



UNIT 17 | JANUARY 2020

Babies-Toddlers Lesson

The Temple Was Rebuilt

Bible Passage: Ezra 4-6; Haggai

Story Point: The prophets told about Jesus.

Key Passage: “I know the plans I have for you ... plans ... to give you a future and a hope”
Jeremiah 29:11.

Christ connection: Jesus is with us wherever we go.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS

God’s people were building the temple. But the people who lived around them did not want them to rebuild. The king’s helper wrote to King Darius, “The people here are building the temple to their God. They said King Cyrus said they could build. Please find out if this is true.” The prophet Haggai told the people to keep building because God was with them. Then King Darius wrote back, “King Cyrus said for them to rebuild the temple. Stay away from them and do not stop them. Give them whatever they need.” God’s people finished building the temple, and then they celebrated the Passover. God’s people were so happy that God kept His promise to help them rebuild the temple.

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

God helped His people rebuild the temple.

Haggai said God was with them.

Because of Jesus, we can worship God anywhere.

HOW TO USE THE ACTIVITIES

As a nursery volunteer, your primary focus is on keeping babies-toddlers safe and happy. We understand that your classroom is busy, and your hands are literally full. However, we know that your influence on these children is more than childcare. The activities included in this lesson are suggestions of how to be more intentional in pointing little ones to Jesus. The theme will remain the same all month long. Choose one activity per week to focus on and don’t worry if you run out of time.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Big Picture Card, *1 per family first weekend of the month)

Hand parents/influencers the Big Picture Card and encourage them to review the Babies & Toddlers Christ Connection with their child this week.

****Designate a pickup location for rest of month***

BABIES ACTIVITIES

LOOK IN THE BIBLE

(small Bibles, Key Passage Card)

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Ezra 4. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY • God's people stopped building the temple, but the prophet Haggai said God was with them. God helped His people rebuild the temple. JESUS IS WITH US WHEREVER WE GO. [*Pray for the babies.*]

SING A BIBLE STORY SONG

(no supplies needed)

Sing to the tune of "B-I-N-G-O":

"God told prophets about His plan, His plan to send a Savior!
J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S!
God's prophets told about Jesus!"

SAY • Enemies tried to stop God's people. Haggai said God was with them. Jesus is with us wherever we go.

TRACE FOOTPRINTS

(sheets of colored construction paper per child)

Remove each baby's socks. Hold her securely under her arms as another adult helper traces her feet on a sheet of paper. Trace every baby's feet on a sheet. Write *I will follow God* or the third gospel gem across the paper. Hang it where parents can see it this unit.

SAY • God's people had been in far away from their homes. God brought His people back to their land. Jesus brings us to God. JESUS IS WITH US WHEREVER WE GO.

TODDLER ACTIVITIES

CIRCLE TIME

(small Bibles, Key Passage Card)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card and guide toddlers to say it. Open your Bible to Ezra 4. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray for the toddlers.

PLAY WITH RHYTHM INSTRUMENTS

(rhythm instruments and shakers)

Provide jingle bells, maracas, xylophones, kazoos, and other instruments for toddlers to play as you play music. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • God's people praised God when they built the temple. Haggai said God was with them.
JESUS IS WITH US WHEREVER WE GO.

BUILD WITH SOFT BLOCKS

(soft blocks)

Provide soft blocks for toddlers to build a temple. Talk about the Bible story as toddlers work. Cheer when the building is finished.

SAY • God helped His people rebuild the temple. They faced trouble, but Haggai said God was with them. JESUS IS WITH US WHEREVER WE GO.

FINGER PLAY ABOUT HOMES

(no supplies needed)

Perform a simple finger play about homes. Repeat a couple of times.

“Here is a nest for a robin. [*Cup palms together.*]

Here is a hive for a bee. [*Clasp hands together in a fist.*]

Here is a den for a bunny. [*Make a hole shape with both hands.*]

Here is a house for me.” [*Make a roof shape with fingers touching.*]

SAY • God brought His people back to their land, and they were so happy to be home! Zerubbabel (zuh RUHB uh buhl) led the people to build the temple. One day, Jesus will give us a home with Him. JESUS IS WITH US WHEREVER WE GO.