



# 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

**Whisper Verse:** "Jesus loved the Church."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." 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 inspire children to want to be in God's house.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To see God the Father loves Jesus and God loves each of us.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and answered Satan with scripture.	To show God is pleased when we 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 to follow Him.
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."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a church building (or house)
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Jesus loved the Church."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Children, Obey Your Parents" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Blessed Are Those" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "I Can Do Everything" "It's Praise Time!" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Sing Praises" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "I Love You, Lord" "Jesus Loves Me" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Cedarmont Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		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 church building
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: God's Special House	Standard-size sturdy white paper, cross (Pre-folded and precut with preprinted message) markers or crayons
		Game: Clean God's House	Crumpled paper, trash can
		Game: I Love God's House	Beanbag or small toy
		Snack: Blessed Snack	A favorite snack
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 1, Lesson 5 Color This Story: "Jesus Clears the Temple"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Mark 11:15-17	None
	Up to 10	Game: Jump to Obey	None
	Up to 10	Game: Mother, May I?	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about God's house

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus loved the Church

## THE 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. Today's Whisper Verse is "Jesus loved the Church."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

**SIGN LANGUAGE: "Jesus loved the Church."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:**

<b>"Jesus"</b>	The middle finger of one hand touches the middle of the palm of the other hand, and then the same is repeated using the middle finger of the other hand. This action indicates the wounds in Jesus' hands after He was nailed to the cross.
<b>"loved"</b>	The hands hug something over the heart to indicate the concept of love.
<b>"(the) Church."</b>	The right hand makes the letter "C" shape and taps lightly on the back of the left hand, palm facing down.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "Jesus loved the Church." Ephesians 5:25. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



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 "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.



**It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus, the King who is with us. Here in God's house, we will sing, give our money offering and pray to Jesus. Doing these things in God's house makes Jesus very happy. Let's start by giving our offering and praising the Lord with a song.** Play: "Give Thanks to the Lord" as background music while collecting the offering. Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."

**Any building where we gather to praise God, give our offering, sing and pray to Him is called God's house or a church. The Bible also uses "the Church" as the name for the group of people who believe in Jesus. Jesus loved the Church. That's our Whisper Verse for today.** Review Whisper Verse together: Jesus loved the Church. Include sign language.

**When the Bible says Jesus loved the Church, it means He loved you! He will always love the Church. He will always love you!** Sing: "Jesus Loves Me."



**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: "Children, Obey Your Parents."

**Jesus wants this place, His house, to be a house of prayer. Who would like to say a prayer to thank God for letting us come to His house today?** Volunteer prays.



Jesus clears the temple

## THE WORD

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.

Last time, we learned how Jesus called His disciples to follow Him. Today, we will hear how Jesus showed everyone God's house is to be a house of prayer. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Mark 11:17b.

### **WATCH THE WORD: MARK 11:15-17**

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, hold a picture of your church building or a picture of the place your church gathers. Other visual options include craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- 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 the Church? (Jesus loves the Church.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Jesus loved the Church." Include sign language or hand motions.



Any building where we gather to praise God, give our offering, sing and pray to Him is called God's house or a church. What did Jesus say His house should be called? (A house of prayer.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Mark 11:17b from the teacher's Bible.



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:**

- **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("Jesus loved the Church.") **Let's say it together with the hand motions.**
- **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:** Crumpled paper, trash can

**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 crumpled paper all over the floor.
2. Children sing a favorite praise song as they pick up and toss the paper into the trash can.

## **GAME: I LOVE GOD'S HOUSE**

**Purpose:** For children to express what they think makes God's house special.

**Supplies:** Beanbag or small toy

**The Church is made of the people who meet in God's house. The church building is a special place because it is God's house. What do you think makes God's house special?**

### **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, what do you like about God's house?"
4. The child jumps up and names one thing they like about 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.
  - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to the Whisper Verse: "Jesus loved the Church."
  - **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.)



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (say each name). **We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "God's Special House" craft. Tell someone why God's house is special to you. Tell them Jesus loves the Church.

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how Jesus wants us to treat His house with special care.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Jesus Clears the Temple." Discuss Bible Story and play Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Children, Obey Your Parents" as children color.





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 as "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 as "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 in the Lord, for this is right." 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 caregivers, too. 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, pausing after each word for children to repeat.
3. Each time they say a word, they jump forward one time.
4. Repeat until the Bible Memory Verse is completed. If you run out of space, turn around and jump back the other way.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: MOTHER, MAY I?**

**Purpose:** Children practice obeying their parents as instructed in the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

Jesus wants us to obey our parents. Let's play a game where we can practice obeying! In this game, you must remember to ask: "Mother, (or Father) may I?" or you cannot follow the instructions. Listen carefully because sometimes you will hear: "No, you may not." Then you must not move.

### **Directions:**

1. Children line up ten feet from the teacher who acts as "Mother" or "Father."
2. Mother or Father gives a simple instruction to a specific child. For example: "Michael, take one big step forward." (Instruction examples: Jump up and down, laugh out loud, flap your arms, run in place, sit on the floor, spin in a circle, etc.)
3. Child must first ask: "Mother (or Father), may I?" If Mother or Father says, "Yes, you may," the child follows the instruction. If Mother or Father says, "No, you may not," the child remains still.
4. Be sure each child has a turn following instructions.



## **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 attending church.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 1, Lesson 5: Jesus Clears the Temple

**PONDER!** Read Mark 11:15-17 with your family. Some people were using the temple as a place to make money instead of as a special house for God. Jesus made them leave. The church building is a special house for God. Jesus loves the Church. He wants us to treat His house as a special place.

**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!** Teach your family to play "Clean God's House." Help each other clean a part of your home. Talk about how the church's building is God's house. You want to keep it clean and nice, just like your own home. Remember, Jesus loves the Church. Let's treat the church building as a very special place.

**Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse:** Ephesians 6:1

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."