Lesson 10
Good and Bad Fruit

Bible Reference: Jeremiah 24:1-10

Memory Verse: " . . . by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:20)

During the time that Jeremiah was a prophet, a very young man became king of Judah. The young king reigned for only a short time. Some men from Babylon captured the young king and some other people and took them to Babylon. The men also stole all of the treasures that were in the temple.

Soon after this, Jeremiah had a dream. It was a vision God let him see. It would teach him about the future of God's people.

In Jeremiah's dream he saw two baskets of figs in front of the temple. One basket held ripe, beautiful figs, but the other basket held only rotten, bad figs.
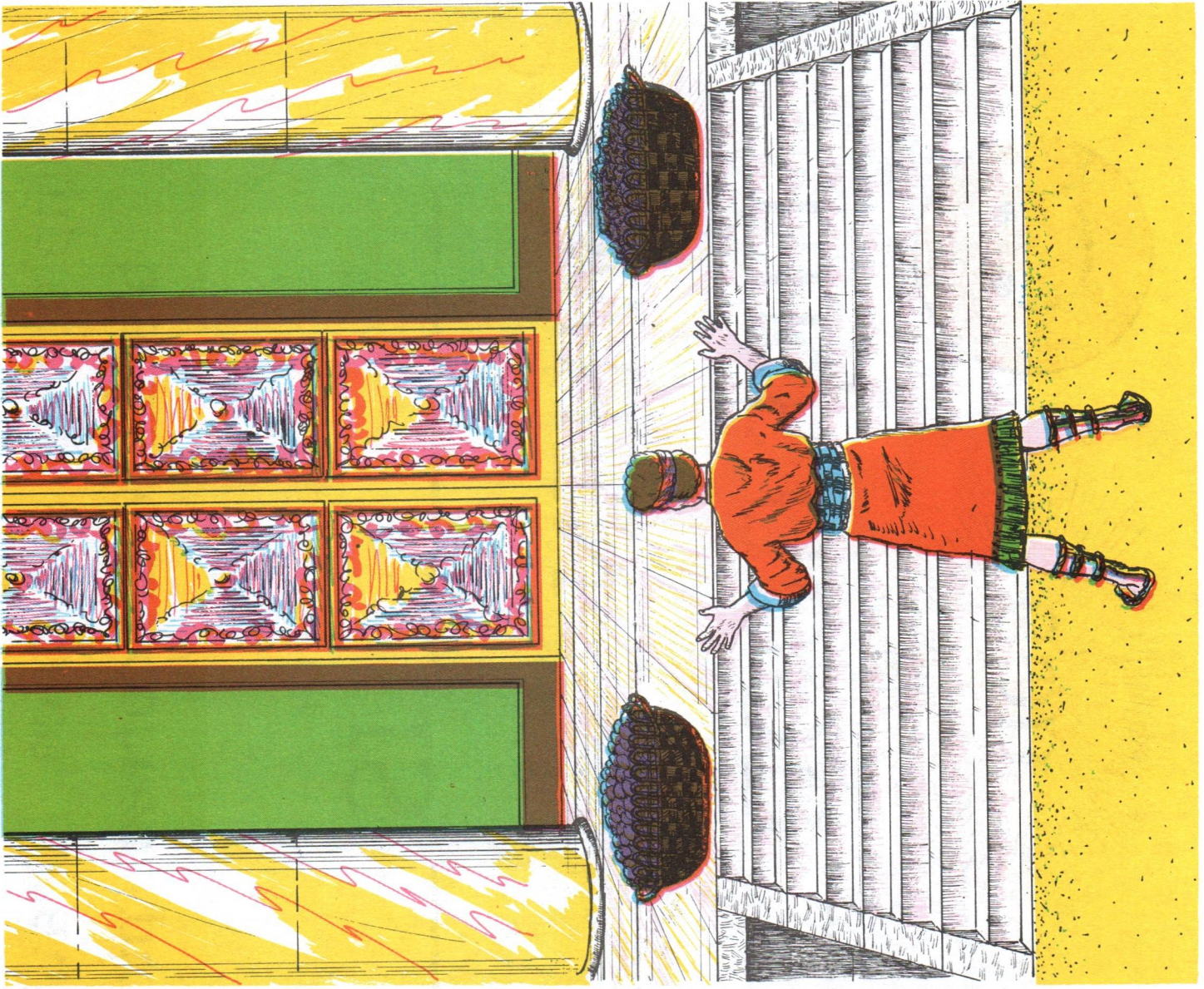
God asked Jeremiah what he saw. Jeremiah answered that he saw good and bad figs. Then God explained the purpose of the dream. He said that the good figs were like the people who had been taken captive. God said they had been taken captive for "their own good." This was because God would show them that He really was their God. He would watch over them with care and would bring them back safe to their homeland. He would treat these people like someone would treat good figs. They would be cherished by God.

The bad figs were like the bad people. Some, of these bad people were the ones who had taken the others into Babylon. Some of them were people who were in Egypt. God would treat them like bad figs. They would be of no use to Him. He would scatter them all over the earth, just as He would throw away bad fruit. Wherever they lived they would suffer for the bad things they had done.

Jeremiah's dream is a good lesson for us to remember. We should want to be like good fruit. We want to be useful for God. We want His blessings. God is happy with us when we are like the good figs. As we learn what God wants us to do from the Bible, we can know how to be good by obeying Him.

Questions:

1. Who dreamed about good and bad figs?
2. Can God use people who are like good fruit?
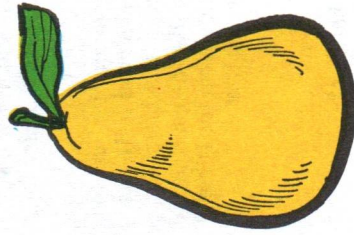3. Where can we learn to be like good fruit?

Complete the sentence. Draw lines from the blanks to the correct picture.

_____ IS _____

_____ WHEN _____ AM _____

LIKE GOOD _____.

GOD

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