

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

***The Old Testament: Our Call to Faith & Justice***

Directed Reading Worksheet

Chapter 8 *God's Turning Point in the Journey*

**Directions:** Read carefully through Chapter 8 and then use the text as a reference to locate answers for the questions. All questions in this *Directed Reading Worksheet* are taken in sequential order from the chapter – first questions from the early sections of the chapter; last questions from the end of the chapter, etc. Answer **True or False** questions by circling the word True or False at the beginning of the question. **Fill-in-the-Blank** questions must often be answered with one than one word per blank. (Refer to your text often!) Write your own **Short Answers** for other questions.

**Page 176 Introduction**

1. True or False. The most significant change in the life of the Chosen People since the time of the Exodus was the split of the nation into north and south.
2. What positive change took place in the Chosen People during the time of the exile?

**Pages 176-178 Judah Before the Exile**

3. Judah was a much \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom than Israel in both \_\_\_\_\_. The people subsisted on \_\_\_\_\_ and traded with \_\_\_\_\_. Although the kings of Judah were \_\_\_\_\_, the kings of Israel were more \_\_\_\_\_ during the time of division.
4. King Asa had to quell an \_\_\_\_\_ incursion from the south and had to align himself with \_\_\_\_\_ in order to secure Jerusalem against troops from \_\_\_\_\_ which were just five miles outside of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. King Jehoshaphat made a series of \_\_\_\_\_, including a court of \_\_\_\_\_. He also attempted an \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ during the reign of King \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel.
6. Jehoshaphat's successors \_\_\_\_\_ into the family of the northern king, Ahab and \_\_\_\_\_, and from that point the same problems faced in the north such as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ began to infect Judah as well. During this period of time the prophets \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ began to preach in the southern kingdom.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ quotes \_\_\_\_\_ more than any other prophetic book
8. Summarize the problem with dating the life of the prophet Isaiah.
9. What conclusion have scholars drawn to explain the dilemma of the previous question?
10. Briefly summarize the three major divisions of the book of Isaiah.
11. Isaiah foretold the fall of \_\_\_\_\_ as a consequence of the people's \_\_\_\_\_. The prophet asked the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ this period would be, to which God responded: "Until the cities are \_\_\_\_\_..."

12. The first thirty-nine chapters of Isaiah include several other notable \_\_\_\_\_ including the \_\_\_\_\_ that depicts the \_\_\_\_\_ as the vine of \_\_\_\_\_. The image recurs in the New Testament in the words of \_\_\_\_\_ and the letters of \_\_\_\_\_.
13. True or False. Micah preached during the late eighth century B.C. and was a contemporary of Isaiah who also preached in Judah.
14. What was Micah's warning?

### **Pages 179-182 *The Exile of Judah***

15. The Assyrian Empire succumbed to the \_\_\_\_\_ after almost \_\_\_\_\_ years in power. \_\_\_\_\_, the Assyrian capital, was captured in \_\_\_\_\_ B.C. by the Babylonians and the \_\_\_\_\_.
16. The prophet \_\_\_\_\_ spoke of the destruction on Nineveh and the prophet \_\_\_\_\_ warned that the Babylonian King \_\_\_\_\_ would set his sights on \_\_\_\_\_ too.
17. Nebuchadnezzar's siege of \_\_\_\_\_ began in 597 B.C. Once he captured the city he took a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_ from it and appointed his own \_\_\_\_\_. The defeated king, \_\_\_\_\_, was deported to \_\_\_\_\_.
18. True or False. The deposed king was the only one exiled to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar.
19. Nebuchadnezzar placed his own \_\_\_\_\_ in Jerusalem, the third son of King Josiah whom he called "\_\_\_\_\_" He ruled for \_\_\_\_\_ years, never accepted by the \_\_\_\_\_, until he attempted to \_\_\_\_\_ against the Babylonians.
20. True or False. There is archeological evidence to confirm the Biblical history of the reign and fall of Zedekiah.
21. The entire book of \_\_\_\_\_ is a collection of sorrowful \_\_\_\_\_ that provides an even clearer sense of the devastation of the exile.
22. Explain what happened to the Temple of Solomon and its contents.
23. What happened to the inhabitants of Jerusalem who remained behind during the Exile?
24. True or False. Although little written information exists about the treatment of the Jews in exile, what we do know suggests that they were treated rather well by the Babylonians.

### **Pages 182-190 *Prophets of the Exile***

25. In what ways were the lives of Ezekiel and Jeremiah similar? In what ways were they different?
26. A third important prophet of the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ who consoled the exiles and wrote about a promised time of \_\_\_\_\_. He may have considered \_\_\_\_\_, the king of Persia and liberator of the Jews, as God's \_\_\_\_\_.
27. What were the main responsibilities of a priest like Ezekiel?

28. What are the two main parts of the book of Ezekiel?
29. What is one explanation for why the “Oracles against the Nations” was inserted by a later editor of the book of Ezekiel?
30. In his second vision, Ezekiel is transported to Jerusalem with other \_\_\_\_\_ where he is appalled to see \_\_\_\_\_ worship and rituals being performed near the \_\_\_\_\_. As he overlooks the city of Jerusalem he is shocked to see the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ leaving the city.
31. What two important things is Ezekiel shown in his vision of Jerusalem?
32. What is the message of Ezekiel’s vision of the valley of dry bones?
33. In Ezekiel’s vision of the restoration of Israel, he sees a \_\_\_\_\_ of land with each of the \_\_\_\_\_ getting \_\_\_\_\_ shares of land. The \_\_\_\_\_ will only receive a set amount of \_\_\_\_\_ and will no longer \_\_\_\_\_ the people.
34. His fourth vision describes Ezekiel in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earlier prophets who spoke for the rights of people and against the \_\_\_\_\_ of the royal and \_\_\_\_\_ leaders. The vision let the people know that \_\_\_\_\_ would not go back to its \_\_\_\_\_ ways because a new and \_\_\_\_\_ Israel was on the horizon.
35. To understand the meaning of Ezekiel’s symbolic acts, we need to make a \_\_\_\_\_ with the poems in the book of \_\_\_\_\_. Lamentations expresses in emotional terms the \_\_\_\_\_ of the city of Jerusalem and the profound \_\_\_\_\_ of the people of Judah and Israel. Comparing the two books helps us to see how deeply Ezekiel \_\_\_\_\_ from the devastation and destruction.
36. True or False. Ezekiel’s strange actions indicate that he was mentally unstable.
37. Jeremiah began his prophetic ministry during the reign of King \_\_\_\_\_ in about \_\_\_\_\_ B.C.. Unlike \_\_\_\_\_, Jeremiah remained in \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the siege and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the people.
38. True or False. It’s possible that if the inhabitants of Jerusalem had not tried a revolt against Babylon in 587, the first Temple would have survived.
39. What are the three main points of the “Temple Sermon” of Jeremiah 7?
40. Jeremiah described the Temple as a “\_\_\_\_\_” and went on to suggest that the Temple would be \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the people. \_\_\_\_\_ quoted Jeremiah in Matthew’s Gospel perhaps also implying the destruction of the Temple which historically took place in \_\_\_\_\_ A.D.

41. Like Ezekiel, Jeremiah had to struggle with the personal \_\_\_\_\_ of preaching an \_\_\_\_\_ message. In his final \_\_\_\_\_, Jeremiah reveals his \_\_\_\_\_ connection to God and his \_\_\_\_\_ to preaching his word in spite of the \_\_\_\_\_ he receives.
42. Eventually Jeremiah's \_\_\_\_\_ did manage to \_\_\_\_\_ him by smuggling him to \_\_\_\_\_. It was done by those who hoped to bring Judah into an \_\_\_\_\_ opposed to Babylon. No further mention is made of him and presumably he \_\_\_\_\_ there a lonely and unpopular prisoner of \_\_\_\_\_ who opposed his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
43. Explain the four similarities between Jeremiah and Jesus.
44. Second Isaiah or “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” was a prophet at the time of the \_\_\_\_\_. He understood that \_\_\_\_\_ would soon become the new power in that \_\_\_\_\_ and that their ruler, \_\_\_\_\_, would be God's instrument to return the Jews to their \_\_\_\_\_.
45. What do the four Servant Songs of Second Isaiah describe?
46. Who might the prophet have been referring to as the Suffering Servant at the time these words were written?
47. Second Isaiah goes far beyond simply preaching \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel. Now God's people will be a \_\_\_\_\_ people, with a “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” to take to all the \_\_\_\_\_.
48. True or False. The Church proclaims that the Suffering Servant prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus.
49. Third Isaiah includes the final \_\_\_\_\_ chapters of the book of Isaiah. The material is a mixture of \_\_\_\_\_ composed by the disciple(s) of Isaiah shortly after the return from Exile. The message is one of \_\_\_\_\_ and looks forward to the day when God's light will \_\_\_\_\_ --- a preparation for Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ message of God's love for *all*.

### **Pages 191-193 *The Exiles Return to Judah***

50. In what ways were the Persians rather harsh on the returning exiles?
51. True or False. The post-Exilic Biblical writers suggest that the people were still in exile long after the Persians, and that the ensuing regimes practiced the same kind of economics and politics of material gain.
52. True or False. Both the Old and New Testaments were formed within the context of foreign rule, politics, economics and social realities.
53. What conflict broke out between those who returned from exile and those who had been left behind in Judah?
54. Who is known as the *remnant*?
55. The time of the \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom, the \_\_\_\_\_, and its \_\_\_\_\_ are arguably the most important \_\_\_\_\_ for anyone who reads and prays with these \_\_\_\_\_ texts. This period of time produced the \_\_\_\_\_ amount of the material that makes up the \_\_\_\_\_.
56. \_\_\_\_\_ expressed a new \_\_\_\_\_ based on the new regime of the \_\_\_\_\_. It gave the Jews time to \_\_\_\_\_ on the direction their \_\_\_\_\_ would take as the \_\_\_\_\_.
57. What important questions persisted during this “turning point” of their journey?

58. Who were Haggai and Zechariah, and how did they influence the movement to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem?
59. The book of \_\_\_\_\_ records a series of \_\_\_\_\_ he received about work on the Temple and about the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jerusalem. In chapter nine of Zechariah the prophet's \_\_\_\_\_ calls for restoration of Jerusalem led by a \_\_\_\_\_ who comes not as a \_\_\_\_\_, but in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
60. True or False. The Jews were united in their joy and celebration at the laying of the foundation of the Temple.
61. According to some Jews, what was the key to receiving God's blessing as well as expressing their religious identity?
62. During the Persian Period (539-333 B.C.), another historical Biblical book was written, the two books called \_\_\_\_\_. Much of the material in these books was based on the older \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible, however, the \_\_\_\_\_ in Chronicles is much different than Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, and 1 and 2 Kings.
63. In Chronicles the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ line are praised or condemned primarily for their dedication to \_\_\_\_\_, especially the Temple and city of Jerusalem. Chronicles presents a \_\_\_\_\_ version of prior Hebrew history probably because, for Jews of the Post-Exilic period, the Temple was the \_\_\_\_\_.
64. What is the main difference between the two accounts of King Asa, recorded in 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles?
65. For many Jews of the Persian Period the building of the Temple and cities was remembered as the most important part of \_\_\_\_\_. The centrality of the Temple could be maintained even for Jews living in the \_\_\_\_\_. This is why the \_\_\_\_\_, the leader of the Temple administration, rose to become the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jewish people from 400 B.C. until the time of Jesus.
66. What are three themes of prayer from the post-Exilic literature? Why are such ideas continuous?
67. Any sane Jew who felt "\_\_\_\_\_ " to the center of the Assyrian Empire would probably hop a \_\_\_\_\_ heading in the \_\_\_\_\_ direction, which is exactly what \_\_\_\_\_ does. But he soon realizes there is no escape from the \_\_\_\_\_, as even \_\_\_\_\_ are subservient to God.
68. The heart of the book of Jonah is the \_\_\_\_\_ that appears in the second chapter. Bible scholars suggest that it is probably much \_\_\_\_\_ than the actual Book of Jonah and that the story was modeled to \_\_\_\_\_ the psalm. The psalm itself probably dates from the \_\_\_\_\_ because of its references to \_\_\_\_\_ the Temple, being away from the land, and the allusions to \_\_\_\_\_.

69. True or False. In the story, Jonah becomes furious with God for showing compassion to the people of Nineveh who repent for their evil ways.
70. What is the powerful meaning of the Book of Jonah?
71. What is the pattern, found in the book of Jonah, that represents a general historical theme of the historical books of the Bible?
72. In this parable, Jonah represents the \_\_\_\_\_ who were called by God, but who sinfully \_\_\_\_\_ that call and instead, listened to their own voices. As \_\_\_\_\_, they were sent into exile. From the experience of exile the people learn a new definition of what it means to be the \_\_\_\_\_. Israel herself must be a missionary to the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of God's salvation.
73. The call to be the People of God was repeated and taken up so powerfully in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus. He renewed God's call and told the people: "\_\_\_\_\_” in Matthew's gospel.