

Sunday School Family Sheet: First Things First ~ Creed Article I

Sunday, April 25, 2021

This sheet is for an adult member of the home to use as a guide for discussing the Sunday School Bible lesson with children.

For this lesson:

You will need either:

- 1) a Bible, or
- 2) 365 Bible Stories and Prayers

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(Call the church office 9715-848-7286 for help getting one)

1. **Read and Talk.** Read aloud 1 Kings 5-8 or pp. 134-135 in 365 Bible Stories and Prayers. Before reading aloud, share the following: “The Temple for God was finally built! It took a long time, 7 years, but good things come to those who wait. God travelled with Israel in the Tabernacle, a portable tent-like building, for a long time and now God will dwell with His people in Jerusalem in the Temple. Solomon did what God wanted him to do, thanks be to God. Once the Temple was built, the people of God celebrated for a whole week. It was a wonderful time for Israel and a wonderful time for King Solomon.” Then ask the children to keep these questions in mind as you read. ***After reading, go over the answers and guide them towards the answers here:***

- a. Where did God promise to be before the Temple was constructed? ***(A tabernacle. Inside the tabernacle was the Ark and God’s promised presence!)***
- b. How long did it take for the Temple to be built in Jerusalem? ***(It took seven years. Seven years is a famous number in the Bible. It often means “perfection.”)***
- c. Why did the people of Israel celebrate in Jerusalem for a week? ***(God’s promised presence was with them in this city at this Temple.)***
- d. After the Temple was constructed, what did Solomon remind the people about? ***(He reminded them that even though things were very good – new Temple, God’s promised presence, lots of festivals – they still needed to obey God all their lives)***

2. **Teach.** After you’ve talked a bit, share these or similar thoughts: Not only did it take a long time to build the Temple, but it also took a long time for the people of Israel to arrive at this moment. The Temple was built in 957 B.C. A long time ago! And Israel was in Egypt as slaves about 500 years before that. Today we live almost 3000 years after these events, yet the still impact us today. The Temple no longer stands, but Jesus is the new Temple (John 2:13-22) in whom we have access to the one true God!

3. **Pray.** Have the children cross themselves and say, “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Also, lead them in this prayer: “You, O Lord, are from everlasting and will preserve all your people forever. Help us to worship you, keeping first things first, that we may never forget how amazing your ways are. In Jesus’ holy name we pray. Amen.”