



Dear Teacher,

This week we study the story of King Hezekiah; he was, perhaps, one of the more successful and famous kings in Judah's history. King Hezekiah looked to repair the Lord's Temple and thus restore the worship of God. Hezekiah was known as a king who did what the Lord said was right just as David did. This is an important aspect to remember. Hezekiah's reforms brought about great peace and prosperity for Judah, but the foundation of it all was the worship of God. The worship of God alone is the central aspect to our story today – God alone is worthy of our worship.

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Split:* King Hezekiah

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 29-30

Story: Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 92 (Pages 213-214); The Gospel Story Bible, Pages 136-137.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- Because of Solomon's disobedience, God tore the kingdom apart. There was the southern kingdom of Judah and the northern kingdom of Israel.
- King Hezekiah followed his father, Ahaz, to become king of Judah.
- Judah had for some time worshipped idols, but Hezekiah purged Judah of idol worship and repaired and restored the Temple.
- Hezekiah wanted to obey the Lord. He had priests and Levites repair the Temple and prepare to lead God's people in the worship of Him again.
- Hezekiah knew that this was important not only for Judah, but Israel too. Hezekiah made sure to include Israel in his letters and orders.
- Hezekiah not only restored the worship of God, but Passover also. Passover, the reminder of God saving His people in Egypt, had not been observed for quite some time. Hezekiah knew this was very important for Judah and Israel to know and celebrate.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

For the Sunday Schedule, please see "Sunday Schedule for Preschool" found in Handbook on the teacher's table.

Cherub Church

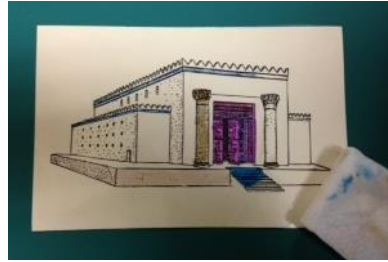
- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 166, 165, 164)

Craft: Cleaning the Temple

Supplies: Laminated temple, markers, baby wipes, napkins

Instructions:

1. Have children color temple
2. Clean off with wipes and napkins
3. Repeat



Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Craft: Passover Invitation

Supplies: Envelope, invitation, popsicle stick, crown, verse sticker, cross sticker

Instructions:

1. Place crown on popsicle stick (King Hezekiah)
2. Draw face
3. Cover address on envelope flap with verse sticker
4. Put cross sticker on envelope
5. Place invitation and King Hezekiah (stick) in envelope



Story: Split: King Hezekiah

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Boys and girls, today we learn about a king who oversaw a big clean up. Have you ever had to clean up your room? Or toys? Or the bathroom? Well this King wanted to clean up the Lord's Temple. Let's read and find out how he did just that.
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Questions for Review

Scripture Memory (Jeremiah 31:3)

Catechism Questions (1-15)

Hymn of the Month: O Love That Wilt No Let Me Go

Free Play

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What is the name of the king in our story?
- What did Hezekiah do once he became king?
- Who did Hezekiah order to clean the temple?
- What did the priests and Levites do to clean the temple?
- What happened when the priests and Levites worshipped in the temple?
- What had the people forgotten about that the Lord did in the land of Egypt?
- What did Hezekiah do to get the people to celebrate Passover?
- How did the people of Israel and Judah act when Hezekiah told them to celebrate Passover?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about worshipping God?

Scripture Memory for March:

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you." Jeremiah 31:3

Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*
- Question 11 - Can you see God? *No; I cannot see God, but He can always see me.*
- Question 12 – Does God know all things? *Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.*
- Question 13 – Can God do all things? *Yes. God can do all His holy will.*
- Question 14 – Where do you learn how to love and obey God? *In the Bible alone.*
- Question 15 – Who wrote the Bible? *Chosen men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.*

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, today we learn about a king who oversaw a big clean up. Have you ever had to clean up your room? Or toys? Or the bathroom? Well this King wanted to clean up the Lord's Temple. Let's read and find out how he did just that.

A New King

The kingdom of Judah had endured very tough times. The kingdom was under constant attack by other kingdoms and Judah had worshipped false gods called idols. Things were very bad in the land of Judah. However, one day a new man became king. And the Bible tells us this king "did what the Lord said was right. He did just as his ancestor David had done." This king's name was Hezekiah [**pronunciation:** hezz-eh-ki-ah]. Hezekiah became king when he was 25 years old.

The Temple

For many years, the kings of Judah led God's people to worship idols instead of God. That meant the temple of the Lord was ignored and not used. The inside was very dirty and needed to be cleaned. It also meant many repairs needed to be made. Once Hezekiah became king, he had the Temple repaired. Hezekiah also knew that the Temple would need people to serve in it, so he brought together priests and Levites, those who were special and were to serve in the Temple. Hezekiah told them, "Listen to me, Levites! Make yourselves ready for the Lord's service. And make the Temple of the Lord holy and clean. He is God your ancestors obeyed. Remove from the Temple the things that make it unclean. Our ancestors were unfaithful to God. They did what the Lord said was wrong. They left the Lord. They stopped worshiping at the Temple where he lives. They rejected him." Hezekiah went on, "They shut the doors of the porch of the Temple. They let the fire go out in the lamps. They stopped burning incense and offering burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel. So, the Lord became very angry with the people of Judah and Jerusalem and he punished them. Other peoples are frightened and shocked by what the Lord did to Judah and Jerusalem. They insult the people of Judah. You know these things are true. That is why our ancestors were killed in battle. That is why our sons, daughters and wives were taken prisoner. So now I, Hezekiah, have decided to make an agreement with the Lord, the God of Israel. Then he will not be angry with us anymore. My sons, don't waste any more time. The Lord chose you to serve him. You should serve him and burn incense to him."

Then many Levites, upon hearing Hezekiah's words, began to work on the Temple. But more help was needed. The Levites went out and found more Levites to help. So, there were lots and lots of Levites working to make the Lord's Temple clean and a place to worship again. The Levites probably washed the walls and floors, swept and dusted the furniture, and cleaned all the things in the Lord's temple. As the Levites cleaned the Temple, the priests had to get ready to serve in the Lord's Temple. The priests had to have a special bath, and wear special clothes to serve in the Lord's Temple. This was part of getting the Temple prepared to be used for worship. The priests knew what Hezekiah had said was from the Lord, and the priests wanted to obey God. The priests went into the temple to clean it. The priests took out all the unclean things they found in the Temple of the Lord. The priests then took the unclean things far away from the Lord's Temple. The Temple was now clean and ready to be used.

The Temple Is Ready for Use

Now that the Temple was ready to use, the priests went to King Hezekiah. The priests said to him, "We have cleaned all of the Temple. We have cleaned everything inside. When Ahaz was king, he was unfaithful to God. He removed some things from the Temple of the Lord. But we have put everything back. The Temple is ready to be used to worship the Lord.

Early the next morning King Hezekiah gathered the leaders of the city of Jerusalem. They went up to the Temple of the Lord. They made sacrifices to the Lord and worshipped Him. The priests made sacrifices for all of Israel and Judah. The priests asked God to forgive all of Israel and Judah for not worshipping Him alone. King Hezekiah put the Levites in the Temple with cymbals, harps and lyres. This was something King David did, and Hezekiah wanted to do the same thing. The Levites were ready to play music to worship God. Then the priests began leading people in worshipping God inside the Temple. Many priests sang to the Lord and other priests helped with the sacrifices. Trumpets were blown to announce to everyone what was happening. The Levites played their instruments too. In all this the people worshipped the Lord. King Hezekiah and everyone in the kingdom worshipped the Lord. They praised God with joy!

Then Hezekiah said, "Now you people of Judah have given yourselves to the Lord. Come near to the Temple of the Lord. Bring sacrifices and offerings to show thanks to the Lord." So, the people brought sacrifices and offerings to show thanks to the Lord. There were so many sacrifices made to the Lord; the priests and Levites were very busy! And Hezekiah and the people were very happy. They were happy that God had provided and that they could worship God once again.

Passover

Because the people of Israel and Judah had not worshipped the Lord for quite some time, they forgot all the Lord had done for them especially bringing the Israelites out of Egypt. Passover was the way all Israelites remembered what the Lord had done to bring them out of Egypt. Passover was a special time to remember that the Lord will be with His people and He will rescue them. But Passover had not been practiced for a long time. Hezekiah wanted people of both Israel and Judah to practice it once again. Hezekiah wrote and had letters sent through Israel and Judah. He invited everyone to come to the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. There they could celebrate Passover! When the messengers read the letter aloud to people this is what it said,

“People of Israel, come back to obeying the Lord. He is the God that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob obeyed. Then God will come back to you who are still alive. You have escaped from the kings of Assyria. Don’t be like your ancestors or your relatives. They turned against the Lord, the God their fathers obeyed. So, the Lord caused other people to be disgusted with them. You know this is true. Don’t be stubborn as your ancestors were. Obey the Lord willingly. Come to the Temple, which the Lord has made holy for his service forever. Serve the Lord your God. Then he will not be angry with you. Come back and obey the Lord. Then the people who captured your relatives and children will be kind to them. They will let them return to this land. The Lord your God is kind and merciful. He will not turn away from you if you come back to him.”

Remember, the Bible tells us that Hezekiah was a king that did what the Lord said just like King David did. And Hezekiah wanted the people of Judah and Israel to worship God only and to remember how God saved them!