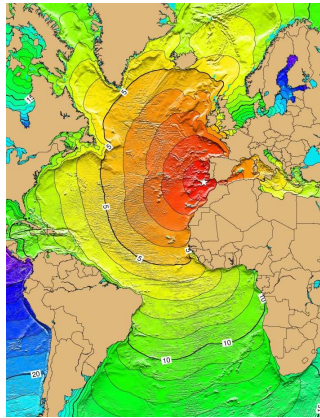


In Matthew 24:6, 29 Jesus said that before He returns, "There will be famines and earthquakes in various places... The sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light..."

One memorable earthquake and tsunami happened in 1755. Its centre was closest to Lisbon, Portugal but its effects were seen in Spain, Europe, Africa and America and the shaking felt as far away as Greenland, the West Indies, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain and Ireland. The map shows the travel times of the tsunami – each line is one hour. Mountains were changed and villages disappeared. The earthquake occurred on the Catholic All Saints day - Halloween. There was the sound of thunder underground followed by shaking. People fled to the churches and to a new quay (wharf) but then most of the large public buildings, including all of the churches and a quarter of the houses fell down and the new quay also sank. Fires broke out in the city and the water from the ocean disappeared then returned in a wave 20-30m high! 60,000 people died that day and many people thought the end of the world had come.



25 years later, on 19 May 1780, many people in America thought the end of the world had come when the sky became black and the sun disappeared; the full moon when it finally became visible later that night was a blood red colour. The day was so dark that people had to use candles to see. Scientists think it was caused by smoke from forest fires but without TV or radio to spread the news people found it very scary.

Of course the Lisbon earthquake is only one of many devastating earthquakes that have occurred in the last couple of centuries; some scientists say that natural disasters are increasing although others disagree; but the world population and the number of people living in cities is increasing so the effects of natural disasters are often more devastating. TV cameras are always ready to broadcast the latest disaster to the whole world so we are certainly more aware of them.

The Brave Queen

Sabbath

Fill in the missing words from these Bible verses and then use them to solve the crossword.

Amos 3:7^{NIV}, "Surely the Sovereign _ _ _ _ (3d) does nothing without revealing His plan to His servants the _ _ _ _ _ (1d)."

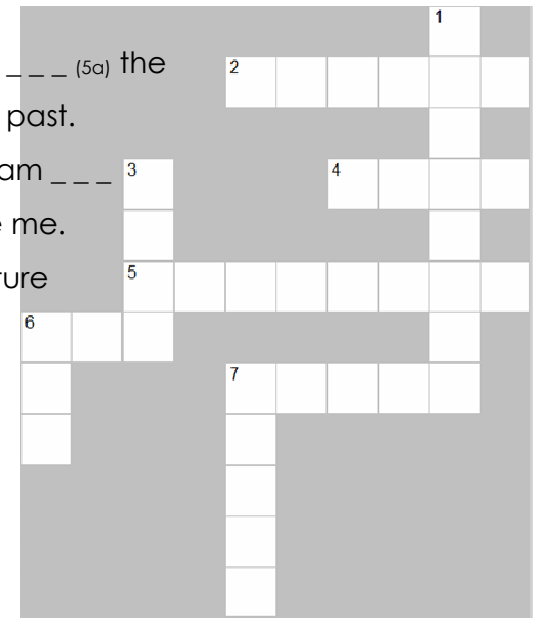
Jeremiah 29:11^{NLT}, "For I know the _ _ _ _ _ (7a) I have for you, "says the Lord. "They are _ _ _ _ _ (7d) for good and not word disaster, to give you a _ _ _ _ _ (2a) and a _ _ _ _ _ (4a)."

Isaiah 46:9-10^{NLT}, " _ _ _ _ _ (5a) the things I have done in the past.

For I alone am _ _ _ (6a)! I am _ _ _ _ (3d), and there is none like me.

Only I can tell you the future before it even happens.

Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish."



Year 2, Quarter 2, Week 11, Level: "Pre/Teens"

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Historytoday.com/blog/2011/07/alarming-increase-wars; www.sms-tsunami-warning.com/pages/tsunami-portugal-1755

Refer: Esther NLT; Prophets and Kings p600-627; The Bible Story vol6 p131-158; The Great Controversy

Sunday

In his third year as king, Xerxes of Persia held a big celebration at his palace in Susa; the celebration lasted 180 days and all the princes, nobles, officials and military officers were invited. After that the king held a banquet for all the people in the fortress of Susa. This banquet lasted seven days and on the seventh day he sent for Queen Vashti to join him, but she refused. This was unheard of in Persia; the law said that the king's commands must be obeyed! So Vashti was banned from the palace and plans were made to choose a new queen, and officers went throughout the lands, choosing the most beautiful young women to come to the palace.

Esther was a Jewish girl living in Susa; when her parents had died, her older cousin Mordecai had adopted her. Now Esther was among those chosen to come to the palace. For twelve months the young women were given training and beauty treatments in preparation for meeting the king. When the day finally came, the king loved Esther more than all the other women, and he chose Esther to be his queen! The king placed a crown on Esther's head and gave a royal banquet in her honour.

One day after Esther had been made queen, Mordecai overheard two of the king's men plotting to kill the king. Mordecai passed a message to Esther, and Esther told the king.

Some time later, the king promoted a man named Haman, making him the most important officer in the land. Haman liked being important and liked having everyone bow to the ground as he passed by. But Mordecai refused to bow to Haman and this made Haman very angry. When Haman found out that Mordecai was a Jew, Haman started planning to kill all the Jews!

Haman told the king, "There is a certain race of people scattered through your empire who do not obey your laws." Haman suggested that a day be set aside to destroy these people; he even offered to put a large sum of money towards the venture. The king trusted Haman, and the law was written.

When Mordecai found out, he sent a message to Esther, "Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?"

But Esther said, "No one can go to the king without being invited; the king has not seen me in 30 days and if he does not hold out his golden sceptre I would be killed!"

Friday

Continuing from Matthew 24:11, use the Bible to help you unscramble the underlined words and then fit them in the grid.

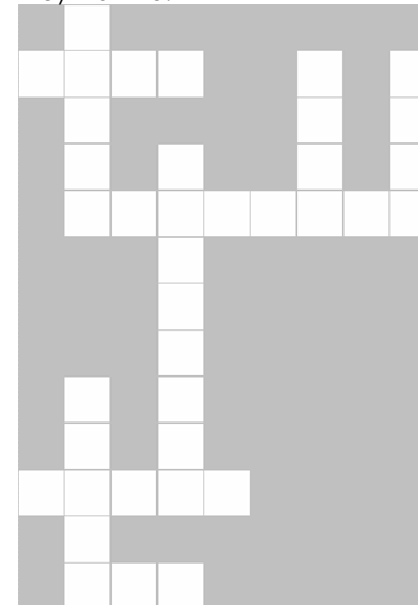
"Many LEAFS POPTERHS will appear and will deceive many people. ^{NLT}" Many people have claimed to have messages from God, but many of them do not pass the tests for a prophet mentioned in the Bible.

1. Isaiah 8:20^{NLT}, "People who contradict His word are completely in the dark."
2. Matthew 7:20^{NLT}, "Just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions."
3. Jeremiah 28:9^{NLT}, "Only when his predictions come true can we know that he is really from the Lord."
4. 1 John 4:2^{NLT}, "If a person claiming to be a prophet acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God."

"Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the ELOV of many will grow LOCD"

A quick search on Google shows that most people believe crime is increasing and the increase in crime has been on the news several times in the last couple of years.

Divorce rates in Australia have remained fairly constant in the last few years but at the same time marriage rates have fallen. More and more people are choosing to live together without marrying so they can leave whenever they want to.



"And the Good News about the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole DORLW"

Advances in technology have allowed the Gospel to be spread like never before. First the printing press, then radio, TV and now Satellite stations like the Hope Channel and 3ABN.

Verse 29 says, "The NUS will be DENKEDAR, the NOMO will give no light, the RATSS will fall from the sky." -

Have a read of the story on the back page.

Thursday

The people in Esther's time feared for their lives, but God was in control. In Matthew 24 the disciples asked Jesus for the signs of the end; in their minds the end of Jerusalem was the same as the end of the world. Jesus knew that was not the case but rather than worry them with the thought of how many thousands of years were yet to come, He shared some of the signs of both at the same time. Use Matthew 24 to help answer these questions and then solve the crossword.

"For many will come in my _____ (7a), claiming, 'I am the _____ (2d).' And will _____ many. NIV" This has certainly come to pass with many people claiming this title including Sergey Anatolyvitch Torop in 1990, Oscar Ramiro Ortega-Hernandez in 2011, Wayne Bent/Michael Travessar in 2000.

"You will hear of _____ (1a) and threats of _____ (1d)...NLT" Research by Professors Mark Harrison from University Warwick and Nikolaus Wolf from Humboldt University has shown that between 1870 and 2001 the frequency (how often they happen) of wars has increased.

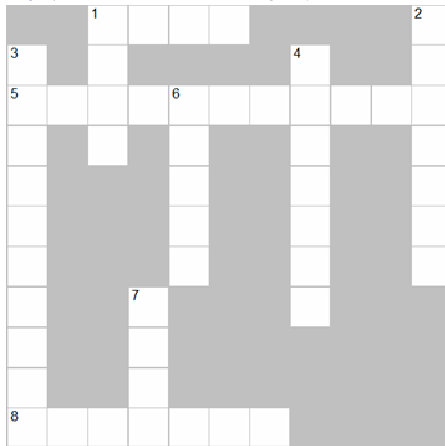
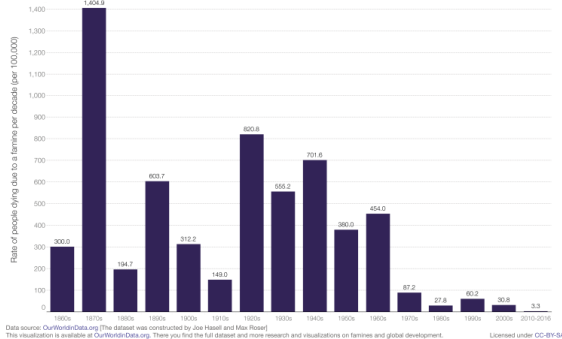
"There will be _____ (4d) and _____ (5) in various places. NIV" The chart shows the number of people who have died from famines in each decade according to ourworldindata.org/ famines.

There have been many earthquakes in history – turn to the back page to learn about one of them.

"You will be arrested, _____ (3d), and killed. You will be _____ (6d) all over the world because you are my followers. NLT"

If you've been reading the stories on the back of the lessons each week you will know that this has certainly been true.

Rate of people dying due to a famine per decade (per 100,000) 
The rate of the excess mortality due to famine shown here is presented in detail on OurWorldinData.org.
For famines that happened at the end of a decade and the beginning of the next decade the famine victims are split by decade on a year by year basis.
For famines for which different excess mortality estimates are published the midpoint between these estimates was chosen here.



Monday

Mordecai replied, "God will save His people one way or another but perhaps this is why you are queen; and don't think that you will be safe in the palace."

Esther asked that the Jews pray and fast for three days before she dressed carefully to enter the king's courtroom. If the king did not want to see her she would be killed; but the king welcomed her and held out his sceptre. Esther invited the king and Haman for a lunch banquet.

At lunch, the king again asked what Esther wanted, but Esther said "please, both of you come for lunch tomorrow and then I will explain."

When Haman returned home excited but angry because he had seen Mordecai. His wife suggested he build a gallows and ask the king's permission to hang Mordecai so Haman set to work straight away.

That night the king had trouble sleeping, so he had an attendant to read from the history books; the attendant read of the time that Mordecai exposed the plot. When Haman arrived in the morning the king asked, "How should I reward someone who has served me well?" Haman said "Dress him in your robes, and have someone lead him through the city on your horse." "Excellent!" said the king, "Do as you have said to Mordecai the Jew." So Haman had to lead the man he hated, through the city on the king's horse.

When the king and Haman joined Esther for lunch, the king again asked what she wanted. Esther replied, "I ask that my life and the lives of my people be spared." Then Esther told the king that she too was a Jew.

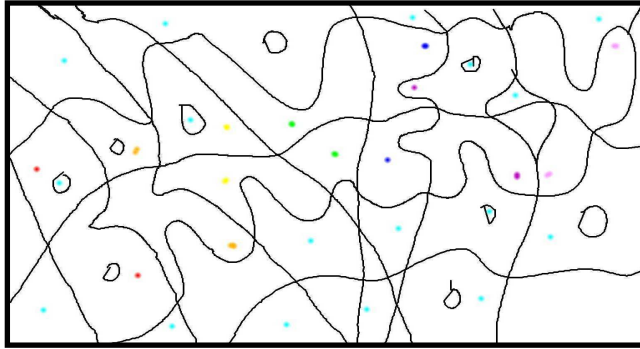
The King jumped up in anger and went out into the garden and Haman through himself at Esther's feet begging for mercy; but the king returning saw Haman and demanded "Will you attack the queen while I am here?" He ordered the guards to take Haman away and when one of them mentioned the gallows that Haman had made the king ordered Haman killed on his own gallows.

The King gave Haman's job to Mordecai. The law condemning the Jews could not be changed but the king told Esther and Mordecai to do whatever they wished. So Mordecai wrote a new law giving the Jews permission to not only defend themselves but to attack those who tried to attack them. Ever since then the Jews have celebrated the festival of Purim in memory of Esther and the way God saved them.

Tuesday

What did Esther need, to face the king?

This doesn't mean you won't be scared. It means doing what you need to do, even when you are scared.



Romans 8:31^{NLT} can help you to be brave.

■	⬆	↺	△	e	↑	↶	↷	↔	↖	📄	↶	→
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

✖	▶	▴	Ⓢ	⤴	s	↶	↷	↓	↶	⚙	📄	⬇
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

↔↑ ↶▶△ ↔s ↑▶⤴

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⬆e ■↶■↔✖s↶ ↷s

Wednesday

Find these words:

Instead of asking the king straight away, Esther made two special lunches and then when he was really curious, she told him what she wanted.

S T R A I G H T A R E A L L Y
W E I O N U O I E A E T I O U
H E O I S P E C I A L O E A E
A S I O T U O U I E U L A E I
T T O U E O I R E A N D A E I
T H E O A U O I I E C A E I O
H E U O D I E O F A H E T W O
E R I O U O I U E A E E I A O
N U O I E W A S A S K I N G
K E I O U H I M O I E A E T I
I O U S H E O A W A Y I E E A
N E I H O N U O I E A M A D E
G E I E O U O I E A E I O U O

When and how
is the best time
to ask
someone
something?

When do you think is the best time to ask someone something?
Draw an arrow to the best side.

When they are busy

When they are not tired

When they are grumpy

When they're concentrating

When they are calm

When they are not busy

When they are tired

When they are happy

When they are relaxed

When they are stressed

Picking a good time to talk to someone, and a good way to ask them, is called tact.

Knowing when and how to ask is important, but knowing when to keep trying and when to stop is also important. Asking God for wisdom is a great idea.

