



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Department of Christian Education & Formation

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"



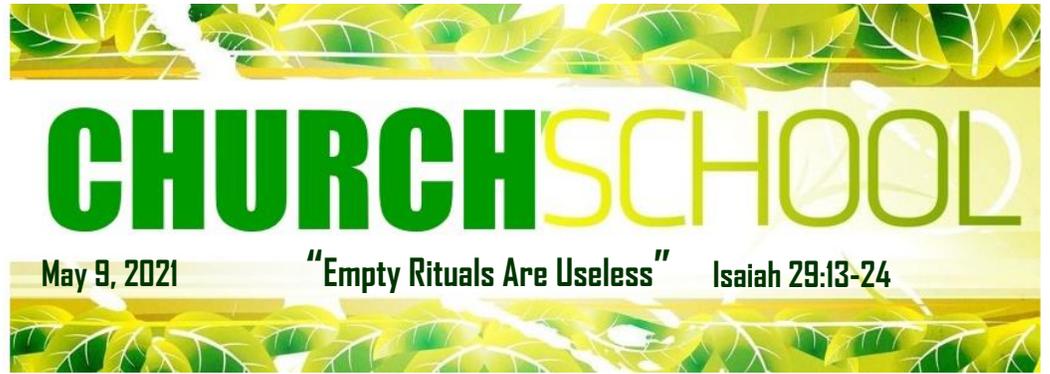
Church School Lessons Unit Three "Courageous Prophets of Change,"

May 2021

The Spring Quarter (March-May 2021) introduces the ministry of Old Testament prophets. A diversity of people are used by God to be God's spokespersons to Israel and Judah. Prophets have messages that are meant to effect social change that conforms to God's desired standards as described in the Law.

Unit III, "Courageous Prophets of Change," has five sessions, which show the boldness of God's prophets in 1 Kings, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Jonah. Israel and Judah were released from captivity and charged to rebuild Jerusalem. God sent prophets to call the people to restore their covenant relationship with God. When the people strayed away from their covenant with God, the prophets called them back.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary



Unifying Principle

Relationships suffer when humans lapse into immorality. What is the result when we or others have been immoral? Isaiah prophesied that God would punish the people of Judah but still be merciful and restore the nation.

Goals for the Learners

- ✓ To consider how God's promise of mercy will triumph over God's judgment
- ✓ To believe that the essential nature of God is forgiveness, not punishment.
- ✓ To rejoice in the manifestation.

Challenges for the Week

- Write a superstition on the back of several game cards. Consider the difference between superstitious ritual and real worship.
- What is the value of financial planning. Can our plans ever really bring the security we seek?
- "What God Can Do for Me that I Can't Do for Myself." Make a list by paraphrasing the scripture for today.
- Prepare two lists. On one list write "woes" as a title and compare Isaiah 29:13-16 to Matthew 23:1-36. On the second list write blessings as a title and compare Isaiah 29:17-24 to Matthew 5:1-11. How should this comparison shape your relationship to and worship of God.
- Find a familiar hymn or worship song.
- What is the meaning of the words of the hymn?