



Use Week of: _____

Unit 6 • Session 2

The Tabernacle Was Built

BIBLE PASSAGE: Exodus 35–40

STORY POINT: God is holy.

KEY PASSAGE: Exodus 15:2a

CHRIST CONNECTION: God sent Jesus
so He could dwell with us forever.

Bible Story for Toddlers

God told Moses to build a special tent. “Make it exactly like I show you,” God said. Moses asked the people to bring gifts for the tent, such as gold, silver, and colorful cloth. God gave two men, Bezalel (BEHZ uh lehl) and Oholiab (oh HOH lih ab), special skills for building the tent exactly as God had said. Then God’s cloud covered the tent. If God’s cloud covered the tent, the people would stay put. When God’s cloud lifted, the Israelites would move and take the tent with them until the cloud stopped. God’s cloud was on the tabernacle during the day, and fire was inside the cloud at night. God met with His people in the tent. Later, He sent Jesus to be with us.

Babies Gospel Gems

- * God wanted to be with His people.
- * God told His people how to build a special tent.
- * God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people.

Additional resources are available at gospelproject.com.

For free training and session-by-session help, visit <http://www.ministrygrid.com/web/thegospelproject>.

BABIES Activities

Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Exodus 35. Show the Bible story picture as you say the Gospel Gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God wanted to be with His people. God told His people how to build a special tent called the tabernacle. Later, God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people. [*Pray for the babies.*]

Sing a Bible story song

Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

“Holy, holy is the Lord, is the Lord, is the Lord!
Holy, holy is the Lord! He alone is God.”

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God always does what is good and right. People do not always do what is right, but God had a plan to make us holy. God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people.

Feel whipped cream

Post an allergy alert. Provide painting smocks to protect clothing. Sit babies in bucket seats or on drop cloths. Give each baby a dollop of whipped cream. Invite him to use his fingers to move it around. Wipe and sanitize hands when finished.

SAY: God told His people how to build a special tent. When the tent was finished, God’s presence covered the tent in a cloud. **GOD IS HOLY.** God wanted to be with His people.

Play peekaboo

Sit with a baby on your lap facing you. Hold a non-breaking mirror and flip it reflection side up as you say, “Peekaboo, God loves [*baby’s name*]!” Repeat with each child.

SAY: God wanted to be with His people because He loves us. God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people—people like you! **GOD IS HOLY.**

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s big picture card. Repeat the Gospel Gems and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.

TODDLER Activities

Circle time (5 minutes)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card. Open your Bible to Exodus 35. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the Story Point and Gospel Gems. Pray.

Make tabernacle art

Print a copy of the Bible story picture on heavyweight paper for each toddler. Point out the tabernacle and its parts. Gather scraps of red, blue, and purple fabric for toddlers to glue to the picture. Write the Story Point on each child's paper.

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God told His people how to build a special tent so He could be with them. God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people.

Sort ribbons

Provide several red, purple, and blue ribbons in various sizes and textures. Mix up the ribbons in a bowl and invite toddlers to sort them. Talk about how people brought red, purple, and blue fabric to build the tabernacle.

SAY: God told His people how to build a special tent because God wanted to be with His people. **GOD IS HOLY.**

Follow the cloud

Cut out a cloud shape. Guide toddlers to stand up and follow you when you lift the cloud high overhead. Guide toddlers to sit down when you sit down with the cloud. Briefly retell the Bible story when the children are sitting.

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God wanted to be with His people. When God's cloud came down on the tabernacle, the people would camp. When it moved up, they followed the cloud to the next place.

Walk through the church

Use a walking rope or stroller to guide the toddlers through the church building. Briefly review the Bible story.

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God told His people how to build a special tent. We worship God at a church building, but that is different than the tabernacle. God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people.

BONUS Teaching Hour

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KEY PASSAGE: Exodus 15:2a

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CHRIST CONNECTION: God sent Jesus so He could dwell with us forever.

Make jeweled art

Provide construction paper, glue, adhesive-backed jewels, foam stickers, gold foil stickers, and strips of gold and silver wrapping paper. Invite toddlers to decorate their paper with the materials. Briefly review the Bible story as they work. Write the Story Point or Christ Connection on each child's paper.

SAY: God wanted to be with His people. **GOD IS HOLY.** God told His people how to build a special tent where He could live with them. The tent was beautiful, like your paper. Later, God sent Jesus to earth to be with His people.

Play a matching game

Print two copies of the “Tabernacle Matching Cards” printable and cut apart the cards. Place the cards faceup in a grid. Encourage toddlers to find matches. Older toddlers may be able to play the game with the cards facedown. Point to the pictures and remind toddlers how they were used in the Bible story.

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God told His people how to build a special tent. God wanted to be with His people. The Israelites built the tabernacle just like God said.

Give gifts to friends

Provide a variety of gift bags or gift boxes with lids. Invite toddlers to find favorite toys or classroom items to put in the bags and give to their friends. Then instruct toddlers to bring the gifts to you. Thank them for the gifts!

SAY: GOD IS HOLY. God told His people how to build a special tent. God's people brought their gifts to give to God.

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ Connection, Story Point, or Gospel Gems throughout the week.