

Dear Parents,

This week we are learning about how God's people rebuilt the temple. God is a God of redemption and restoration and this was one example of that. Make sure you talk to your child about the purpose of the temple before Jesus came and how we are now the temple. We are the place where God's spirit can dwell.

OPENING ACTIVITY

Play "I'm Building a Church"

Invite the children to sit down in a circle. Begin by saying, "I'm building a church today, and I need a _____." Fill in the blank with a type of tool that you would use along with a hand motion that describes that tool. Encourage the next child to say, "I'm building a church today, and I need a _____." Say your original statement again. Continue around the circle until every child has had the opportunity to add a tool and a hand motion. Be prepared to offer suggestions of tools and to help preschoolers remember their friends' tools. Tool ideas include a hammer, saw, screwdriver, wrench, brick, bulldozer, wheelbarrow, sledge hammer, and paintbrush.

Say: Today, we gather as a church to worship God in different buildings like church buildings, schools, and homes. In today's Bible story, God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a special place to worship God.

WORSHIP

These songs are what we suggest for today's lesson. You can use these links or access them from the TCC Kids YouTube playlist. As always, do what works best for your family and use whatever songs you'd like to worship together!

- "Stop and Go", <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIT6YQO3hYo>
- "Love the Lord", https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdMIxCdly-c&list=RDvdMIxCdly-c&start_radio=1
- "Follow", <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64g6P3saSME>

BIBLE STORY

Bible Passage: Ezra 4-6, Haggai

Main Point: God's people rebuilt the temple.

Big Picture Question: How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? God speaks to us through Jesus.

Christ Connection: *God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a place to worship God. Years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be with His people on earth. Jesus gave us something better than the temple; He gave us Himself. Jesus is with us wherever we go.*

PRAYER TIME

Spend some time as a family in prayer. Pray for your kids and pray out loud with your kids! Encourage them to pray and share with God what is on their hearts.

Say: God, You keep Your promises. You helped Your people rebuild the temple and gave them a place to worship You. Thank You for giving us a church family to worship with but thank You even more for giving us Your Son to be with us. Help us remember that Jesus is with us wherever we go. Amen.



CRAFT/ACTIVITY

Make and Find the Scroll

Invite preschoolers to draw a church on a piece of paper. Show them how to roll their paper up to form a scroll. Secure the scroll with a piece of yarn. Write each child's name on the outside of her scroll. Prompt one child at a time to hide his scroll for the other preschoolers to find.

***Say:** King Darius found an old scroll that said, "Let God's people rebuild the temple." **God's people rebuilt the temple** so they would have a place to worship God. Jesus gave us something better than the temple; He gave us Himself. Jesus is with us wherever we go.*

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