

## Lesson 9: Construction of the Tabernacle

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Exodus 35-40 and see that the Israelites made a tabernacle for the presence of the Lord.
- 2) Study that God would be with the Israelites and He is with us today as well by doing activities.

### Supplies:

#### Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers to share for attendance
- Tabernacle Color Page – one per student
- Tabernacle Card Match Game – one set per two children
- Scissors to share – if need to cut out cards for game

#### Optional:

- Tabernacle Visual Aid – one per class to share
- Tabernacle Word Search – one per student

#### Snack:

- Graham Crackers (or any square crackers) 6 per child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

### Lesson:

#### 1) Introduction to Lesson

2-5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming.

Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Once children are seated say:

**Does anyone remember what we studied last week?** We studied that God and Moses re-did the stone tablets and that when Moses spoke with God his face became radiant. We also studied that today we won't have a radiant face of some sign that we obey God, but we can have a radiant life by our actions and good deeds giving God the glory and that will show people our radiant life!

**This week we will finish up the end of Exodus! We will study the completion of the tabernacle in chapters 35-40!**

#### 2) The Completion of the Tabernacle

10-15 minutes

Say to the students: **Let's turn to Exodus 29 and read Exodus 29:43-46.**

After you have finished the reading, turn to **Exodus 35:4-10, 20-21, and 29-34.**

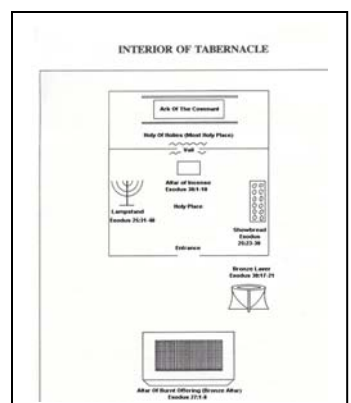
Say:

**Why did God want the Israelites to build a tent?** So God could dwell among them.

**Did they obey?** Yes

Read **Exodus 36:3-7**

**What happened?** The people had given so much, it became too much so Moses ordered that they stop giving. How wonderful that they gave so much.



**How should our giving be today?** The same way!

Turn to **Exodus 39:32-40:2**

**Did the tabernacle get completed?** Yes

**Did the Israelites obey?** Yes

**This is the first time, the Israelites obeyed God fully this whole entire trip. They did what was commanded and no bad thing happened. This is how the book of Exodus ends, with the Israelites finally obeying the Lord.**

Finally read **Exodus 40:34-38**

**Did God come to the tabernacle?** Yes

**How?** A cloud would come and the glory of the Lord would fill the tent. When the cloud lifted, the Israelites would move to the next area God decided.

**Does God dwell in a tent today?** No, He dwells in our hearts when we are baptized – we receive the gift of His Holy Spirit. See **Acts 2:38-39**

**So even though we come to the building to worship God – God does not just dwell here. He is everywhere and is not contained by a building and He dwells in every obedient Christian who is baptized for the forgiveness of their sins in Jesus' name.**

Show students the visual aid and pass it around so they can see and remember how the tabernacle was to be set up.

Ask the students if they have any questions before moving on to the next activity.

### **3) The Completion of the Tabernacle Color Page**

**10-15 minutes**

Hand out one page to each child along with markers or pencil crayons. Remind them that the Israelites freely gave and gathered all that was needed to complete the tabernacle and that the tabernacle was a tent that could be moved when the Israelites moved around in the wilderness. This tent as we read from Exodus 29, would be where God would dwell.



\*Allow students to choose to color the page or do the word search instead of the color page.

### **4) Tabernacle Matching Game Set**

**10 minutes**

Hand out one sheet to every two children. Either cut out the cards before class, or give the students' scissors to cut half the page each out so that they have the cards cut out to make one set. (If you did not keep a few sets from the last time this game was played in Lesson 4).

**Choose what game they play from the list below:**

**Matching: 2 player game one or two complete sets of cards**

Take one or two sets of cards, mix them up and place them spread out each face down. Have each student take turns picking two cards – if the card is the same (same picture) they get to keep the set. If they don't pick a set, the other person gets a turn. Continue until all cards have been matched and count how many pairs to see who won. As they match – have them look to the tabernacle set up page to see what article they found was located within the tabernacle.

**Go "Fish"**

Mix the cards. Have one to two complete sets for two players. Distribute 5 cards to each player. Put the remaining cards face down in the middle of the table as a pile from which to draw. Each player looks at his or her cards and lays down any exact pairs that he or she might have. The student who did not distribute the cards gets to go first and ask the other student for a card to match one he or she already has in their possession. If that person has the card, it must be handed over. That student then lays down the matching pair and may continue to ask for a matching card as long as he or she continues making matches. If the student does not receive a card that makes a match, he or she draws a card from the pile and may try to match it to a card in his or her possession. If it does match, the student may draw again. If no match is made, that student's turn is over. When a player runs out of cards, two more should be drawn from the pile and the game continues until all cards are paired. The victor is the one with the most pairs.

#### 5) Optional: Tabernacle Word Search

10-15 minutes

Hand out one word search to each student along with a pencil. Read the instructions and all the words they need to find aloud so that students know what words they are looking for. Help as needed and see who can get as many words as they can done in the time you have left! Also ask how each word in the search relates to today's Bible readings.

#### 6) Optional - Snack: Graham Cracker Tent

5 minutes

Hand out 6 crackers to each child along with a glass of water or juice to each child. \*Ensure no child has a nut or gluten allergy beforehand. Tell the students, **"Like the Israelites we are going to make a tent or tabernacle out of our crackers before eating them. Try and put two crackers together by leaning them towards each other to make the first part of the tabernacle - The Holy of Holies. This was the special part of the tabernacle only meant for the Ark of the Covenant. Next add the other four crackers, leaning two together so that your tent is longer and this part is double the size of the Holy of Holies. This was the Holy Place where most of the other articles were to be kept. There you have it! A special tent or tabernacle.** Let the children now eat their crackers and enjoy their snack.

Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss any questions while snacking.

#### 7) Close in prayer

\*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Thank God that He gave us the Bible to learn from and to see that God has specific plans and desires for us to please Him, and it is important that we follow God and do as He says. Thank God that we now can talk to God in prayer like this anytime and anywhere and have God and Jesus His Son in our lives every day! They don't dwell in a tent, but when we are baptized the Holy Spirit dwells within us! Thank you God for that special relationship we can have with You. Thank you for the book of Exodus and seeing what we could learn from Moses in how to obey and in the Israelite's on why we should not complain, disobey, or worship anything or anyone else besides You, Oh Lord. Pray for those who are sick or away travelling and pray that we will tell our family and friends about You and how wonderful You are to us. In Jesus name, Amen.