



Jesus Clears the Temple

Lesson Aim: To know God's house is holy.

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.

THE WAY

Bible Memory Verse: "Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

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 know God wants us to be in His house.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To know God loves us.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and answered Satan with scripture.	To know Jesus wants us to do what is right.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls each of us.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To know God's house is holy.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-8	Jesus' face shone like the sun and God said to listen to Him.	To know God wants us to listen to Him.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Isaiah 56. 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."

TEACHER'S TIP

You can help children overcome shyness or get to know each other by playing simple games with a soft ball, bean bag or balloon. While tossing a ball, have children call each other by name or sing this tune: "I have a good friend, a good friend, a good friend, I have a good friend and their name is _____."



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a church building (or house)
		Coloring Center: Jesus Clears the Temple	Banner paper, crayons or markers
		Play-Dough Center: God's House is Special	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Block and Car Center: Going to Church	Blocks, cars
		Dramatic Play Center: Sing for Jesus	Dishes, pots and pans, play food
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "Jesus Loves Me" "Jesus Loves the Little Children"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Children, Obey Your Parents" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Blessed Are Those" "Do You Love Me?" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" "We Love"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 5
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Mark 11:15-17	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Mark 11:17b Visual: Picture of the Bible story
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: God's Special House	Standard-size sturdy white paper, markers or crayons, optional: glitter and/or bits of colored paper
		Game: Clean God's House	Blocks, container for blocks
		Game: I Love God's House	Beanbag or small toy
		Snack: Blessed Snack	Any favorite snack
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 1, Lesson 5
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Mark 11:15-17	None
	Up to 10	Game: Jump to Obey	None
	Up to 5	Game: Here is the Church Review	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about God's house

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the King who is with us

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a church building. **Let this stamp (or sticker) remind you that Jesus loved the Church.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: JESUS CLEARS THE TEMPLE

SUPPLIES

Banner paper, crayons or markers

DO

Children draw a picture of themselves in church while talking about what they like to do in God's house.

TALK ABOUT

The church is God's house. What do you like to do in God's house? (Sing, pray, read Bible stories, play, etc.) **Can you draw a picture of yourself in God's house? In our story today, Jesus sent the people out of God's house because they were buying and selling things to make money for themselves rather than worshiping God.**

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: GOD'S HOUSE IS SPECIAL

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while talking about God's house, the church. Encourage children to make a church with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

Any building where people gather to praise God, give offering, sing and pray to Him is called God's house or a church. God's house is special. Can you make a church with the play-dough? How can you make it special? (Children respond.) **What are the people doing inside the church you made?** (Children respond.)

THE WELCOME *continued...*

BLOCK AND CAR CENTER: GOING TO CHURCH

SUPPLIES

Blocks, cars

DO

Children build a church to learn about God.

TALK ABOUT

How did you get to church this morning? (Children respond.) **It is good that we can come to God's house to talk about God and to worship Him. Let's build a church with the blocks. Then everyone can come and learn about God.**

DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: SING FOR JESUS

SUPPLIES

Dishes, pots and pans, play food

DO

Children praise Jesus while playing.

TALK ABOUT

Jesus loves when we sing and praise Him. Let's praise Jesus while we work together by singing our favorite songs about Him. What is your favorite song about Jesus? (Children respond.) Some song suggestions are: "Jesus Loves Me," "Jesus Loves the Little Children," "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," "My God Is So Big," "His Banner Over Me Is Love."

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

"Children	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
obey	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
your parents."	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
Ephesians 6:1	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the King who is with us

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

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 "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



In God's house, we gather with our friends who love Jesus. Together, let's pray and tell Jesus how much we love Him. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us. We come together in Your house to show You how much we love You. Amen.**



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus, the King who is with us. Jesus loves when we spend time with Him in God's house. Sing: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God."

Now, let's give our offering as we sing another praise song. Play: "Give Thanks to the Lord" as background music while collecting the offering.



In God's house, we gather with our friends who love Jesus. Let's see how our friends Delbert and Lello are doing today. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 5.



We come to God's house to praise Him and to learn about His love and His rules. One of God's rules for you is to obey your parents. Everyone follow me as we march around God's house and sing our Bible Memory Verse Song. Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Children, Obey Your Parents."



Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together with the motions.

"Children

With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.

obey

Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.

your parents."

The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).

Ephesians 6:1

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Jesus clears the temple

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Mark 11:17b, picture of the Bible story

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Jesus called His friends to follow Him. One way we can follow Jesus is by coming to God's house, the church, just like you did today! Jesus calls God's house, a house of prayer. Can you put your hands together like we do when we are praying? Do you remember the rhyme we learned about the church? Guide the children in the following motions.

1. Fold hands together, as in prayer, with fingers crossing each other. Turn fingers so they are hidden between the hands, still interlocked.
2. Hold thumbs so thumb tips are touching. Say together: **"Here is the church."**
3. Point index fingers straight up and touch at the fingertips. Say together: **"Here is the steeple."**
4. Leaving the fingers interlocked, flip hands over and wiggle the interlocked fingers. Say together: **"Open the doors and see all the people."**
5. **We are the people inside the church!**

Let's find out what the people were doing in church when Jesus got to Jerusalem. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Mark 11:17b.



WATCH THE WORD: MARK 11:15-17

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **When Jesus came to Jerusalem,**
- **He went to the temple courts.**
- **Men were buying and selling there,**
- **Instead of worshiping the Lord.**
- **He stopped the sellers from walking through.**
- **He turned over bench after bench.**
- **Jesus wanted God's house kept special;**
- **They had made it a robber's den.**
- **Jesus turned over their tables.**
- **He chased those men away.**
- **"My house will be called a house of prayer,**
- **Where all nations can come and pray!"**

How does Jesus feel about God's house? (Jesus loves God's house.) **What does Jesus want us to do in God's house?** (Worship or praise God, pray, give our offering, sing, learn about God, etc.)



Treat God's house as special

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: GOD'S SPECIAL HOUSE

Purpose: For children to make a church building to remind them the church is God's special House.

Supplies: Standard-size sturdy white paper, markers or crayons, optional: glitter and/or bits of colored paper

Prepare: On lengthwise sheet of paper, fold one third of each side into center as doors. Cut two inches off the top of the doors but not the middle third of the paper. Preprint on the top of the middle third of the paper, directly above the closed doors, the words **"My House will be called..."** and an outline of a cross. Across the bottom of the paper, visible when the doors are open, write **"...a House of Prayer." Mark 11:17b.**

Directions:

1. Decorate the church doors with markers or crayons.
2. Color the cross.
3. Open the doors and trace your hand above the pre-printed words.
4. Optional: Use glitter and/or bits of colored paper to decorate the church doors.

Craft Discussion:

- **What did Jesus want people to stop doing in the temple?** (Buying and selling things.)
They were using the temple as a place to make money for themselves, instead of a place to pray.
- **What did Jesus say we should use His house for?** (Praying.)
- **Praying is talking to God. Although we can talk to God anywhere, our church building is a special place where we can gather together and talk to God.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: CLEAN GOD'S HOUSE

Purpose: This game will help children learn to show love for God's house by keeping it clean.

Supplies: Blocks, container for the blocks

Jesus wants His house to be special. What were people doing in the temple instead of treating it as a special place? (Buying and selling to make money for themselves.) **Jesus cleared away all the benches and tables so they could not buy and sell. He wanted to keep His house special. One way to keep His house special is to keep it clean. Let's practice cleaning God's house.**

Directions:

1. Spread the blocks all over the floor.
2. Children sing a favorite praise song as they pick up and toss the blocks in the container.

GAME: I LOVE GOD'S HOUSE

Purpose: For children to remember God's house is special.

Supplies: Beanbag or small toy

The church building is a special place because it is God's house. Let's tell God how much we like His house.

Directions:

1. Have children sit in a circle.
2. Toss the beanbag to a child.
3. All children chant this question:
"Name of child, name of child, do you like God's house?"
4. The child jumps up and says, **"Yes, I like God's house."**
5. After answering, the child tosses the beanbag to another child and sits back down.
6. Repeat steps 3-5 until all of the children have had a chance play.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: BLESSED SNACK

Purpose: Children will enjoy a favorite snack while they discuss treating God's house as special.

Snack Suggestion: A favorite snack

What did Jesus want His house to be called? (A house of prayer.) **We are in His house right now, so let's sing a prayer to Jesus. Let's sing the "Blessing Song" as our prayer to thank God for our blessings, which include this snack.**

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **What were people doing in the temple?** (Buying and selling.) **Remember, in Bible times, God's house was called the temple. It was where people went to spend special time with God. But, some people were treating His house as a place to make money. Did Jesus like that?** (No.)
 - **What can we do to treat God's house as a special place?** (Pray, listen in class, learn about God, sing to Jesus, and keep it clean.)
 - **Our Bible Memory Verse tells us one thing we can do that makes God happy. Let's say it together: "Children, obey your parents."** Invite each child to say the verse with you.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Children	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
obey	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
your parents."	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
Ephesians 6:1	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: MARK 11:15-17

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **When Jesus came to Jerusalem,** (Walk in place.)
- **He went to the temple courts.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **Men were buying and selling there,** (Pretend to hand out money.)
- **Instead of worshiping the Lord.** (Point to heaven.)

- **He stopped the sellers from walking through.** (Put palm of hand forward for stop.)
- **He turned over bench after bench.** (Make pushing motion.)
- **Jesus wanted God's house kept special;** (Hold heart.)
- **They had made it a robber's den.** (Shake index finger for no.)

- **Jesus turned over their tables.** (Make pushing motion.)
- **He chased those men away.** (Run in place.)
- **"My house will be called a house of prayer,** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **Where all nations can come and pray!"** (Open arms wide to welcome all nations.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

GAME: JUMP TO OBEY

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Jesus obeyed His parents. He wants us to obey our parents and the people who care for us. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. Let's learn it together.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a line, shoulder-to-shoulder.
2. Teacher says the Bible Memory Verse, **"Children, obey your parents,"** pausing after each word for children to repeat.
3. Each time they say a word, they jump forward one time.
4. Repeat with other motions as time allows: Clap, stomp, turn around, touch the floor, etc.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: HERE IS THE CHURCH REVIEW

Purpose: To help children begin to understand they are a part of a church community.

Supplies: None

Repeat the finger play from THE WORD. **We call God's house, the church. If you go to church, raise your hand. Let's review the rhyme we learned about the church.**

Directions:

1. Fold hands together, as in prayer, with fingers crossing each other. Turn fingers so they are hidden between the hands, still interlocked.
2. Hold thumbs so thumb tips are touching. Say together: **"Here is the church."**
3. Point index fingers straight up and touch at the fingertips. Say together: **"Here is the steeple."**
4. Leaving the fingers interlocked, flip hands over and wiggle the interlocked fingers. Say together: **"Open the doors and see all the people."**
5. **We are the people inside the church!**



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about God's house.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 1, Lesson 5: Jesus Clears the Temple

PONDER! Some people were using the temple as a place to make money, instead of as a special house for God. Jesus made them leave (Mark 11:15-17). The church building is a special house for God. How can we take care of God's house?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for letting us meet with You in Your house. We want to treat our church building as a special place for You. Amen."

PLAY! Help each other clean a part of your home. Talk about how the church building is God's house. You want to keep it clean and nice, just like your own home. Let's treat the church building as a very special place.

UNIT 1 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| "Children | With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child. |
| obey | Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead. |
| your parents." | The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother). |
| Ephesians 6:1 | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |