1. Dream bubble

God came to Ezekiel while he was living among the exiles by the Kebar river. He was the son of a priest and 30 years old when he first heard the Lord. God often called Ezekiel "Son of Man" when talking to him.

God talked to him through visions, and gave him weird visuals to explain.

3. Ezekiel tied up Read Ezekiel 4:1-2

God told Ezekiel, "You will take a brick, write Jerusalem on it. Build a siege around the brick. Then you are to lie on your left side, bound so that you cannot roll over. You will lay there for 390 days as Israel has been in rebellion for that many years. You will then lie on your right side for 40 days as Judah has been in rebellion."

"You will eat rationed bread cooked over dung, and drink small amounts of +water as if besieged."

2. Ezekiel eating scroll

Read Ezekiel 2:3 The Lord spoke, "I am sending you to the Israelites a rebellious nation. Tell them what I say, whether they listen or not, they will know a prophet has been among them. Eat what I give you."

Read Ezekiel 3:3 And the Lord gave Ezekiel a scroll with words of lament and woe on each side, and he ate the scroll and it tasted sweet as honey.

Read Ezekiel 3:7

4. Ezekiel bald

Read Ezekiel 5:12 "Then you are to take a sharp sword and shave your hair and beard. Divide the hair into thirds. One third you will burn in the fire at the center of the city, one third you will strike with a sword all around the city and the last third you will scatter on the wind."

"Thus will I do to Jerusalem who has rebelled against Me. They will be sieged. They will be hungry and thirsty as stores run out. Then, at the end, 1/3 will die by famine or pestilence, 1/3 by the sword, and 1/3 will be scattered to the nations. Thus is my wrath spent."

5. Worshipping idols

Again the word of the Lord came to Ezekiel and he was taken in the spirit to Jerusalem.

Read Ezekiel 8:16 "Son of Man do you see what they are doing in My sanctuary?"

Ezekiel was taken to the temple and he saw the elders of the house of Israel. They were worshipping images carved on the walls, images of beasts, creeping things and detestable images. As they worshipped they said to one another, "the Lord does not see us, He has abandoned the land." And all thru the temple men and women worshipping idols.

"Son of Man do you see this? They have filled the land with violence and here in my very sanctuary they worship others."

6. Angels ready

And the Lord called out with a loud voice summoning his Angels. To one carrying a writing case He commanded, "Go thru the city, on any grieving over these sins write a mark on their forehead."

To the rest of the Angels, carrying swords, He commanded, "Go into the city and kill without mercy any who do not bear the mark."

When this was done, I saw the glory of the Lord leave the Temple.

Read Ezekiel 10:18

7. Jerusalem city

And the Lord came to Ezekiel regarding those remaining in Jerusalem.

"They say that the walls are strong and will keep the city safe. They believe they are safe in Jerusalem but they will be pulled from the city and on the borders of Israel they will face judgment."

And Ezekiel fell on his face saying, "Lord will you destroy the remnant of Israel?"

"Though I have scattered the people far from the land I promised Abraham, I will bring you back to the land of Israel again. I will put a new spirit in them, then they will follow my laws and be my people and I will be their God. You will know I have done nothing without cause."

8. People fighting

"Son of Man, prophesy the words I will give you."

Read Ezekiel 25:3, 25:8, 25:12, 25:15, 26:2, 28:22, and 29:9. What are the names of the countries that will be punished?

"Turn your face against those who hate you. I will punish them for what they did to Israel.

They will be humbled never to rule over the nations, never to be a source of faith for Israel."

9. Ezekiel preaching

"I have made you a watchman for Israel. Warn them of what is coming Say to them, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! The righteousness of a man will not save him when he turns to evil. Neither will the wickedness of a man condemn him when he turns from it. Turn!"

Read Ezekiel 34:31

God then promises a new king is coming and all hope is not lost. He will gather his people to him again.

Read Ezekiel 36:24

10.Dry bones

God then took Ezekiel to a valley filled with bones. "Son of Man, can these bones live again?"

"Dry bones hear the word of the Lord" and the bones came together, bone to bone, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered all."

"O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you back to the land of Israel. You will know that I am the Lord and I will put my spirit into you and you will live, settled in your own land. You will no longer be two nations, but one nation, under one king."

Part of this prophecy came true after World War 2 when Israel became a nation again.

11.New temple

"I will bring many nations against Israel. They will plan on plundering my people and their wealth. I will destroy Israel's enemies, all will tremble in my presence. I will make myself known in the sight of many nations, that I am the Lord."

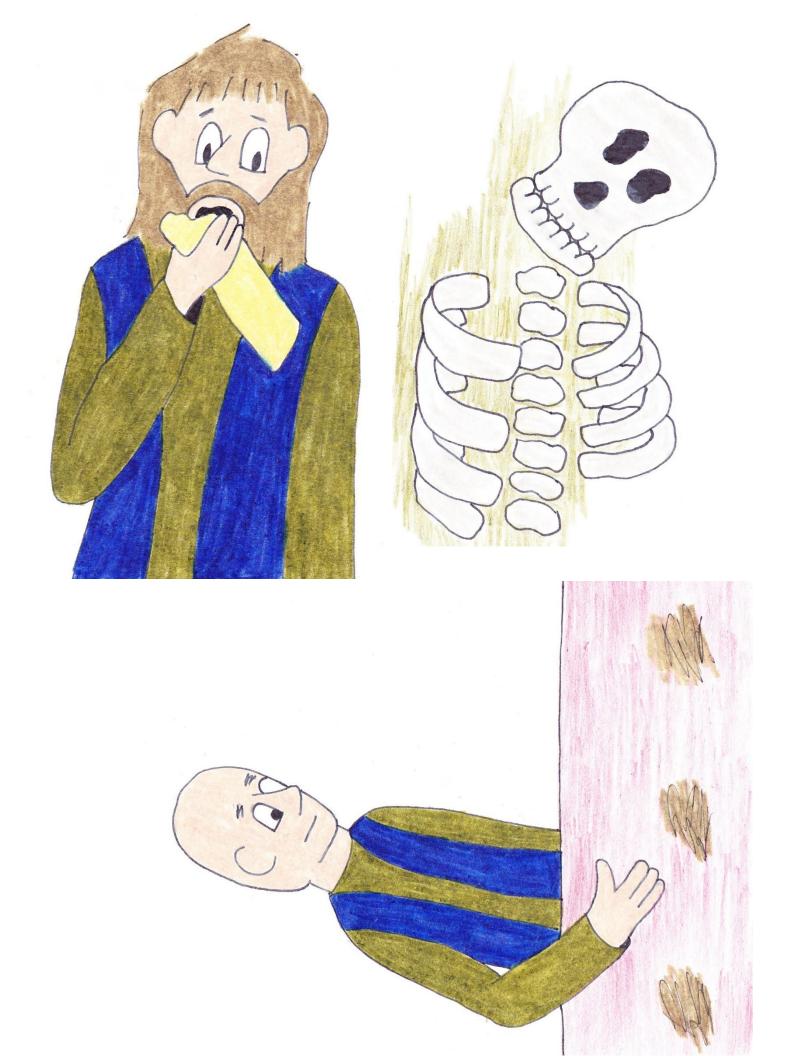
The nations will know that the people of Israel went into exile for their sin, and I dealt with their offenses. I will now bring them back from captivity and will have compassion. I will forget their shame. No longer will I hide my face from them."

And the Lord gave Ezekiel His plans for Israel, for a new city and a new Temple, for the division of the land. And when all this is accomplished, the Glory of the Lord will return to His sanctuary and the name of the city will forever be, "The Lord is There" Read Ezekiel 43:5 and 48:7

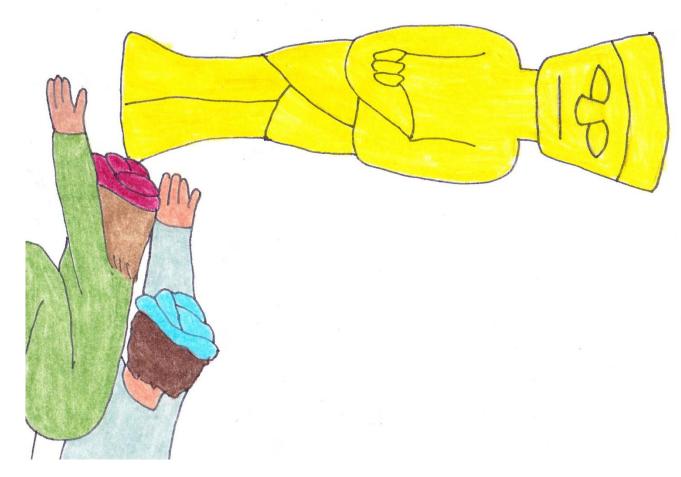
1b. Ezekiel thunder storm

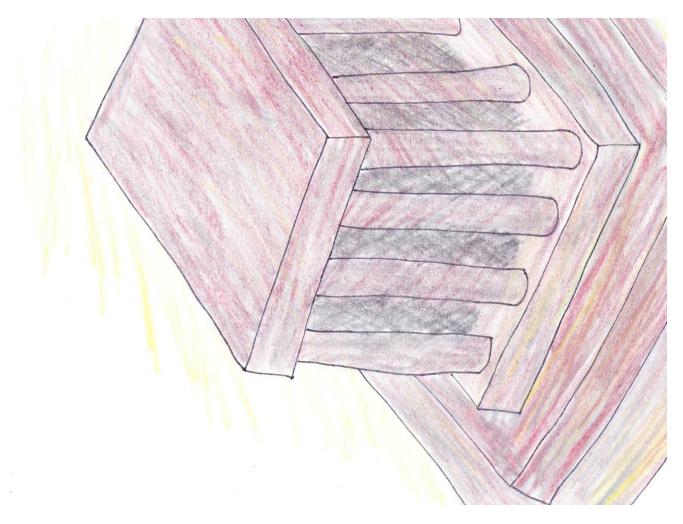
"I looked and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north, an immense cloud with flashing lightning. In the cloud were four cherubim and above them sat the Lord on a throne of blue stone. I fell facedown as the Lord began to speak."

















Questions

Younger Kids

This story is a bit hard for young kids, and can be rather scary, so I would mainly focus on talking through the images of God and who God is.

Middle Kids

- 1. Read Ezekiel 3:17-18. What job does God say Ezekiel has? What do you think a watchman is? Who are our watchmen today?
- 2. Read Ezekiel 34:11-12. What does this remind you of? God promises He will search for His lost people. Even when we are lost in our sins God still seeks us out.
- 3. Read Ezekiel 43:3-5. What promise does God leave with Ezekiel? Why do you think this gave Ezekiel hope?

Older Guys

1. Read Ezekiel 1:15-28, Isaiah 6:1-7, and Revelation 4:1-11. Compare the different descriptions of God's throne room and his glory.

Activities

- 1. Put out skeleton parts for each person/team to collect. The first person to put the skeleton back together wins. You can find a skeleton printable here:

 http://printable/55037.html
- After reading Ezekiel's vision in Ezekiel
 1:4-28 draw or paint what you think they
 looked like. Take some time to talk through
 the different fanciful creations in the story.

Online

- 1. Several games for the dry bones passagehttp://www.sermons4kids.com/dry_bones_gro up_activities.htm
- 2. Ezekiel sheep and goats ideashttp://www.missionarlington.org/d/OT-2YR-88-Ezekiel.pdf
- 3. Ezekiel an authorized messhttp://www.messychurch.org.uk/pdfs/Authoris edmess_ezekiel.pdf

Activities:

Make a relay race and put together a skeleton. You can find a skeleton printable here