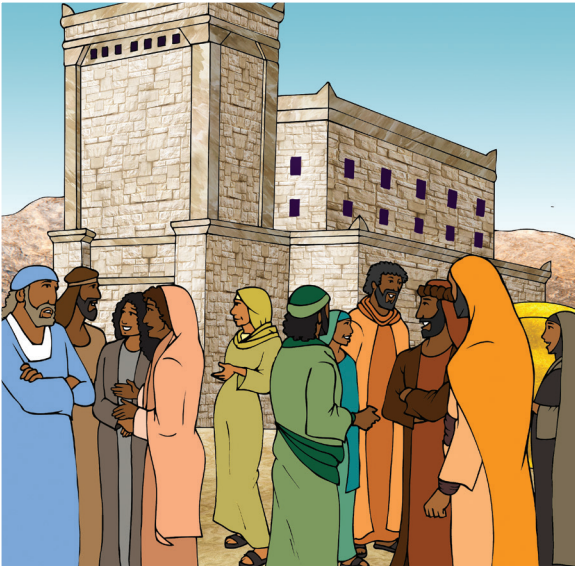


May 10, 2020



Key Verses:

[God said,] "I will save my people . . . I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be . . . their God." (Zechariah 8:7, 8a)

Better Days Are Coming

In today's lesson, the Lord God told Zechariah about His great love for Jerusalem.

God talked about returning to Jerusalem and living there. While there, Jerusalem would be called the Faithful City, and the mountain would be called the Holy Mountain.

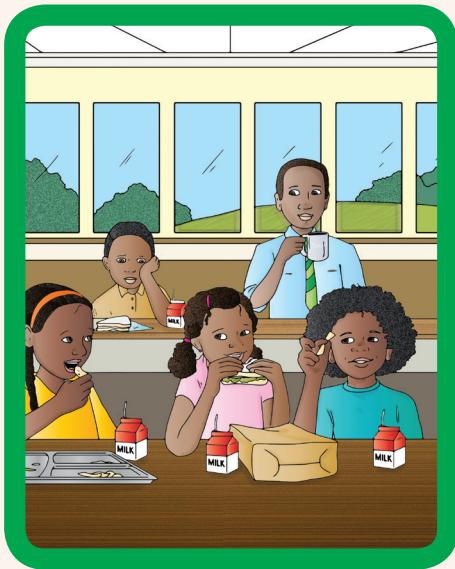
God said that old people would once again sit along the streets, which would be filled with children playing and having fun. The Israelites may think that this was too good to be true, but nothing is too *difficult* (hard) for God to do. God would save His people and return them to Jerusalem. They would be His people and He would be their God.

The Lord God promised not to treat these people like He had treated the ones in the past. Their seeds would *sprout* (grow) and their grapevines would bear fruit. They would have good crops and the rain would fall from the sky. Judah and Israel would be saved.

The people had made God angry and He punished them without mercy. God was blessing them, but they should be fair to one another. They should not hurt each other or lie to one another. These things were hated by God.



You Have to Do Better!



sent to the principal's office for anything. Can I sit with the class at the zoo on the last day of school?"

"You have to keep your promise to me, Jaz," Mr. Franklin answered.

"I promise!" Jaz responded.

"But why don't I get to go with my friends?" Jaz asked. While all the other kids in his class got to sit with each other and share food, having a great time, he had to sit with the teacher and principal.

"Because you've been sent to the principal's office so many times," Mr. Franklin began, "you are sitting with us today to keep you out of trouble."

"How long do I have to sit with you?" Jaz asked.

"Just for field day and when the class takes its trip to the zoo at the end of the school year," Mr. Franklin replied.

Jaz did not want to have to sit away from his friends when they went to the zoo to see the animals! He needed to try to make things right with his teacher.

"I promise I won't act up in class," Jaz said. "I won't get

Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab

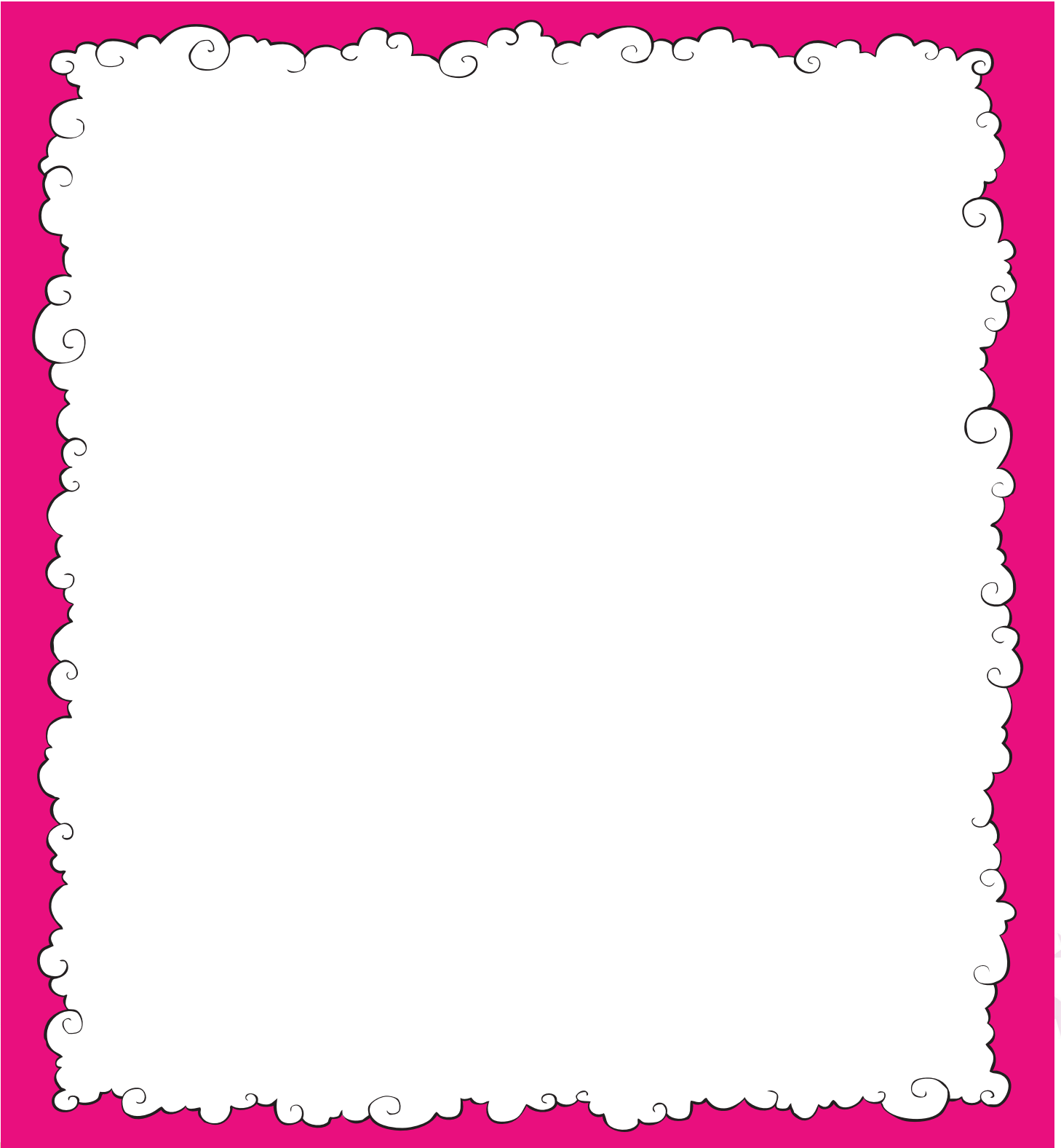


Hello, everyone! Ruby here! How important is it for you to keep your word? It's pretty important, right? What do you think happens when you do wrong and then you promise to do better, but you don't keep your word? Not only have you shown bad behavior, but now you add not keeping your word to the list!

This is a great lesson on changing your wrong behavior and making it up to those that you have mistreated. It is also a great lesson on keeping your promises to correct your actions! Which action do you think is the most important?

Imagine and Draw

Today's lesson discusses what it will be like when God returns to Jerusalem. Can you imagine it? Your teacher will read today's Scripture passage to you, and then you are to draw the scene where children are playing in the streets and old people are standing around with canes in their hands.

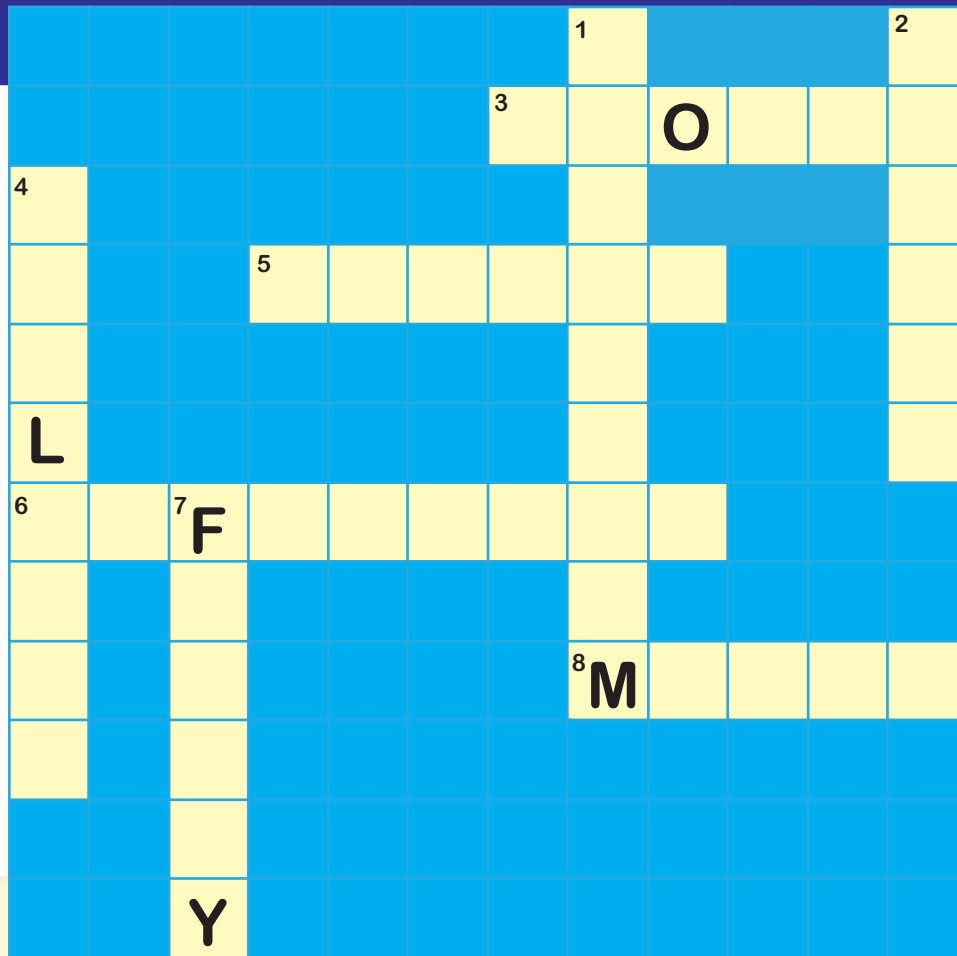


A "Better Days" Crossword Puzzle

Use the clues and the Word Bank below to fill words from today's lesson into the crossword puzzle. (Several letters have been filled in to get you started.)

WORD BANK

children • difficult • fairly • Jerusalem • mercy
people • return • sprout



Across

- 3 God punished the _____ for their wickedness.
- 5 The seeds would _____ out of the earth.
- 6 Nothing is too _____ for God.
- 8 God's _____ restores the people of Israel.

Down

- 1 God promised to return to _____.
- 2 God promised to _____ the people to the city.
- 4 There would be _____ playing in the streets.
- 7 God wanted the people to treat one another _____.