

PROPHETS



Prophets are truth-tellers. They risk a lot in order to convey God's heart for God's people. Prophets tell the truth about what the people are doing wrong in order to tell them how they can get back on track with God.

The **gavel** indicates God's judgment. God used the prophets to judge God's people, but the judgment was always meant to bring about restoration. The prophets helped to bring the people back to God.

Amos 5:21-24

Amos delivered a tough message. He told the people of Israel that God wasn't interested in their worship, offerings, or music anymore. God wanted worship to be connected to justice and caring for the poor. Worship without these things was empty in God's eyes.

Check out these other Bible passages that connect with the theme of Prophets!

- > **2 Samuel 12:1-7** How did prophets like Nathan speak the truth to powerful people?
- > **Isaiah 6:1-8** How did Isaiah know that he would be a prophet?
- > **Isaiah 40:1-11** Do prophets ever offer good news?

Talk about it!

Use these questions to connect with each other.

- > What are some challenging parts of being a Christian and following God?
- > When you mess up, how do you react?
- > How do you hear God?

What are preteens thinking?

Your child might associate worship only with Sunday. The passage from Amos can begin to expand his/her understanding of worship. This lesson can help your child see that worship can, and should, encompass all of our life.

Try this!

Prophets are truth-tellers. Search for a modern-day prophet. Consider people you know, visit a new website, or look in the newspaper or a magazine. What are these modern-day prophets saying?

Prayer

God, sometimes we need your judgment to bring us back to you. Help us to always follow you. Amen.