



Jesus Clears the Temple

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to treat God's house and their own life as special and holy to God.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who is With Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Mark 11:15-17

What He has done: Jesus cleared the temple.

Key Verse: Mark 11:17

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Psalm 69:9

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Unit 1: The King Who is With Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	Jesus and His Father's House, Luke 2:41-52	God came to earth and grew up as a boy of faith.	To challenge children to make choices as Jesus did in his youth.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To study the relationship between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and battled Satan using God's Word.	To study the three kinds of temptations we most often face.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls ordinary people and does extraordinary things through them.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To challenge children to treat God's house and their own life as special and holy to God.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-9, 5:17-18	Jesus' appearance changed and He spoke to Moses and Elijah.	To know Jesus is both God and man, and the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 69. Please join us in praying, "Thank you, Father, for welcoming us into Your house. Help us instill in the children an attitude of respect for Your house. Amen."

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Clean Up God's House	Used paper, trash bags
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "The Word Became Flesh" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Follow Me" "Chosen People" "Think About These Things" "Do Justly" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Take My Life and Let It Be" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Absolute All Time Favorites For Kids Cedarmont Worship for Kids: Volume 2
		Worship Scripture Reading: Psalm 103:8-12	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 5 Kingdom Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Mark 11:15-17	Map—Jerusalem, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Psalm 69:9	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Kingdom Prayer card (name of child and nation), W's, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Word Became Flesh," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Prayer and Snack	Fresh or canned fruit, juice
	Up to 10	Game: Clearing Your Temple	Slips of paper, pencils, trashcan, poster board or dry erase board, markers
	Up to 10	Craft: House of Prayer Window	Paper in several different colors, standard-size sturdy black paper, glue, scissors, pencils
	Up to 10	Discussion: God's House	None
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Find the Verse Race	Four Bibles, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, four pieces of different colored paper, marker
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite thing about church?

GAME: CLEAN UP GOD'S HOUSE

Purpose: Introduce the lesson by helping children prepare God's house with this cleaning game.

Supplies: Used paper, trash bags

Prepare: Crumple individual sheets of paper and spread them on the floor. Do this before class or have the children help you do this before they play the game.

Raise your hand if you have ever helped clean at home. What things have you done to help clean? (Children respond.) **We need to keep God's house clean, too, because it is holy and special to God. Today, we are going to learn how Jesus showed people the temple was a holy and special place.**

Directions:

1. Form teams of four or five children and give a trash bag to each team.
2. Have the teams spread out around the room.
3. On your signal, the teams race to collect pieces of crumpled paper in their trash bags.
4. After all the paper has been collected, have teams count the papers in their bags.
5. The team with the most pieces of paper wins.
6. Play again, as time allows.

Optional: Throw equal amounts of different color paper on the floor. Assign a color to each team. The goal is to see which team can be the first to collect all the papers of their assigned color.



Jesus as the King who is with us

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

The Seven Stars of Lent

If this lesson is taught during the Lenten season (the 40 days before Easter), we recommend the Seven Stars of Lent activity located at ResourceWell.org under Children - Other Resources. Choose one star for each week of the Lent season.

Today, we worship God for who He is and what He has done as the King who is with us. One special place where God is with us is in God's house. Jesus wants us to treat God's house with special respect.

It was very important to Jesus that God's house would be a house of prayer for the nations. Today, as we collect the offering, let's pray together. Choose a child to lead an offering prayer.

As we worship today, let's think about our holy God. Holy means perfect and without sin. His house is the place where our holy God meets with us, His people. He is with us here right now. Let's sing to our holy God and King.



Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 103:8-12.



Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Word Became Flesh." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on prayer.



Perform Kingdom Adventures script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 5.



Jesus clears the temple

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned Jesus called the disciples to follow Him. What did they do when Jesus called them? (They left everything and followed Him.) **Today, we'll see Jesus wants us to treat God's house as a very special place. This story takes place in the temple in Jerusalem.** If a map is available, have a child point to Jerusalem.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals Bible Story Scripture reference: Mark 11:15-17. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our key verse: Mark 11:17.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

When Jesus went into the temple area, He saw the merchants doing what He knew was wrong in God's eyes. Let's check out the whole story and see what Jesus did! Read Mark 11:15-17.



Clearing your temple

THE WAY

What did Jesus see when He came into the temple courts? (Men buying and selling doves at unfair prices.) **How did Jesus stop them?** (He turned over their sales tables and would not let them walk through the temple to sell doves or animals.)

As Jesus taught the people, what did He say the buyers and sellers had made God's house to be? (A den of robbers.) **The sellers were doing wrong by selling the doves needed for the service at unfairly high prices. Selling unfairly is like robbing the buyer. That's why Jesus said it was a place for robbers.**

What do you think God wants us to do in His house? (Pray, sing praises, give offerings, learn about Him, be kind to each other, etc.) **What did Jesus say His house will be called?** (A house of prayer for the nations.) **Jesus loves it when we pray in His house. Today, in God's house, we will pray for boys and girls of every nation who go to God's house in their own land.** Each child draws a Kingdom Prayer card.* Children take turns leading a responsive prayer with the name on his or her card.

Responsive Prayer:

Child: **May the Lord bless name on card in name of nation.**

All reply together: **"Hear our prayer, O Lord!"**

* A Kingdom Prayer card is a note card showing the name of a child from another nation with whom your church or ministry has a relationship.



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

In John's version of this story, he mentions that after seeing Jesus clear the temple, the disciples were reminded of a scripture about zeal for God's house. Zeal is an intense passion about something. Check out the way David describes zeal for God's house 1000 years before Jesus showed His zeal for using God's house in the right way.



FIND IT FIRST Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Psalm 69:9. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Psalm 69:9.

Jesus wants us to care about the same things He cares about. If you had been in the temple that day, what would you have learned about how important God's house was to Jesus? (Children respond.) **Ask God to give you zeal for the things that matter to Him, such as the way we use His house.**

The Bible tells us our body is like a temple. If Jesus saw what you are doing with your life, what would He want to clear away so your temple would honor God? (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a Kingdom Prayer card with the name of a child from another nation. Pray God will bring this child closer to Him. Pray this child will be able to come to God's house in his or her own country.

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry #5 as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #5. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jesus turning over the tables in the temple. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: PRAYER AND SNACK

Purpose: To help children explore the concept of God's house as a place to pray.

Snack Suggestion: Fresh or canned fruit, juice

Today, we heard how Jesus cleared God's house, the temple. Jesus said He wanted the temple to be a house of prayer. Our church building is also God's house. Jesus wants our church building to be a special place where we talk to God through prayer. Let's pray together to thank God for our snack.

Directions:

1. Serve snack and juice.
2. Have the children repeat the following prayer after you, pausing for them to repeat: **Dear God, thank you for this food. Thank you for Your church. We love You. Amen.**
3. As you eat, ask children to share one thing they like about church.

GAME: CLEARING OUR TEMPLES

Purpose: To challenge children to clear the sin from their lives as Jesus cleared sin from the temple.

Supplies: Slips of paper, pencils, trashcan, poster board/markers or dry erase board/markers

Prepare: On the poster board, draw a house with seven rooms. Label six rooms as follow: Prayer Room, Friendship Room, Family Room, Telling Others About Jesus Room, Loving Others Room, and Kindness Room. Leave the seventh room blank.

The Bible says our bodies are God's temple. In this game, we will focus on clearing the sin out of each area of our lives. As I point to each room, if you have a habit of sinning in that area of your life, write down the sin on a slip of paper. Then, throw it in the trashcan to clear it out of your way.

Directions:

1. Place the trash can in the middle of the room. Hang the poster board where everyone can see it.
2. Distribute a few slips of paper and a pencil to each child. Keep extra slips of paper nearby.
3. As you point to each room on the poster, encourage children to name the most common sins in that area.
4. Children are to write their areas of sin on slips of paper and throw them into the trashcan to symbolize the clearing of their temple.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: HOUSE OF PRAYER WINDOW

Purpose: For children to remember to treat God's house as special and holy.

Supplies: Paper in several different colors, standard-size sturdy black paper, glue, scissors, pencils

Prepare: Cut the black paper in half to create two pieces for each child.

Today, we discovered God's house is holy. What does Jesus want us to do in God's house? (Worship God and pray.) **Let's make a picture of a beautiful church window to help us remember to keep God's house as a special place of worship. We will place a cutout of our hands praying on the window to help us remember His house is a house of prayer.**

Directions:

1. Tear or cut small pieces of colored paper and glue them onto a half sheet of black paper. Glue pieces until the entire half sheet is covered.
2. On the other half sheet of black paper, trace each child's hand, with fingers together.
3. Cut out the outline of the child's hand and glue it to the middle of the window.

Teacher Tip: If children in your church are not familiar with stained glass windows, explain that some churches make beautiful windows out of colored glass as a way of worshiping God. When light shines through the colored glass, they are reminded of God's amazing power and love. Sometimes the windows have scenes from the Bible to help the worshipers remember the great things God has done.

DISCUSSION: GOD'S HOUSE

Purpose: To discuss what makes God's house special.

Supplies: None

This discussion may be led as the children create a craft or eat their snack.

Ever since God told Moses to build the tabernacle, God has always had a special meeting place where His people could worship and honor God. Who remembers the special items God's people kept in the tabernacle and then in the temple? (Golden ark, the golden lamp stand, the golden table, the scarlet curtain, the golden altar of incense.) **What holy or special things do we have here in our church building or classroom?** (Bible, golden bowl, cross, etc.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: Children memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse: John 1:14.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Let's read our Bible Memory Verse and talk about its meaning. Children read John 1:14 using Bibles or a Bible Memory Verse Poster. **Another name for Jesus is "the Word."** "The Word became flesh" means Jesus who is God became human while He was still fully God. He "made His dwelling among us" means Jesus lived on earth with regular people like us. "We have seen His glory" means we have seen His greatness; greatness only God has. God is full of grace and truth. Now let's say our Bible Memory Verse in a wave!

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from John 1:14 to each child or group.
2. As helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky, then down to thighs and sits down.
3. Repeat three times going faster each time.

GAME: FIND THE VERSE RACE

Purpose: Use this game to introduce, discuss and memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Four Bibles, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, four pieces of different colored paper, marker

Prepare: Write **John 1:14** on each sheet of colored paper. Hide the sheets around the room. Place four Bibles in the center of the room.

Directions:

1. Divide the class into four teams and assign one of the paper colors to each team.
2. On your signal, the teams are to search the room to find the paper color assigned to their team.
3. As soon as a team finds its paper, that team must get a Bible from the center of the room, find the verse and read it aloud. The goal is to be the first team to read the verse aloud.
4. Hold up the Bible Memory Verse poster and have the class repeat the verse together with you.
5. Finish this activity by saying the verse together as a class.

Who is "The Word"? (Jesus.) Why do you think Jesus is called "The Word"? (Children respond.)
Jesus speaks God's words because He is God's Son. God the Father sent Jesus to help us know and be close to Him.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus (Circa 0-33 A.D.) beginning with the only story of His childhood and then focusing on His relationships, His ministry, His teachings, and the events surrounding His death, resurrection, and ascension. It concludes with a study of His kingdom parables. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Jesus is Tempted (Circa 30 A.D.) List the three ways in which Satan tempted Jesus. (To make bread from stones, to throw Himself off the temple, and to be given all the world's kingdoms.) **Each time, what did Jesus use to fight the temptation?** (God's Word.)

Jesus Calls His Disciples (Circa 30 A.D.) Who are the fishermen mentioned in this story? (Simon Peter, James and John.) **What did the fishermen do after they caught so many fish and pulled their boats to shore?** (They left everything and followed Jesus.)

Jesus Clears the Temple (Circa 30 A.D.) How did Jesus stop the men from charging unfair prices for the dove and animal offerings people needed when they came to worship in God's house? (He turned over their sales tables and would not let them walk through the temple to sell doves or animals.) **What did Jesus say His house will be called?** (A house of prayer for the nations.)

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Life of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below.
Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Life of Jesus: Jesus and His Father's House > Jesus Is Baptized > Jesus Is Tempted > Jesus Calls His Disciples > Jesus Clears the Temple > Jesus Is Transfigured > Jesus Teaches the Beatitudes > Jesus and Nicodemus > Jesus and the Woman at the Well > Jesus with Mary and Martha > Jesus and Zacchaeus > Jesus Is Anointed > The Triumphal Entry > Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet > Jesus and the Last Supper > Jesus in the Garden > Jesus and the Cross > Jesus Is Risen > The Road to Emmaus > Jesus Talks with Peter > The Great Commission > The King Ascends

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan