LESSON 19

A HOUSE FOR GOD



Aim: **To show the children how David carefully prepared a beautiful house for God that he would not have the privilege to build himself.**

Scripture Reading: **1 Chronicles 28:1-21; 29:6-9; 2 Chronicles 2:1-16; 5:1-2, 11-14**

Memory Verse: **Psalm 1:5 (complete v 5)**
[T]he wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

Discuss in class the numerous plans and preparations that need to be made before one can put up a new building, once the site has been chosen. The building plan has to be drawn up carefully. All the materials have to be bought and delivered to the site. All the labourers have to be hired. There is a great deal to do.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. King David loved God. In fact, he loved God more when he began to understand that God had forgiven him his sins. He wanted to show God his love by building a great house where Israel could worship God.
2. God would not allow David to build this house as David was a man of war. Solomon, his son, would do it. But David could do his part by making preparations. David gathered the people together and told them of this project (1 Chron 28:1-7).
3. David gave Solomon all the building plans for the temple or house of God. He worked out how much gold and silver and other materials would be needed for the building and the furniture. Everyone was told what their jobs would be (28:11-21).
4. Everyone, including the king and all the leaders and army commanders, willingly gave materials for the building. They were happy that so much was given (29:1-9).
5. When David died Solomon became king and began working on the temple his father had planned. He collected beautiful cedar wood and skilled workmen from other countries. (Tyre was a seaport north of Israel.) Solomon took care that the workmen had enough food (2 Chron 2:1-16).
6. The temple took seven years to build. It was beautiful and impressive. The gold and silver shone in the sun. When the work was finished Solomon summoned all the leaders to Jerusalem to watch the ark of the covenant being carried into the temple (5:1-2). **Show Picture 19.** Here we see Solomon saying his prayer of dedication, the priests sacrificing at the bronze altar (4:1), the large tank for the priests to wash themselves and the basins

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for washing the things to be used as burnt offerings (4:2-6), as well as the pillars in front of the temple (3:15-16).

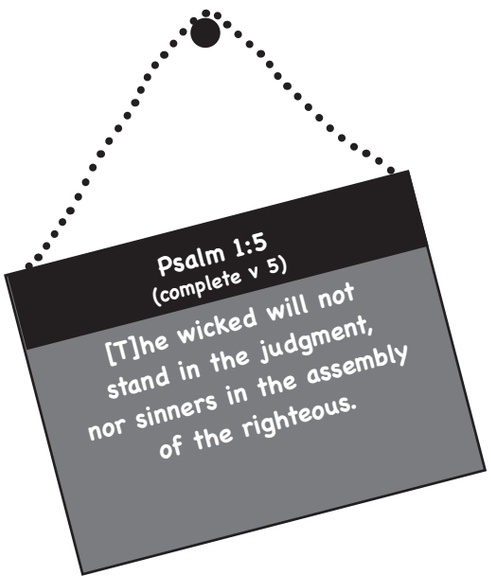
7. Everyone gathered to sing hymns of praise to God because the work was done. God showed his joy and pleasure by filling the temple with his dazzling presence (5:11-14). **Finish this part of the lesson by singing a joyful song of praise to God.**

Our Response to the Story

David's preparations to build the temple in Jerusalem were very careful and took a long time. The building itself took seven years to finish. It takes a lifetime to be a servant of God. Our bodies should be beautiful temples for him. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 aloud and explain to the children the idea that we are God's temples.**

This lesson can also be used to teach the importance and joy of giving our money and possessions for God's work.

Instil the Memory Verse



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