

## Sunday Teacher's Lesson for

# LIFE OF CHRIST

## Jesus Clears the Temple

## Mark 11:15-19

### Younger Verse

"My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." Mark 11:17

### Older Verse

"My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." Mark 11:17

### Introduction

Have you ever been mad or upset about something? What did you do? Today we are going to learn about a time that Jesus saw something that He did not like. Let's see what happened.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we learned about James and John asking if they could sit next to Jesus in Heaven. Jesus told them that was not his decision, but God's. He wanted to help all His disciples know the importance of being a servant to others. Jesus wants us to think and care for other people before we take care of ourselves.

Jesus and the disciples were making their way to Jerusalem. On the way there, they stopped in Jericho. There Jesus healed a blind man named Bartimaeus; then they continued on. Before entering Jerusalem the people threw their cloaks and palm leaves on the road in front of Jesus. Jesus rode a donkey as He passed through all the people. They shouted praises to God as He went by them. Unfortunately, the people did not really understand who Jesus was or why He was coming. Do any of you remember why Jesus went to Jerusalem? He had told His disciples three different times that He was going to die on the cross and come back to life.

What do you think the first thing was that Jesus wanted to do in Jerusalem? He wanted to go to the temple. A temple was where people went to worship and learn about God. Do we have places like that today? Yes, right here, right now!

Jesus was very excited about getting to join the people in the temple. When He arrived, He saw things that were not good. They made Him upset. What do you think He saw? People were buying and selling things. Instead of worshipping and learning about God, they were making money. Some of the people were even cheating people out of extra money. What do you think Jesus did after He saw this happening?

Jesus went over to the tables and benches where the people were working at and flipped them over! He made all the people that were buying and selling things leave the temple. Does this sound like something Jesus would do? Jesus wanted the people to understand what the purpose of a church was. They were using it as a business, instead of a place to grow closer to God. When Jesus did this, He WAS NOT sinning. He was not doing this out of hate.

### Lesson Goals

To know that Jesus wants churches to be used to worship, learn about God, and to take care of the people.  
To understand that Jesus did not sin when He flipped the tables and sent the buyers and sellers out.  
To know that Jesus wants their heart to be a place to be used for Him.

Jesus taught the people that were still there and said, “My house will be called a house of prayer for all people. But you have made it a den of robbers” What did Jesus mean when He said this? He was wanting the people to know how to use the temple in way that pleased God. The people that were buying and selling things were not using it in a way that honored God.

The people that worked in the temple saw all of this. They did not like what Jesus did. They wanted to keep things the way they had been. Those workers did not really know God in their heart and they did not care about helping others to know God. They REALLY did not like that the people were amazed as Jesus taught them. They did not want people to start liking Him. Those workers began to look for ways to kill Jesus.

Jesus wants our heart to be a place that honors God too. If Jesus is not the most important part of our life, He knows. It makes Him sad because He loves us very much. Is there anything that you’re doing that you know Jesus would not be pleased with? Jesus can help you to change whatever it is. He can help you to make the right decision and choice. When you pray, ask God to help you make different choices rather than the ones you usually make.

Jesus made it to Jerusalem because that was where He would die on the cross, and then three days later He came back to life. Jesus did not run away or turn around. He still went because He loved God and us so much that He wanted us to be with Him in Heaven. If we ask Jesus to clean our heart of all the sins, bad things we do, then He does it immediately! If any of you would like to know more about Jesus, please talk with me before you leave.

**Learning Activities**

Have the children each take a turn saying, “Jesus is pleased when I.....” and let them each have chance to say what they can do.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Write segments of the verse on popsicle sticks and glue them to construction paper in the shape of a house.

**Prayer Time**

Ask the children if they have anything to pray about. Pray for those things and pray that the children will let their hearts be a place that God is pleased with.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Encourage the children to help you clean up. Don’t do it all yourself. They can be servants too! Let them help you pass out snacks and remind them that if they have any questions, they can ask you any time they want.

Planning for Lesson 38  
Jesus’ Power Comes from God  
Mark 11:22-33

# Preschool Lesson

## For

### Jesus Clears the Temple

Hey boys and girls! I am so glad to see all of you here in Bible study. Today we will travel with Jesus and the disciples. Ready? Let's go!

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem. Jesus had a very important reason for going there. He had told His disciples the reason three times! Who remembers what He said? He was going to make a way for us to be with Him in heaven. He would die on the cross and come back to life.

Once Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, He wanted to go to one place before He went anywhere else. What place do you think that was? He wanted to go to church. He wanted to join the other people as they sang to God, read the Bible, and learned about God.

When He got to the church, there was a problem! What do you think it was? Some of the people inside were trying to make money, instead of learning about God. They would buy and sell things to other people. They would steal people's money. They did not care at all about God or the people that wanted to learn about God.

How do you think this made Jesus feel? He got upset! So you now what He did? He went to their work tables and knocked them onto the floor. He made all the people that were buying and selling leave the church. Why did Jesus do this?

He knew what a church was for and those people did not. When Jesus did this, He did not sin, but He was showing the people that God was not pleased with how they were using the church.

He told the people that God's house was meant to be used for prayer. The people heard this and were amazed! They wanted to hear more. There were some of the leaders of the church that did not want to do what Jesus said. They began to make plans to find a way to get rid of Jesus.

It is important for us to learn about God so we can know what to do. He helps us to make good choices. When we make those good choices He is pleased with us. What are some ways we can please God?

Hands-On Activities  
For  
Jesus Clears the Temple

Talk about the lesson and help the kids learn that Jesus did not do wrong when He was angry and upset. Ask the kids to think of ways that they can NOT do wrong when they are angry.

Let the children make coin rubbings. Place a coin under a piece of paper. Rub with a crayon or pencil to see the indentions. Talk about the importance of loving God more than loving money.

Ask the kids if they think of their church as a place to pray. Ask them how it can be improved. Think about ways to be a church of prayer.

Talk about prayer and how to pray. Take time to ask for requests and needs. Then make a circle and pray!

If you have some, bring coins from other countries. Explain how they have to be traded for the money of the country a person is in. Remind them that the people were doing this in the story—except they were cheating the people.

Challenge the kids to listen to God and do right things this week. It may mean that they do something nice for someone! Think about some good things that they can do together!