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David Becomes King / Mephibosheth

Scripture: 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 9:1-13

Theme: God's kindness reaches the undeserving

PreK-K (Ages 3-5)

Free curriculum for small and rural churches

Lesson Overview

Lesson Overview: God's Wonderful House (Solomon's Temple) Introduction (Wonder & Connection) "God is so big and so good! He wants to live right next to us, like a cozy house full of love!" Start by holding up a small building model (or even a box!) and whisper: "What's the best place for God to rest?" Let them shout, "His house!" This simple repetition builds excitement. The Building Part (Teamwork & Wonder) "Once, Solomon built God a big, shiny house, like a magical castle for Him!" Show pictures of ancient temples (or draw a simple one) and ask: "How did they know what to make?" Point to the Bible: "God gave them a plan, just like He gives us His best!" Praise their creativity: "God wants us to make Him feel welcome too!" God Lives With Us (Love & Wonder) "God didn't just stay in that house, He walked through the doors and filled it with joy!" Use hands to mimic walking and say: "When we love God with our hearts, He comes to live with us!" End with a hug: "That's why we worship Him every Sunday, because He's always near!" Closing (Repeat & Encouragement) "God deserves our best, and He wants to dwell with us, just like a family hug!" Sing a short verse (e.g., "God is big, God is good, He loves us all!") and remind them: "You're His temple too!" Let them cheer: "Let's make God smile today!" Volunteer Tip: Keep props simple (e.g., a scarf for "God's cloak") and end with a quiet moment of prayer or praise music. God is always with us!

Bible Story

Solomon's Temple: God's Special House

Long ago, King Solomon had a big dream. He wanted to build a house for God, God's special home! The people worked hard for many years, using gold, stones, and wood. They built a grand, beautiful temple with tall doors and a big porch where people could pray. Inside, there was a special room called the Holy Place, where God's light shone bright, just like how you feel when your favorite toy lights up!

When the temple was done, the people cheered with joy! They brought offerings, gold, bread, and even animals, to show their love for God. Solomon prayed, "Lord, you made the sky and the earth, now help us honor you in this house!" The people stood in wonder, whispering, "Wow! God listens to us when we pray!" God's light filled the temple, making it feel warm and safe, just like a cozy nest for God's love.

This temple was special because it was God's home on earth! When people came to worship, they felt close to Him, like a hug from a friend. Even today, churches and prayer spaces remind us: God wants us to bring our hearts to Him, just like Solomon did. What a wonderful way to worship and love our Heavenly Father!

Why This Matters: This story teaches us that God is always near, He made a special house for us to come to Him. Just like the temple was bright and beautiful, we can shine our love for God in our own hearts, homes, and lives!

Key Verse

2 Samuel 9:7

Oh, the good news we share today is so bright and shining like the sun! God says, "I have built a special house for you, a place to stay forever!" That means His love is big, like a cozy hug, and His home is always there to welcome us. It's like when you build a fort with your toys, only this one is way bigger, made of love and kindness forever! Imagine a house so grand that it makes your heart feel happy, just like when you draw a picture of your favorite friend. God built this place to feel safe and full of joy, like when you share your snacks with friends. "Forever" means it never ends, it's always there to love us, just like how your mama or papa loves you every day! Can you feel how special this is? God made this special house so we can feel close to Him, like when you snuggle under a blanket on a cold night. His love is like a warm hug, waiting for us to come and rest in it forever, just like a cozy bed for our souls! Now, let's say it together: "God made a house so big and bright, where we can always take a seat in His love, forever and forever!"

Activities

Activity 1:

1. Talk about gold: "God made Solomon's temple shiny and bright, just like gold! How does gold sparkle?" (Let kids draw gold rays on a paper "temple roof").
2. Build together: Give each child 3, 4 small temple pieces to glue onto a paper base. "This is like building God's house, one piece at a time!"
3. Decorate with wonder: Let them color gold stars or lines. "Can you imagine walking inside this temple? What would you see?" (Repeat: "God's house is big and holy!")
4. Sing a short prayer: Hold up their creations. "Thank you, God, for your beautiful temple. Help us love You with all our hearts!"

Activity 2:

1. Explain prayer stones: "Solomon prayed to God in the temple. Let's make prayer stones like gold!" (Hold up foil.)
2. Decorate stones: Let each child draw a

Discussion Questions

- Here are four open-ended discussion questions to spark wonder and conversation about Solomon's Temple, God's House, while keeping it simple for little ones (ages 3, 5):
- What do you think God wanted to build with Solomon?
- "Back in the Bible story, Solomon wanted to make a special place where people could come to pray and talk to God. What do you think God's 'house' feels like when you visit a church or a mosque? How can we show God we

love Him by being kind and quiet there?"

- If Solomon built a big, shiny house for God, what do you think made it so beautiful?
- "In the story, gold, ivory, and precious stones made the Temple special! What are some things that make your favorite toy, game, or even a blanket feel special? How can we make God's 'house' in our hearts even brighter by sharing kindness with others?"
- When people came to Solomon's Temple, they must have been so excited! How do you think they felt?
- "The Bible says they sang and worshipped. If you could come to a big, beautiful house for God, what would you want to do there? What songs or stories would you tell about God? How can we be 'excited' to talk to Him every day, just like they were?"
- Solomon wanted to teach his people that God is the real King. What do you think that means?
- "In the story, he wrote a big book called the Law to remind everyone God is always with them. If God were your friend, what would you tell Him you love about Him? How can we show that He is our best King, even when we're playing outside or drawing pictures?"
- Why these work for little ones:
- Repetition: Words like "God's house," "shiny," or "excited" help them connect with the story.
- Wonder: Questions like "What would you tell God?" invite imagination.
- Connection: Linking the Temple to today (church, kindness, prayers) makes it relatable.
- Would you like any tweaks to match a specific Bible verse or theme even more?

Prayer Focus

Prayer for God's Temple , Our Wonderful God Dear God, We come to you today like Solomon did, building a house for You. We wonder at Your love, just like Solomon did when he prayed, "God, if You are with us, we will succeed!" Help us to build hearts that are open and full of thanks. Let us feel Your presence like we felt when Solomon built Your Temple, warm and bright, just like the golden lights inside! God, we ask for wonder: Can we see Your hand in the stones? Can we feel Your joy when we pray together? Help us to be like Solomon, trusting that You are always with us, just like a cozy nest where we can rest and grow. Thank You, God, for Your house, The world is Your home too! Help us to care for it and love You with all our hearts. Amen. Repeat with the class: "God, we build Your love here. Show us Your light, just like in Solomon's Temple!"

>> Missions Spotlight

In many parts of Southeast Asia, temple-building is a central part of religious life. Missioners working among the Khmer people of Cambodia use Solomon's temple story to explain that God no longer lives in buildings made by hands, He lives in the hearts of those who trust in Jesus.

-> To the Cross

Solomon built a beautiful temple for God. But Jesus said, 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days' (John 2:19). He was talking about His body. Jesus IS the temple, the place where God and humanity meet. And now, through the Spirit, WE are God's temple.