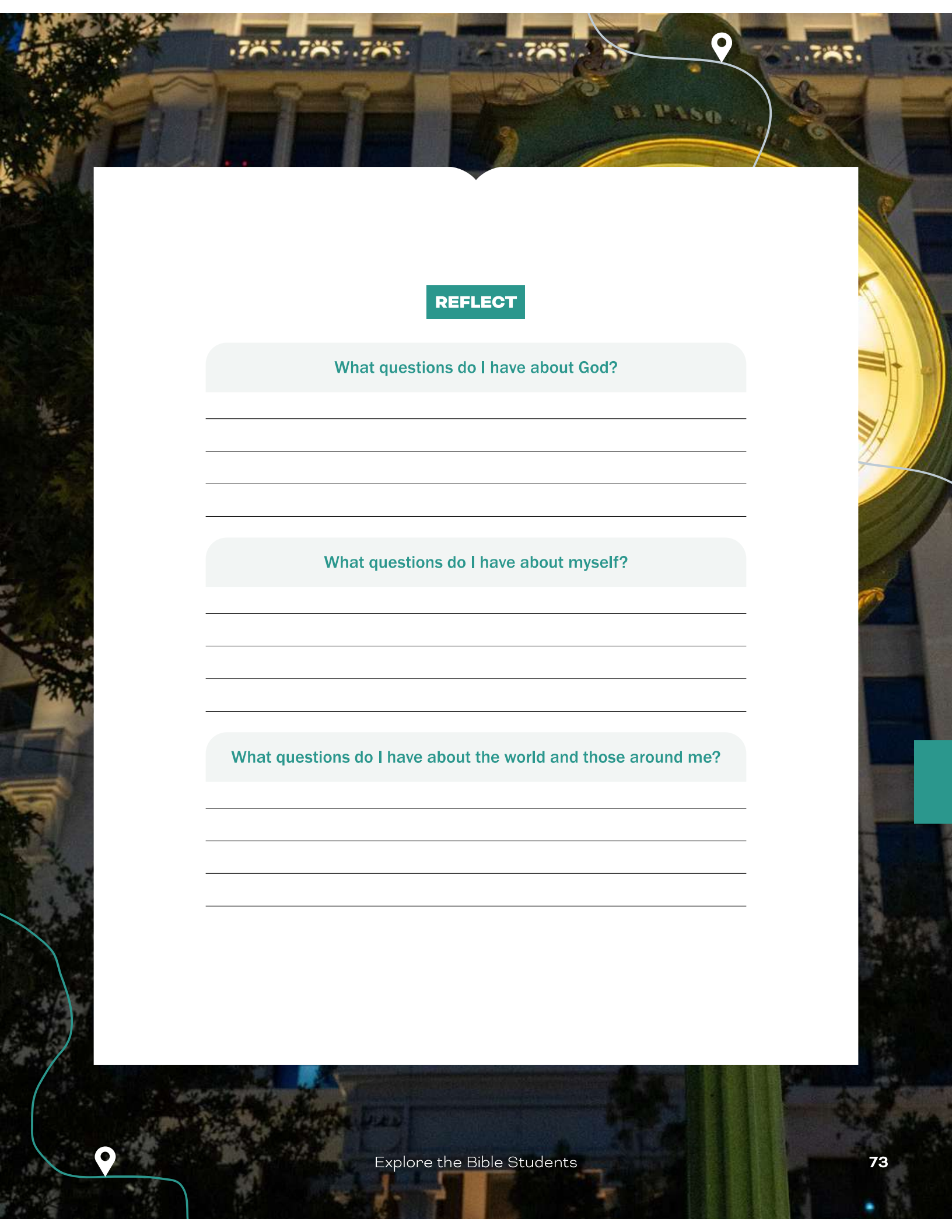


Session 09

Day of THE LORD

CENTRAL TRUTH | God is loyal toward His people and will judge evil.

Hurt and betrayal are part of all our lives on some level. From the sting of a friend gossiping or spreading a rumor about you to unintentional hurt that comes from a bad joke to bigger things like a parent who leaves, the effects of sin and brokenness in our world are obvious. Wanting revenge or to “get even” is a natural human response, but that’s not the kind of response God calls us to. In fact, He calls us to forgive and love our enemies, even if the only safe way to do that is at a distance with some really healthy boundaries. But here’s something you might not know about God: He says vengeance (revenge or payback) belongs to Him and that He will “repay” what has been done to His people (Rom. 12:19). While many of the prophets talked about God’s judgment of His own people, Obadiah speaks about God’s judgment of His enemies. Through Obadiah’s words, we see that God is loyal toward His people and will judge evil.



REFLECT

What questions do I have about God?

What questions do I have about myself?

What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

OBADIAH 10-14

¹⁰ You will be covered with shame and destroyed forever because of violence done to your brother Jacob. ¹¹ On the day you stood aloof, on the day strangers captured his wealth, while foreigners entered his city gate and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were just like one of them. ¹² Do not gloat over your brother in the day of his calamity; do not rejoice over the people of Judah in the

day of their destruction; do not boastfully mock in the day of distress. ¹³ Do not enter my people's city gate in the day of their disaster. Yes, you — do not gloat over their misery in the day of their disaster, and do not appropriate their possessions in the day of their disaster. ¹⁴ Do not stand at the crossroads to cut off their fugitives, and do not hand over their survivors in the day of distress.

OBADIAH 15-18

¹⁵ For the day of the LORD is near, against all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; what you deserve will return on your own head. ¹⁶ As you have drunk on my holy mountain, so all the nations will drink continually. They will drink and gulp down and be as though they had never been. ¹⁷ But there will be a deliverance on Mount Zion, and it will

be holy; the house of Jacob will dispossess those who dispossessed them. ¹⁸ Then the house of Jacob will be a blazing fire, and the house of Joseph, a burning flame, but the house of Esau will be stubble; Jacob will set them on fire and consume Edom. Therefore no survivor will remain of the house of Esau, for the LORD has spoken.

OBADIAH 19-21

¹⁹ People from the Negev will possess the hill country of Esau; those from the Judean foothills will possess the land of the Philistines. They will possess the territories of Ephraim and Samaria, while Benjamin will possess Gilead. ²⁰ The exiles of the Israelites who are

in Halah and who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath as well as the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the cities of the Negev. ²¹ Saviors will ascend Mount Zion to rule over the hill country of Esau, and the kingdom will be the LORD's.

Day01

OBADIAH 10-14



Refer to page 5 for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

📍 READ & RESPOND

The book of Obadiah is the shortest in the Old Testament, and its entire message is to announce God's judgment against the nation of Edom. Edom was Israel's close relative, descended from Jacob's brother, Esau. In today's passage, God calls Edom out for acting like an enemy when the Babylonians attacked Jerusalem. Edom cheered on the disaster, stood by as invaders robbed the city, and even blocked the escape of the Israelites. God declared that because they showed such cruelty to their own relatives, they would face total destruction. Even when tragedy hits, we can trust in God's ultimate justice.

← Why was it such a huge betrayal that Edom gloated and celebrated Judah's defeat instead of helping them?

↓ How does this passage show that people can be tempted to join in with the crowd that is doing evil, even against people they should protect?

↔ What does this passage teach you about being a loyal friend who helps others, especially when they are at their lowest point?

📍 MEMORIZE

On a piece of paper, write down **Obadiah 17** five times. Doing this makes all the different parts of your brain turn on at the same time, which forces you to think about the information in a much deeper way.

📍 PRAY

God, You are my Protector. Help me to act with love toward those who are suffering. Give me the courage to go against the crowd to show kindness to others.

Day02

OBADIAH 15-18

📍 READ & RESPOND

The prophet Obadiah announced a terrifying truth to the nation of Edom: God saw their hatred and cruel actions against His people. Verse 15 warns that the “day of the LORD” is coming when nations will be judged. God promised that whatever evil they did to others will be done to them. But this scary news is actually great news for God’s people! Verses 17-18 promise that while Edom was incinerated and destroyed, God would save His people, the Israelites, and restore their territory. When we face unkindness or unfairness, God is keeping track, and He will always judge evil and bring final justice for His people.

🔄 What would happen to the nations as a result of the bad things they did to others?

↑ What does God’s promise to repay the nations for their actions tell you about the importance of justice and fairness to Him?

↔ Instead of hoping for revenge when someone hurts you, what does this passage encourage you to trust God to do for you instead?

📍 MEMORIZE

Using your phone, tablet, or computer, write out **Obadiah 17** in a notes app using emojis. Be creative! Send the emojis to a few friends or family members and see if they can decipher the verse.

📍 PRAY

Heavenly Father, You are the righteous Judge who sees all injustice, and You promise to bring fair consequences. Thank You for always fighting for Your people and for me.

Day 03

OBADIAH 19-21

📍 READ & RESPOND

Obadiah's prophecy promised that God would rescue and restore His people after they had suffered at the hands of their enemies. Today's verses are the final promise: God's people would take back their land and rule over their enemies. This isn't just about land; it's about God proving His faithfulness. The prophet announced that "saviors" would eventually save Mount Zion (Jerusalem) and rule over the wicked nation of Edom. This promise teaches us a crucial truth: God is just. We can trust that even when evil seems to win, God sees it, and He will have the final, victorious say.

🔄 Who would be the ultimate ruler of the kingdom according to verse 21?

↑ What does God's promise to restore His people back to the promised land teach you about His faithfulness to His people, even after they've messed up?

→ When things are tough, how can you focus on the long-term future (His kingdom) instead of focusing only on what's happening in the moment?

📍 MEMORIZE

Let's map out this week's verse. Write out **Obadiah 17**. Underline the important nouns in the verse. Circle the important verbs. Put an appropriate symbol next to any word that might be important.

📍 PRAY

Lord, You are Promise Keeper, and I can trust that You will have the final victory of all injustices in this world. Help me be patient and focus on what You're doing rather than how I feel in the moment.

Day04

JEREMIAH 30:1-3

📍 READ & RESPOND

Today's passage comes during one of the darkest times for Israel. The prophet Jeremiah had been warning God's people about the judgment that was coming because of their sin—they were about to be defeated and taken as captives to Babylon. But even before they were exiled, God had a plan and a promise. He wouldn't abandon them to their captors forever. He would restore Israel and Judah, bringing them back to the land He gave their ancestors. This passage reminds us that even when we face the consequences of our actions, God's plan is always for restoration and a future with Him.

🔄 What is the promise God made in verse 3 about the future of His people, Judah and Israel?

↑ The Lord promised to restore His people even after they sinned and were punished. What does this show you about God's faithfulness?

→ God's promise of their return was certain. Because God's promises in the Bible are certain, how can you stop fear or worry in your own life?

📍 MEMORIZE

Go for a walk! Recite **Obadiah 17** aloud while walking. Assign one phrase to a set number of steps (for instance, walk five steps while saying the first phrase).

📍 PRAY

Lord, thank You that Your promises are trustworthy. Help me in my doubt and impatience. Help me to believe and rest in Your promises.

Day 05

PSALM 94:12-15

READ & RESPOND

The psalmist wrote Psalm 94 as a prayer for justice, reminding himself that God was still in control. In today's passage, the psalmist explains that we are actually blessed when God uses difficult times to teach us His ways. Even while God is patient with the wicked as He prepares them for their downfall, He is always loyal; He promises that He will never reject or forget His people. God's final judgment will be perfectly fair, restoring justice for everyone who follows Him. Because we can trust His promise to restore and bring relief, we find true peace and rest in letting Him use every difficulty to teach and guide us.

↻ What does the Lord promise He will not do to His people in verse 14?

↑ What characteristic of God is highlighted when the psalmist says, "The LORD will not leave his people"?

→ When you get corrected by a parent or teacher, how can you change your attitude to see it as God's discipline and teaching instead of just a punishment?

MEMORIZE

Once you know **Obadiah 17**, teach it to someone else—a sibling, a parent, or a friend. Explain what it means and why it's important.

PRAY

Lord, You are just and good. Help me to see that when difficult times come, I can trust in You and learn from the moment more about You and Your ways.