



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of the books of Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah from the Bible.



In 1962, superhero fans were introduced to the character of Dr. Bruce Banner, but you probably know him as The Incredible Hulk! Dr. Banner was a shy, quiet physicist who transforms into a raging muscular green giant every time he gets angry. You didn't want to make Hulk angry because the comic always said, "The madder Hulk gets, the stronger Hulk gets."

God sent many prophets to Judah to warn them of the consequences for sin. One of those prophets was Nahum. While many prophets spoke of the punishment for sin, Nahum preached a message about God's patience.

When we read how the prophet Nahum describes God as jealous, avenging, and wrathful, it can make us think God is like The Incredible Hulk—a guy who just gets angry and destroys things. That's not how God is at all! Nahum also describes God as "slow to anger and great in power." While God must punish sin, He is patient and desires to show mercy to all who will trust in Him.

God is jealous for our worship because He alone deserves it. He doesn't want to share His glory with anything else, and He rightly gets angry when He sees people worship anything other than Him. The prophet Nahum reminded God's people that He will punish sin, but He will bring peace and protection to those who love and worship Him.

God sent prophets to His people to warn them to repent of their sin and turn to God. Jesus gave the same message, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." When we trust in Jesus, we are restored to a right relationship with God and have the hope of eternal life.

Pray: God, You deserve all our worship, and You will not allow Your glory to be shared with anything else. Help us to remember that You are right to punish sin, but You are patient and want to show mercy to those who trust in You. Amen.



The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



The LORD is good to everyone; his compassion rests on all he has made.

Psalm 145:9



Finish your family worship experience by playing the key passage song. This song is a helpful way to worship as your family learns and memorizes the key passage.



Mornings

Pray for those who may misunderstand God's character. Ask God to show them His love and mercy to help them believe in Him. Why does God want people to worship only Him? How can God's character be jealous and loving at the same time?

Evenings

Thank God for showing us His character through the Bible. Make a list of the attributes or the stories that teach us who God is and what He is like. How can we know God better? How does knowing more of God's attributes help us to trust Him?



For Fun

Play a game of Hungry, Hungry Hippos together as a family. Play the board game or research online how to play a real-life version of the game. Remind kids that the point of the game is to get as much food for your hippo as possible. After the game, talk about how God desires all our worship for Himself. While God will one day punish those who choose to worship anything other than Him, He is patient and wants to see all people come to know Him.

To Serve

Write a letter or send an email to a missionary family. Use the letter to encourage them as they share God's message of hope to people. Make a card or piece of artwork to include with the letter that references the words of Nahum 1:7—"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him."