

## JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: JOHN 2:13-22



## The STORY

Read John 2:13-22 about the cleansing of the temple.

**Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What happened in this story? (Jesus cleanses the temple.)
- What kind of house did Jesus say the temple should be? (He said the temple should be a house of prayer not a house for buying and selling.)
- What did Jesus do? (Jesus turned over the money tables and drove the animals out of the temple.)

## CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Jesus coming out of the tomb.**

**Engage the children by asking:**

- What did Jesus say He would do in three days? (Jesus said He could rebuild the temple in three days.)
- What was He really talking about? (He was talking about His rising from the dead.)
- Did the people understand what He was talking about? (No, it wasn't until Jesus did rise from the dead that they understood what He meant.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- How long did it take to build the temple? (Forty-six years.)
- Do you think the Jews would be surprised to hear that Jesus could raise the temple in three days if it were torn down? (Yes, they were surprised. They didn't believe that Jesus was telling the truth.)
- When did the disciples figure out that Jesus was really talking about Himself and His resurrection? (The disciples didn't figure it all out until Jesus died and rose on the third day.)

### WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

The disciples didn't know what Jesus was talking about when He told the Jews that He could rebuild the temple in three days. But, after Jesus rose from the dead they remembered, see John 2:22. Jesus was referring to His resurrection when He said that in three days He would raise the temple.

It is Jesus' resurrection that validates His ministry claims. It is His resurrection that ultimately proves He is Lord over all, including life and death. The resurrection is what proves that His sacrificial death on the cross ends in victory for us all, see Romans 6:4 and Romans 8:11.

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*

