

# Lesson

## Engaging Introduction

Good morning, everyone! Today, we're going to hear a story from the book of Exodus in the Bible. Have you ever tried building something from Lego blocks or maybe a craft project? Remember how you needed to follow directions carefully to make sure everything turned out just right? Well, in Exodus chapter 25, God gives very special instructions for building something very important. This wasn't a Lego castle or a cardboard rocket, but a special place called the Tabernacle.

The Tabernacle was a kind of tent where people could worship God and feel God's presence. Imagine a giant tent that the people of Israel carried with them! God wanted this tent to be extra-special, so He explained exactly how it should be made. God even told them what materials to use, like gold, silver, and different types of fabric.

Have you ever seen something so cool that you couldn't wait to show it to your friends? That's how the Israelite people must have felt about building the Tabernacle. It was going to be the most amazing place where they could pray and feel close to God. Today, we'll learn about what God asked them to build and why it was so important. So, put on your thinking caps and open your hearts to learn about this special project. Are you ready to dive in and discover what made the Tabernacle so amazing? Let's get started!

## Main Teaching Points

### 1. God's Special Instructions

First, let's talk about how God gave instructions. Imagine your teacher giving you a project and telling you exactly what you need and how to build it. That's what God did! He asked the people to bring their best things—like gold and beautiful fabrics—because the Tabernacle was going to be very special. God told them to make lots of different parts, each one important in its own way.

For example, there was going to be a special box called the Ark of the Covenant. This wasn't just any box, it was made of gold, and it had two angel-like figures called cherubim on top. Inside, the people placed the Ten Commandments, which were God's rules for them. This showed how special and holy the Tabernacle was because it held God's words.

### 2. The Purpose of the Tabernacle

Why do you think God wanted them to build the Tabernacle? Well, it was a place for God to be with His people. Just like you might go to a special spot to be with your family, the Tabernacle was where the Israelites could come together to worship and talk to God. The Tabernacle was like a reminder: "Hey, God is with us everywhere we go!"

Imagine going on a long trip and bringing something from home to remind you of your family. The Tabernacle was like that for the Israelites. Wherever they traveled, it reminded them that God was close and watching over them.

### 3. Serving God with Gifts

Another important part of the Tabernacle was how everyone got involved. God told Moses, their

leader, to ask the people to give gifts from their hearts. It wasn't just about the gold and jewels. People gave what they had because they loved God and wanted to show it.

Let me give you an example. Suppose there's a big community party, and everyone brings their favorite dish to share. It's not just about the food, right? It's about everyone coming together. That's how it was with the Tabernacle. When everyone helped, it made the project extra-special.

#### 4. God's Detailed Design

Lastly, God's directions showed how much He cares about details. Each part of the Tabernacle, from the curtains to the altars, was designed by God. Even the priests who worked in the Tabernacle had special clothes to wear. They were supposed to be holy and set apart for God's work.

This teaches us something important: every detail in God's plan matters. Just like when you make a craft, every piece you put together matters in the final creation. God saw the Tabernacle as a beautiful piece of art, and the Israelites were His artists following His design.

Transition: Now that we know about the Tabernacle and its special pieces, let's think about how we can take these lessons and apply them to our lives today.

#### Personal Application for Elementary Students

You might be wondering, "What can I learn from a story about building a big tent a long time ago?" Great question! There are many things we can take from this story and use in our lives.

Firstly, remember how everyone brought special gifts to help build the Tabernacle? You, too, have special things you can give! Maybe it's being a good friend, helping around the house, or sharing your toys. God loves when we give from our hearts.

Secondly, the Tabernacle was a place for people to meet with God. Today, you can have your own special place where you talk to God. Maybe it's by your bedside, in your backyard, or even on a quiet park bench. Just like the Israelites went to the Tabernacle, you can have moments in your day where you remember God is with you.

Finally, the story of the Tabernacle reminds us that God cares about all the little details of our lives. That means whether you're drawing, playing sports, or even doing homework, God cares and is with you in all those moments.

So, think about what special gifts you have to bring, find your quiet place to talk with God, and remember that all parts of your life are important to Him.

Let's move on now and talk about what we've learned with some questions!

#### Interactive Discussion Questions

Question 1: What did God ask the Israelites to build, and why?

Teaching Guidance: Wait for a child to respond. Encourage them to think of the Tabernacle as God's tent. Explain how it was not only a place to meet but to remind them God was always near. Discuss how when they went inside, they felt God's presence just like we can in prayer.

Question 2: What kind of gifts did the Israelites bring for the Tabernacle, and what does that teach us?

Teaching Guidance: Invite multiple answers. Share how the gifts came from the people's hearts and that they could be anything useful for the Tabernacle. Discuss how we can give our best in many ways, not just with materials but with our talents and love.

Question 3: How can you make a special place in your life to remember God?

Teaching Guidance: Let the kids share thoughts on where they feel close to God. It could be at home or while doing something they love. Reinforce how this space is not only physical but can also be an action or time of day. Encourage creativity and honesty in their answers.

Question 4: Why do you think God paid attention to so many small details?

Teaching Guidance: Discuss how God cares for every detail because He values and loves His people. Compare it to calling things in life, like their favorite games or hobbies, requiring attention to detail to be enjoyable and special. Assure them that God looks at them with the same care.

With these questions and our learning today, we've explored a fascinating story about how people once celebrated God through building something extraordinary. Always remember how special your gifts are, and that God is close to each of you, ready to be a part of every detail in your life. Thank you for listening and learning together!