



Week 1 – Preschool
Additional Resources for Parents

THE BIG IDEA: I can spend time with God anywhere.

Today, we are going to learn something so important! But first, I have a joke for you! Want to hear it?

What time was it when the elephant sat on the clock?

Time to get a new clock!

Hey, speaking of time, this is our Big Idea for this week: I can spend time with God anywhere. Spending time with God is one of the most important things we can do! And, we can do it anytime, anywhere!

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 35:4-35

INSTRUCTIONS: Print the printable provided of these images: blue, purple, and deep red curtains, gold curtain rods/clasps, winged angels, goat hair, acacia wood, and silver bases. Spread out these images around the room. As you are telling the story, ask the children to pick up the picture of the object you are talking about and show it to the others. As the story concludes, you should have six posters showing each of the supplies. (See Exodus 26-35 for more background.)

Materials for the Tabernacle

⁴ Moses said to the whole Israelite community, “This is what the LORD has commanded: ⁵ From what you have, take an offering for the LORD. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the LORD an offering of gold, silver and bronze; ⁶ blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen; goat hair; ⁷ ram skins dyed red and another type of durable leather^[a]; acacia wood; ⁸ olive oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense; ⁹ and onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod and breastpiece.

¹⁰ “All who are skilled among you are to come and make everything the LORD has commanded: ¹¹ the tabernacle with its tent and its covering, clasps, frames, crossbars, posts and bases; ¹² the ark with its poles and the atonement cover and the curtain that shields it; ¹³ the table with its poles and all its articles and the bread of the Presence; ¹⁴ the lampstand that is for light with its accessories, lamps and oil for the light; ¹⁵ the altar of incense with its poles, the anointing oil and the fragrant incense; the curtain for the doorway at the entrance to the tabernacle; ¹⁶ the altar of burnt offering with its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils; the bronze basin with its stand; ¹⁷ the curtains of the courtyard with its posts and bases, and the

curtain for the entrance to the courtyard; ¹⁸ the tent pegs for the tabernacle and for the courtyard, and their ropes; ¹⁹ the woven garments worn for ministering in the sanctuary—both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when they serve as priests.”

²⁰ Then the whole Israelite community withdrew from Moses’ presence, ²¹ and everyone who was willing and whose heart moved them came and brought an offering to the Lord for the work on the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the sacred garments. ²² All who were willing, men and women alike, came and brought gold jewelry of all kinds: brooches, earrings, rings and ornaments. They all presented their gold as a wave offering to the Lord. ²³ Everyone who had blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen, or goat hair, ram skins dyed red or the other durable leather brought them. ²⁴ Those presenting an offering of silver or bronze brought it as an offering to the Lord, and everyone who had acacia wood for any part of the work brought it. ²⁵ Every skilled woman spun with her hands and brought what she had spun—blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen. ²⁶ And all the women who were willing and had the skill spun the goat hair. ²⁷ The leaders brought onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod and breastpiece. ²⁸ They also brought spices and olive oil for the light and for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense. ²⁹ All the Israelite men and women who were willing brought to the LORD freewill offerings for all the work the LORD through Moses had commanded them to do.

Bezalel and Oholiab

³⁰ Then Moses said to the Israelites, “See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, ³¹ and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills— ³² to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, ³³ to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic crafts. ³⁴ And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamak, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others. ³⁵ He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as engravers, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them skilled workers and designers.

One of these instructions was for the Israelites to build a tabernacle! That’s an interesting word. Let’s say that together: tabernacle. A tabernacle is like a special tent, and the Israelites were able to carry it with them as they traveled. It was a place where the Israelites could go to spend time with God. Here are some examples of the instructions God gave the people:

Make curtains of fine twisted linen or yarns of blue, purple, and, deep red.
Use gold clasps to hold the curtains together.
Weave pictures of angels with wings in the curtains. Join them together to make walls.
Make a tent around the curtains with goat hair.
Make frames from acacia wood and silver bases.

All together, these things created a beautiful tabernacle for the Israelites for when they wanted to talk to God! Each time they stopped in their travels to rest, they would put up the tabernacle.

This reminded them that God was with them wherever they went!

ACTIVITY: My Tabernacle

Today, we learned about the tabernacle the Israelites built! God gave them very specific instructions on how to build the tabernacle, but I want to see what the tabernacle would look like if YOU were creating it!

INSTRUCTIONS: Give each kid a “My Tabernacle” printable. Provide them with crayons, markers, coloring pencils, stickers, stamps, pom-poms, etc. to decorate their tabernacle however they want!

ACTIVITY: **Modern Day “Tabernacle”**

INSTRUCTIONS: Use sheets, chairs, tables, or whatever you have on hand to make a large fort. Depending on the size of your group, you may need to build two forts and combine them. Invite the kids to join you inside. Once inside, ask the kids to give you ideas of different places they can talk to God and write them down. Discuss these questions:

Can we talk to God even when we aren’t at church or in a tabernacle?

Where is one place in your house where you talk to God?

Where is a new place where you could talk to God every day?

ACTIVITY: **Musical Tabernacle**

INSTRUCTIONS: Give every kid a chair or a cushion they can lift. Play some music or sing a song together, and allow the kids to roam around the room anywhere with their chair/cushion. When you stop the music, have them sit on their chair/cushion right where they are and make prayer hands.

What’s our Big Idea again? Oh yeah—I can spend time with God any chair—I mean, anywhere!

ACTIVITY: **Making Time for God**

INSTRUCTIONS: Give each kid a paper plate. Cut and glue the clock printable onto the plate. Help them draw in the big hand and the little hand anywhere they’d like on the “clock.” You can also punch two holes in the center of the plate and weave both ends of a chenille stem (pipe cleaner) through it to be the hands.