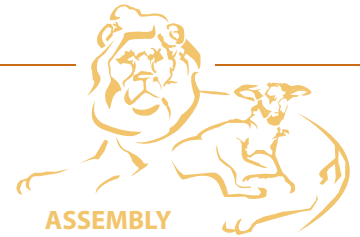


THE TABERNACLE

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: EXODUS 25-27



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

THE BARRIER CURTAIN

Supplies:

- if you have a scrap or rag at home you can die it blue then bring it in to tear it in two as you tell the story of what happened when Jesus died.

Note: Quantity of consumable supplies should be adjusted for the number of sessions you will be teaching

Explain to the class that God's presence lived in the smallest room in the tabernacle called the Most Holy Place. There was a curtain of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn that blocked anyone from entering the Most Holy Place. Only the priest who was specially dressed could go into the presence of God. The people never went into the presence of God.

Read to them what happened to a similar curtain in the temple after Jesus died from Matthew 27:50-52:

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.

Jesus' death made it possible for anyone to come into the presence of God. That is why the curtain tore in two. The curtains that prevented man from coming to God in the Old Testament tabernacle and the New Testament temple have been torn so we can all come into God's presence.

THE TABERNACLE

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: EXODUS 25-27

GUESS THE PARTS OF THE TABERNACLE

The following are the parts of the tabernacle. Review them with the class then see how many they can repeat back to you. You can have a competition between the boys and girls.

Parts of the Tabernacle

The Holy Place

The Most Holy Place

The Curtain Dividing the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place

The Ark of the Covenant (Chest)

The Golden Lampstand

The Table

The Incense Altar

Outside the tabernacle were the courtyard walls, the bronze altar, and the basin. You may want to draw the parts on the whiteboard or use the flannel board with the parts made out of felt.

WHERE IS JESUS?

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 tabernacle was set up to have an inner court of two rooms, the Holy Place was the first room, and within it, the Most Holy Place. The Most Holy Place is also known as the Holy of Holies. A curtain divided the two. Only the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies, once a year, as a mediator between God and man. Each year he offered an atoning sacrifice for the people. This sacrifice was not a perfect sacrifice. It has to be repeated year after year. Jesus came as the perfect sacrifice. When He died on the cross, the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. God wanted everyone to understand that Jesus' sacrifice was sufficient for all time and that the barrier between man and God had been removed in Christ. God would now tabernacle, or dwell in and among His people. From that moment on, God's people became the temple of God and His presence dwells continually in our hearts. John tells us the Word became flesh and made His dwelling (tabernacled) among us. Note: This reference to John's Gospel is about Jesus dwelling with us upon the earth prior to his ascension. I suggest you use 1Cor. 3:16-19 -- which is what you have been talking about.