In The WORLD

"And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world…" (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary® or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

PLOTTING THE RUIN OF HOMEOWNERS

A Maryland man posing as a lawyer told multiple homeowners he would fight mortgage companies to lower their monthly payment. He instructed the owners to pay his fees and then to cease paying the mortgage or opening mail from the loan companies while he "worked things out" for them. The loan institutions eventually foreclosed on the homes, and the owners received eviction notices—because the mortgage payments had not been made and warning letters hadn't been responded to. Then the man offered to purchase the distressed properties for pennies on the dollar. He was arrested in January.

PLOTTING THE RUIN OF WHOLE PEOPLES

The prophet Habakkuk received God's word about how the Babylonian ruler had built his kingdom on fraud, violence, and injustice. Man's reign will last for a short time, but the knowledge of the glory of the Lord will fill the earth and last forever. God's justice will bring to ruin those who establish their kingdom upon bloodshed and a miscarriage of justice. God expects all people, from slaves to kings, to deal rightly with one another.

1. What example of a scam or scheme have you encountered?
2. How can we protect ourselves or each other from those who would take advantage of others?
3. In what ways can we help the knowledge of the glory of God to fill the earth?

Additional Resources

These videos and materials are for your personal use. If you show videos in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

Music Video, Traditional: "In the Garden" by Reflect Worship
Music Video, Multicultural: "Daughters of Zion" from the Porter's Gate
Music Video, Contemporary: "Daughters of Zion" from the Porter's Gate
JFB Commentary on Habakkuk 2
Ellicott's Commentary on Habakkuk 2
Matthew Henry's Commentary on Habakkuk 2