

KS1 Unit 3, Lesson 6: Jesus in the Temple - Option 1

Learning Outcomes: to know the Bible account of Jesus cleansing the temple and to reflect upon its meaning for Christians.

Essential Core:

- Recall stories from the Bible associated with the last eight days of Jesus' life, including (a) his entry into Jerusalem, (b) the Last Supper, (c) his arrest, (d) crucifixion and (e) resurrection. (AMV units 2,3,9).
- Identify these stories with the religion of Christianity, who are collectively called Christians and know that they are from the Bible.
- Recognise **the order** of the key events in the Biblical narrative.

Resources: Mops, brooms, sponges, a dust cloth

Vocabulary: Bible, faith, important, belief, Christians, book, pages, verses, chapter

INTRODUCTION

Tell the story of Jesus cleansing the temple (John 2:14-16), or watch a short video of this story on Youtube - eg: www.youtube.com/watch?v=geferlpn_5A

GROUP DISCUSSION WORK:

Mops, brooms, sponges, a dust cloth... what do we use these things for? We use them when we clean house, don't we? Do you ever help your mom with the cleaning around your house? I don't know about your mum, but there were many times when my mum thought our house needed cleaning when it looked just fine to me. Well, how do you know when it's time to clean house? Well here are some signs that will definitely let you to know that it is time to clean house.

It is time to clean house when your feet stick to the floor when you walk through the kitchen.

It is time to clean house when your mother can't find you when she comes into your room to wake you up in the morning.

It is time to clean house when there are more dishes in the kitchen sink than there are in the cabinets.

It is time to clean house when you have enough dust bunnies under your bed to start a bunny farm.

Well, I think you get the idea! I know that your house never gets THAT dirty, but the truth of the matter is, we all need to do a little house cleaning at times.

Today we are going to learn about a time when Jesus did some house cleaning. It was time for the annual Passover celebration, so Jesus travelled to Jerusalem and went to the temple. He couldn't believe what he saw. The Temple was a special place where people could go to pray and worship God - but that was not what Jesus saw. Right there in the temple area he saw people who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves to be used as sacrifices in the temple. There were even tables set up where men were changing money so that people could pay their temple taxes. It looked more like a market place than a house of worship.

Jesus did not like what he saw. He was so angry that picked up a piece of rope, made a whip, and drove the cattle, sheep, and those who were selling them out of the temple. Next, he went to the money changers and turned their tables over, scattering coins all over the temple floor. To the ones who were selling the doves he said, "Get out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market." I would say that Jesus did some serious house cleaning in the temple that day!

As we think about Jesus cleansing the temple, we should also be reminded that there is some other cleaning that needs to be done. The Bible says that people are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in them. (1 Cor. 3:16) Christians believe that the season of Lent is a good time for them to look inside themselves and see if there is anything in us that needs to be cleansed. Perhaps there are some areas of **your** life where you need to do some house cleaning? I know there are in mine!

PLENARY: Why did Jesus "clean out" the temple? What else do Christians think about needing cleaning during Lent?