book of Lamentations

Answer the following questions.

1. To whom did Isaiah write? In other words, who was his audience? Judah and Israel
2. Who was Jeremiah’s audience? Judah
3. How does the book of Isaiah picture in miniature the entire Bible? 39 books of judgment and 27 books of consolation, 66 books altogether
4. What is the theme of Isaiah? Israel’s Messiah Promised
5. What book has more prophecy about Jesus Christ than any other Old Testament book? Isaiah
7. What nation conquered Israel? Assyria
8. What nation conquered Judah? Babylon
9. When Jerusalem was conquered, where were the exiles taken? Babylon
10. What is the theme of Jeremiah? Jerusalem’s Final Judgment
11. What are two things a prophet does? Warns of judgment and tells the future
12. What prophet saw God high and holy and lifted up? Isaiah
13. What prophet was thrown in a well? Jeremiah
14. Why are major prophetical books called “major”? They are longer
15. How long did Jeremiah say the exiles would be in Babylon? Seventy years
17. Was Jeremiah exiled to Babylon? No. Nebuchadnezzar let him stay in Jerusalem
18. Why did God discipline the nation of Judah? They had turned from Him to other gods
19. What did Jeremiah say to the people to give them hope while they were in Babylon? They would be able to return to Jerusalem
20. How does tradition say Isaiah died? Sawn in two by Manasseh
Session Twenty-Six: Ezekiel
Israel’s Eventual Restoration

**Homework:** Answer the following questions from their daily homework in the book of Lamentations. The facilitator may choose other questions that may be more appropriate to the group. These are just suggestions:

1. Question at the top of page 80
2. The questions on page 82
3. Questions on page 85
4. Question at the top of page 88
5. Questions on page 91

**Oral Review:**

**The Story So Far:**

**The Major Prophets** begins the series of prophetic books. These seventeen books fit into the history of Israel and Judah in 1 and 2 Kings and the Post Exilic Books. The first five books are called Major Prophets because they are longer than the other Prophetic books.

**Isaiah** is a Bible in miniature as it has sixty-six chapters, the first thirty-nine are of great warning and judgment and the last twenty-seven are of consolation. It was written to warn the people of Judah and Israel of the impending discipline that was going to take place if they did not turn back to their God. More information is found here about the person and work of Jesus Christ than in any other book in the Old Testament.

**Jeremiah** lived during the last years of Judah. God chose him to preach warning and judgment to Judah but the people would not listen. At the end of the book, Babylon had conquered the city of Jerusalem and destroyed the temple, wall and most all of the buildings. Those who did not die in the conquest were exiled to Babylon.

**Lamentations** is a series of laments written by Jeremiah as he watched the Babylonian army destroy Jerusalem.

**Written Review:** The written review follows.

**Watch DVD** for Ezekiel

**Teacher:** Margi Ruether
**Testimony:** Sheryl Tranberg
**Music:** All Rise
  Vocalist: Babbie Mason

**Learning For Life:** Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline for Ezekiel.
What to Remember in the Book of Ezekiel

| Who: Author: | Ezekiel, a priest and prophet to the Jewish Exiles in Babylonia |
| What: | Ezekiel preached condemnation (1-32) and consolation (33-48) to Judah so that all of the people would know that God is the Sovereign Lord. |
| When: | Ezekiel was probably born in 622 BC, was deported to Babylonia in 597 BC, prophesied from 592 until 570 BC, finished this book in 565 BC and died around 560 BC. |
| Where: | Ezekiel began his ministry at the age thirty in Tel-Abib, a Jewish colony |
| Why: | God uses Ezekiel as a sign to warn His people in captivity and remind them of the reason for their misfortunes. |

Wrap Up: God told Ezekiel to “neither fear them or fear their words nor be dismayed by their presence.” As participants live in an ever more sinful and confusing world, pray that they will not fear any man, or his words or his presence.
Written Review for Ezekiel

Divide into two or more groups. Each group 3x5 cards with the following names on them. They are to put the names in chronological order. The first group who completes the task correctly will need to tell one important thing about each person. The names are in chronological order below:

1. Adam
2. Eve
3. Noah
4. Abraham
5. Isaac
6. Jacob
7. Joseph
8. Moses
9. Pharaoh (either here or before Moses)
10. Aaron (either before or after Moses)
11. Joshua
12. Deborah
13. Gideon
14. Samson
15. Ruth
16. Samuel
17. Saul
18. David
19. Solomon
20. Rehoboam
21. Isaiah
22. Jeremiah
Session Twenty-Seven: Daniel
God’s Supremacy Over Nations

Homework: Answer the following questions from the daily homework in the book of Ezekiel. The facilitator may choose other questions that may be more appropriate to the group. These are just suggestions:

1. Question on 110 beginning with “List the commands” through the top two on page 111
2. Bottom of page 112-113
3. The two questions on page 116
4. The top two questions on page 117

Oral Review:
The Story So Far:
The Major Prophets begins the series of prophetical books. These seventeen books fit into the history of Israel and Judah in 1 and 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles. The first five books are called Major Prophets because they are longer than the other Prophetical books.

Isaiah is a Bible in miniature as it has 66 chapters, the first thirty nine are of great warning and judgment and the last 27 are of consolation. It was written to warn the people of Judah and Israel of the impending discipline that was going to take place if they did not turn back to their God. More information is found here about the person and work of Jesus Christ than in any other book in the Old Testament

Jeremiah lived during the last years of Judah. God chose him to preach to the people warning and judgment to Judah but the people would not listen At the end of the book, Babylon had conquered the city of Jerusalem and destroyed the temple and the wall and most all of the buildings. Those who did not die in the conquest were exiled to Babylon.

Lamentations is a series of laments written by Jeremiah as he watched the Babylonian army destroy Jerusalem.

Ezekiel was in exile in Babylon and rote this book to the exiles living there encouraging them to stay away from the sin which caused the exile and to look forward to the coming covenant blessings.

Written Review: Written review follows. Because Daniel is the last of the Major Prophets, do the written review after the DVD has been watched as the review will include Daniel also.

Watch DVD for Daniel
Teacher: Eleanor Lewis
Testimony: Tudi Sprague
Music: If You Want Me To
Vocalist: Jennifer Carozza

Learning For Life Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline for Daniel.

What to Remember in the Book of Daniel

Who: Author: Daniel
Main characters: Daniel, Meshach, Shadrach, Abednego, King Nebuchadnezzar

What: History of Daniel’s life and prophecies of Israel’s and the Gentiles’ future.
When: 605-536 BC
Where: Babylonia during the captivity
Why: To show God’s sovereignty over the world history

Wrap Up: Pray that the participants will have the wisdom, discernment and devotion of Daniel and that through their faithful example others will be strengthened in their faith.
Written Review for the Book of Ezekiel

Match the prophet with the statement. The prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel.

1. He was thrown into a well.
2. He lived and prophesied to the exiles in Babylon
3. He saw the Lord high and holy and lifted up.
4. He saw the four living creatures, the chariot and the four wheels
5. He did not want to be a prophet.
6. He wrote the most about the coming Messiah.
7. He saw those dry bones
8. He had a wife and children.
9. He was kidnapped to Egypt after the exile
10. He saw the new temple in a vision
11. He was called the weeping prophet.
12. He saw the Lord return to the temple
13. He wrote Lamentation
14. He wrote to both Israel and Judah
15. His book is like a miniature Bible with 66 chapters
16. He stayed in Jerusalem after the exile.
17. He was in the second exile to Babylon
18. Tradition says he was sawed in two by Manasseh
19. He witnessed children being eaten by parents
20. He was a counselor to the royal court
Written Review for the Book of Ezekiel
Answers for facilitators

Match the prophet with the statement. The prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel.

1. He was thrown into a well. Jeremiah
2. He lived and prophesied to the exiles in Babylon Ezekiel
3. He saw the Lord high and holy and lifted up. Isaiah
4. He saw the four living creatures, the chariot and the four wheels Ezekiel
5. He did not want to be a prophet. Jeremiah
6. He wrote the most about the coming Messiah. Isaiah
7. He saw those dry bones Ezekiel
8. He had a wife and children. Isaiah
9. He was kidnapped to Egypt after the exile Jeremiah
10. He saw the new temple in a vision Ezekiel
11. He was called the weeping prophet. Jeremiah
12. He saw the Lord return to the temple Ezekiel
13. He wrote Lamentation Jeremiah
14. He wrote to both Israel and Judah Isaiah
15. His book is like a miniature Bible with 66 chapters Isaiah
16. He stayed in Jerusalem after the exile. Jeremiah
17. He was in the second exile to Babylon Ezekiel
18. Tradition says he was sawed in two by King Manasseh Isaiah
19. He witnessed children being eaten by parents Jeremiah
20. He was a counselor to the royal court Isaiah