



**Materials I Need:**

**Memory Work:**

For to us a child is born, to us a child is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Isaiah 9:6

The Prophet     *Isaiah*  
The People     *Israelites living in Judah*  
The Prophecy     *Your Sin, Your Savior*  
The Principle     *The Savior is Coming*

**Aim Questions:**

1. Who is Isaiah? What did he say? Who did He say it to? What can you apply from his prophecy?
2. What were the people worshipping instead of God? In Isaiah chapter 44 God explains how utterly foolish idol worship is. Explain how foolish idol worship is in your own words?
3. God told the people things that would happen in the future. When those things came to pass, what did God want them to learn about Him?
4. Worshipping an idols has a counterpart today. What are things that kids your age worship that really do not have the power or even care about helping them?
5. People act like their idols. What are some actions that you know about that are not pleasing to God, but may be actions that the idols of kids your age may show?

**Hook:**

**WOOD.** Bring in a piece of firewood. Start a discussion on the use of wood. (firewood, paper, statues(chainsaw bears), shingles, houses, shoes?, fishing pole, signs....) The list can go on and on. In today's lesson you will hear about a sinful use for wood. Brainstorm with your students a list on the white board of what wood cannot do. End with this question, "How could people ever believe that something made from wood would be as powerful as God?"

**PICTURES.** Bring in pictures of idols. Encyclopedias & National Geographics are good places to start. Discuss the idols with the students to hear what they think of them. What can they do that God cannot? What can God do that they cannot?

**PRAISE THE LORD.** You will need a piece of butcher paper and large markers. Today, the Bible students get the opportunity to share their praises with each other by writing/drawing them. Read the Bible students praises out loud. After each one is read, everyone says PRAISE THE LORD!!!

**Telling the Future.** We cannot tell the future with any degree of accuracy. Especially a future that is 100 or more years away. God's rule for prophetic accuracy is 100%. A prophet who speaks for God will not lead others away from God, and he will be correct 100% of the time.

**Cannot Lead Away From God -**

Deuteronomy 13:1-4

If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, <sup>2</sup> and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them," you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all

your soul.<sup>4</sup> It is the LORD your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him. (NIV)

### 100% Accuracy

Deuteronomy 18:20-22<sup>20</sup> But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded him to say, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, must be put to death."<sup>21</sup> You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?"<sup>22</sup> If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him. (NIV)

Play this simple guessing game. Call it "You're Not a Prophet". Place four different pieces of colored paper out in front of you. Each paper should be a different color. Send one student out of hearing distance. Have the other students in your small group guess which color the one student will chose to pick up. After everyone has guessed, invite your volunteer back in, and have them select a color form the ones in front of you. Everyone who guessed correctly gets to keep guessing. Those who did not must wait until you start over again. Continue sending the same student out until only a few or no students are left guessing. If you have a students who have been correct every time don't start talking about ESP. For a final guess, you leave the room and come back to do something totally u expected like placing the green on black or choosing three colors at the same time. Young Bible students need to know that God's prophets were 100% accurate. If they were not, they were stoned. Today, charlatans claim to "know the future". At best, though they attempt to reinterpret their own words, they are 50% accurate. In Isaiah 44:28 & 45:1 the king of the Persian Empire is named 150 years before he was even born. Not only was he called by name, but exactly what he would do for God's people is prophesied. Discuss the role and function of God's prophets using the "You're Not a Prophet" game.



### Book:

#### Presentation Ideas -



**Pantomime Isaiah 44:14-17.** Act out this ironic event. Have a teacher ask the Bible students' questions during the pantomime. What do they think is happening? After a short discussion read the scripture passage with the Bible students. A complete script is available here for your use:

#### **PANTOMIME OF ISAIAH 44: 14 - 17**

Silently act out the ironic events described in Isaiah 44: 14 - 17. All props are imaginary. Pantomime actor should wear a black long-sleeved shirt and white gloves - maybe white face paint. All gestures and facial expressions are exaggerated. Here are some ideas for gestures. Allow students to comment quietly during performance so other teachers can help them (if needed) to understand what's going on.

Search for tree (with ax over shoulder) on one side of "stage"  
Choose and "size up" tree outlining it with your hands  
Chop tree down with ax  
Drag tree across to other side of "stage" with great effort  
Cut tree in half with ax.  
Stand between pieces and inspect them back and forth.  
Think; then decide  
Move one piece of wood to center stage (it's heavy)  
Go back to first piece and chop into smaller pieces  
Arrange pieces for a fire and light it - then blow on it  
Hug yourself to indicate that you feel cold  
Crouch and warm yourself  
Hold open hands out and then rub them together  
Stand and rub stomach to indicate hunger  
Assemble ingredients for bread on a table behind the fire taking them from cupboards, etc.  
Put ingredients in a bowl - measure them; crack eggs etc.  
Add more ingredients and mix again  
Empty mixture onto table  
Knead the dough  
Put dough in pan  
Set next to the fire  
Warm yourself again and poke the fire  
Go to center stage to handle and ponder second piece of wood  
Sniff the air and turn toward fire  
Go back to fire and poke the bread to check for doneness  
Nod approval and pick up the bread (it's hot!)  
Put bread on the table and slice it  
Sniff and enjoy the aroma  
Eat some with enjoyment  
Rub stomach - push stomach out to show that it's full  
Go back to center stage and ponder second piece of wood  
Assemble tools - taking them from cupboards, etc.  
Measure and mark the wood (put pencil behind ear)  
Fashion the idol - trim the wood, plane it, carve it and sand it  
Admire your work  
Set the idol up on a shelf - steady it so it won't fall over!  
Bow down to it; pray to it, etc.

### **Bible Adventure -**

We've learned some interesting things while we have been looking at the book of Isaiah. Like God's other prophets, Isaiah had been warning God's people of coming judgment at God's hands. They were warned that if they did not stop being disobedient and rebellious, God would have to deal with them. God wanted His people to trust only in Him, but they were stubborn. God allowed Assyria to invade Israel, the Northern Kingdom, and take the people captive. Then Assyria threatened Judah, the Southern Kingdom. However, Assyria was attacked and conquered by Babylon, just as the prophet Nahum had predicted. Isaiah predicts that Judah is not yet out of danger. God would use Babylon as His tool to judge them.

So far we have heard about the prophecies of Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum, Amos, Hosea, Joel, and now Isaiah. Some of these prophets delivered God's message to Israel, some to Judah, and some to other Nations. Their messages all had this in common--they warned that it is a dangerous thing to try to ignore God. We have learned that God is slow to anger, but that He must and will judge sin, because He is holy.

The thing that sets God's prophets apart from false prophets is that everything they predict comes true, to the last detail. God had already predicted the capture of Israel, the Northern Kingdom, and the people had seen that happen. Amazingly enough, it did not cause them to listen to the message God had been sending through Isaiah. The people ignored God's message, choosing instead to turn to idols. God had much to say to His people about this. He reminded them of His love and care for them through the years, and of His protection. In Isaiah 44:8 He said, "You are my witnesses. Is there any god besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one." To God it was obvious that to trust in idols was foolish. I think God looked at it the way we would look at a person who was trying to put out a forest fire with a water pistol or fend off an attack dog with a T-bone steak. Their placing their trust in these idols was offensive and ridiculous to God.



God spoke through the prophet Isaiah directly against the strange idols that the people worshipped. First Isaiah focused on the way the idols were brought into being. A blacksmith would take metal and pound it into an idol. He would grow tired while working on it. A carpenter would take a piece of wood. He would burn some of it to keep himself warm and to bake bread. The rest of it he would use to chisel out the shape of a man. He would put it in a special place called a shrine and hey! Presto! It's a god!! This is what they were putting their faith and trust in to care for them and protect them? "Wait a minute," God said. "(Chapter 44, vs 19-20) "No one stops to think, no one has the knowledge or understanding to say, 'Half of it I used for fuel; I even baked bread over its coals, I roasted meat and I ate. Shall I make a detestable (or hateful) thing from what is left? Shall I bow down to a block of wood?'" God knew the people in Judah were slaves to these idols. He said about the idol-makers, "He feeds on ashes, a deluded heart misleads him; he cannot save himself or say, 'Is not this thing in my right hand a lie?'" God gave His people plenty of reasons to trust only in Him.

**Who Shapes a  
god and casts  
an idol which  
can profit him  
nothing?  
Is. 44:10**

Why worship idols rather than God. God is like no one else! When God speaks, He is able to tell what is far in the future so that when those things happen His people are able to look back to His words and know that it was God who had spoken, and that He must be over all time and space or else God could never have known the future. In Isaiah Chapter 48, God told His people that He had predicted things long ago to them, then He made those predictions come true. Their idols could not do that. Only God could do such a thing, and the proof was in the prophecies of his prophets, some of whom had already died. God's people were very stubborn and wanted to ignore the prophecies. Every time the prophecies came to pass, the people would have to give the credit to God, not their idols. Those silly idols were not gods. They were wood and metal dolls that had no power! Imagine someone asking a Barbie doll for advice, or bringing real food to Barbie asking for her to help them. God and God alone are the Creator of the universe, and the One who controls all things on this earth.

Isaiah told of another amazing thing God had planned for the future. He spoke of a king named Cyrus, who would come from the Medo-Persian empire. God would use Cyrus to rescue the Israelites from captivity in Babylon. He would be the one to allow them to return to Jerusalem and begin reconstruction. The amazing thing about this prophecy is that it was predicted more than 150 years before it happened. Did it all come true? You bet it did!

When we see again and again that someone's words are true and trustworthy, we can put our faith in them. God used prophecy to show His people and to show us that He is very worthy of our trust and faith. He is the only God, the only one strong enough to save and protect us. Trusting God's words gives us a hope that no one can take away from us. Are you trusting in something other than this mighty God? If so, leave that foolishness behind and put your faith in the only One who can be trusted.

---



### Look:



**Three by Three.** All of the answers to the questions are words with six letters. Each word has been cut in half, and both three letter halves are mixed up in the **Box of Clues**. As you answer each question, fill in each word writing from top to bottom in the squares. Use all the 3 letter pieces in the **Box of Clues** on the right. When the diagram is completed, a word across the top row will appear. What is it?? *Student Activity reference number 3ISA13JR.GF2*



**TOP TEN LISTS.** Divide the students in two teams. Have one group come up with a list of top ten things God can do and the other group come up with the top ten things an idol can do. Put the overhead up and begin revealing the classrooms answers as one large group. You made need to lead the Bible students in what an idol can do. (*\* Here's some help--an idol can make a nice piece of firewood, an ornament, a great lamp base, hang necklaces on it, sit where you put it, do nothing...*) **3ISA13JR.GF3**



**NOTE.** Write the Israelites a brief note on why they should not put their faith in idols. Note paper is located to the right of your **Three By Three** activity. *Student Activity reference number 3ISA13JR.GF2*



**From The Text.** In groups or individually, have students read through Isaiah chapter 44. Copy the phrases in the correct order that God spoke about them through Isaiah. When you are done, write or tell in one sentence what it was about Idols that God thought was so foolish. *Student worksheet reference number 3ISA13JRGF4.*

---



### Took:



**FLASHCARDS.** Are you reviewing the 4 P's with your students? Do they know them? Check and see. Do you know them? Take a minute and match the correct principle with the correct prophet.

Heed God's Warnings and turn your heart to Him.

God is faithful even when His people are not.

God is loyal to His people.

God is slow to anger, but punishes evil.

God hates greed, cruelty & stealing.

God has mercy on whomever He pleases.

- **Jonah**
- **Obadiah**
- **Amos**
- **Nahum**
- **Hosea**
- **Joel**



**Titanic.** On April 14, 1912, one of the greatest disasters of maritime history occurred when the 46,000 - ton White Star liner "Titanic" struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage and sank. On board were 1,513 people and they lost their lives. In the same way people of Isaiah's day put their confidence in man made idols, people in 1912 had put their confidence in the cruise ship "Titanic".

Here are a few things about the Titanic that show us how confidence had been placed in a man made vessel more than God.

- The Titanic had been publicized as **unsinkable**.
- At the time of the collision, the Titanic was cruising along as a speed of 22 knots, too fast for existing conditions. Icebergs cannot be identified soon enough at that speed.
- The Titanic had life boat space for only 1,178. There were 2,224 people on board.
- Some people had been so confident about the Titanic they had claimed that even God could not sink her.

You may wish to look up other facts about the Titanic. Use them as an example of what Isaiah spoke about concerning the idols of men. After telling your students about the Titanic, use the following questions to review and apply God's words to the situation:

1. What do you think people learned from the sinking of the Titanic?
2. Do you think God used the Titanic to teach people about Him? If you answer yes, how?
3. Why is it foolish to worship or put all confidence in something that is man made?
4. The Titanic sank over 80 years ago, but people are still putting confidence in things other than the God of the Bible. What are things that you and your friends are tempted to put before God?



#### **JUMPIN' 4 P's.**

The Prophet is Isaiah  
The People are from Judah  
The Prophecy-- Your Sin, Your Savior  
The Principle---The Savior is Coming  
The Savior is Coming  
These are the 4 P's  
Got 'em from Isaiah  
Not it's time---to jump out.

**{To make into rap, delete the last line and repeat the second to last line}**



**SMALL GROUP.** Utilize the questions for discussion. Talk to them about modern day idols. Think, if my idol is Michael Jordan, he does not even know my name. Though I look up to him and admire him, if I worship him he becomes an idol... an idol who has little power and no desire to help me with my basketball game or even my life in general.



**MUSIC.** We shall go out with joy, and be led forth in peace...Isaiah 44:23  
I want to praise you Lord, much more than I do...(boy/girl round) Isaiah 44:23

## THREE BY THREE

1. The Israelites were disobedient and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Sinfulness \_\_\_\_\_ God.
3. Isaiah had a \_\_\_\_\_ from God.
4. The name of one of Gods prophets is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The Israelites finally \_\_\_\_\_ God.
6. God \_\_\_\_\_ed his Son in Matthew 3:17

**Three by Three.** All of the answers to the questions are words with six letters. Each word has been cut in half, and both three letter halves are mixed up in the **Box of Clues**. As you answer each question, fill in each word writing from top to bottom in the squares. Use all the 3 letter pieces in the **Box of Clues** on the right. When the diagram is completed, a word across the top row will appear. What is it??

1	2	3	4	5	6

### Box of Clues

ANG EAL	ERS
FUL IAH	ION
ISA OBE	REV
SIN VIS	YED

WHO IS GOD LIKE?

### JUMPIN' 4 P's

The Prophet is Isaiah  
 The People are from Judah  
 The Prophecy, Your Sin Your Savior  
 The Principle, The Savior is Coming  
 These are the 4 P's  
 Got 'em from Isaiah  
 Now it's time to jump out!

## Note To Israelites

*December 1, 1996*

*Dear Israelites,*

*In Christ Service,*

## THREE BY THREE

1. The Israelites were disobedient and Sinful.
2. Sinfulness angers God.
3. Isaiah had a vision from God.
4. The name of one of Gods prophets is Isaiah.
5. The Israelites finally Obeeyed God.
6. God Revealed his Son in Matthew 3:17

**Three by Three.** All of the answers to the questions are words with six letters. Each word has been cut in half, and both three letter halves are mixed up in the **Box of Clues**. As you answer each question, fill in each word writing from top to bottom in the squares. Use all the 3 letter pieces in the **Box of Clues** on the right. When the diagram is completed, a word across the top row will appear. What is it??

1	S	2	A	3	V	4	I	5	O	6	R
	i		n		i		s		b		e
	n		g		s		a		e		v
	f		e		i		i		y		e
	u		r		o		a		e		a
	i		s		n		h		d		l

### Box of Clues

ANG EAL	ERS
FUL IAH	ION
ISA OBE	REV
SIN VIS	YED

Teacher's Answer Page

### JUMPIN' 4 P's

The Prophet is Isaiah  
 The People are from Judah  
 The Prophecy, Your Sin Your Savior  
 The Principle, The Savior is Coming  
 These are the 4 P's  
 Got 'em from Isaiah  
 Now it's time to jump out!

## Note To Israelites

*December 1, 1996*

*Dear Israelites,*

Please wake up!  
 Don't you guys get it?  
 Stop worshipping things  
 that you made with  
 your own hands.  
 God made you,  
**WORSHIP HIM!**

*In Christ Service,*

*Top Ten*

THINGS GOD CAN DO

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

AND THE NUMBER ONE THING  
GOD CAN DO IS...

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read these verses for ideas:

- Isaiah 44: 24
- Isaiah 45: 5-7, 19, and 22
- Isaiah 46: 4, and 10
- Isaiah 48: 13

*Top Ten*

THINGS IDOLS CAN DO

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

AND THE NUMBER ONE THING  
IDOLS CAN DO IS...

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read these verses for ideas:

- Isaiah 40: 19 and 20
- Isaiah 45: 20
- Isaiah 46: 1 and 7
- Isaiah 48: 5 and 14
- ...and be creative. Idols can't do much.

# Get Into God's Mind

Idols vs. God

## How Foolish Can It Be?

Read through Isaiah 44:1-29. Next, number the items below in the correct order that Isaiah talks about them in the passage.

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Carpenter chisels  | 1 |
| Worships it.       | 2 |
| Warms by fire      | 3 |
| Blacksmith hammers | 4 |
| Cut down a tree.   | 5 |
| Speak Up For it.   | 6 |
| Cooks food.        | 7 |
| Bows to it         | 8 |

God thinks idol worship is foolish because..



**Famous  
Idols of  
700 BC??**

**Baal  
Molech  
Marduk  
Gilligan  
Ishtar**



**Famous  
Prophets  
of  
700 BC??**

**Isaiah  
Hosea  
Nahum  
Jeffery**

Isaiah 44:1-28

# Teacher's Answer Key

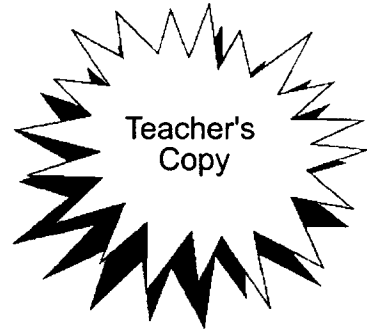
Idols vs. God

## How Foolish Can It Be?

Read through Isaiah 44:1-29. Next, number the items below in the correct order that Isaiah talks about them in the passage.

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Carpenter chisels  | 1 Speak Up For Idols. |
| Worships it.       | 2 Blacksmith hammers  |
| Warms by fire      | 3 Carpenter chisels   |
| Blacksmith hammers | 4 Cut down a tree.    |
| Cut down a tree.   | 5 Warms by fire       |
| Speak Up For it.   | 6 Cooks food.         |
| Cooks food.        | 7 Bows to it          |
| Bows to it         | 8 Worships it.        |

God thinks idol worship is foolish because..



**Don't copy  
this sheet.**

Isaiah 44:1-28