

I. CHECK-IN

- Check in. How is everyone doing?
- Reflect on last week's challenge:
"The Old Testament is full of difficult stories. Your challenge this week is to reach Judges 19. Sit with it then write down some thoughts. What do you make of this text? Why do you think it was included in the bible? In your mind, is any part of it helpful?"

II. THE (MAJOR) PROPHETS

ISAIAH

- The book of Isaiah is a message of warning and hope. This hope would be embodied through God's servant, "Immanuel," who will one day establish a new Israel and God's Kingdom on Earth. Isaiah's prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection

JEREMIAH

- The book of Jeremiah is intended as a message to the Jews in exile in Babylon, explaining the disaster of exile as God's response to Israel's pagan worship.

EZEKIEL

- The book of Ezekiel contains the prophecies, visions, and symbolic acts of Ezekiel during the exile, concerning the Temple, Jerusalem, Judah, and the nations.

DANIEL

- Daniel's prophetic visions offer hope that God will bring all nations under his rule. Daniel's visions are packed with apocalyptic imagery, offering hope to Israelites living in exile under Babylonian rule. Daniel remains faithful to the God of Israel, while maintaining influence in the surrounding culture of Babylon.

MINOR PROPHETS: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

V. PRAYER

Spend some time sharing prayer requests with each other. As the small group leader, we ask that you do two things:

1. write them down
2. ask someone to pray

IV. CHALLENGE

Familiarize yourself with a few of the Prophet books. Keep an eye out for oracles to know when the prophets are speaking. Do you have a favorite prophet story? Be prepared to share next week.

III. DISCUSSION

- What is something **new** you learned about the prophets through this SermonCast?
- "Prophets stand in the breach that is the space between humans and God." How does this quote help us to understand who the prophets were?
- Jonah is one of the most well known prophets. As a group look up the story of Jonah and talk about the message that he brings the Ninevites on behalf of God.
- The prophets are not foretelling the future. What are they doing instead?
- In the Bible, prophets harp on people for mistreating the poor, having idols, etc. What can we learn from this and how can we apply it now?
- Do you think we have modern prophets today?
- If so, what messages from God might these prophets share with us?