Date | June 27, 2021 Family Theme | God Meets With His People Study Text | Exodus 40:1-38

<u>Objective:</u> Make sure your children understand that God desires to dwell among His people. We walk with and obey God so we can better experience His presence.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** This lesson is set several months after God gave His law to Israel through Moses and then gave instructions for making and equipping the place where He would manifest His presence with them, the Tabernacle. This is when the Tabernacle was erected and equipped according to God's command.

**Bible Basics:** Go over the following question and answer each day this week and work with family members to do so as well. What does the Second Commandment mean? Answer: The Second Commandment (Exodus 20:4) means that in the worship of God we must not use any images.

#### Read the Word: Exodus 40:1-38

# **Disciple Your Kids**

Make sure your children understand that today God dwells with believers by the Holy Spirit living in us. Like Moses setting up the Tabernacle, we seek to obey all of God's Word and directions so we can better experience His presence.



# **Key Truth:** God Requires Dedication From Those Who Serve Him (Exodus 40:1-15)

The new year would mark a new facility for worshiping God. Moses was to set up the various structures and items of furniture for the Tabernacle. Moses consecrated the building and furnishings. He took special anointing oil and sprinkled everything, preparing and setting it all apart for this special service. Everything — the structure, the items, the priests — had to be set apart for God's use. We too can be set apart for God's presence and service. It begins with the Cross and the forgiveness Christ purchased for us, and continues as we confess sin and walk closely with Him day by day.



### Key Truth: Obedience Pleases God (Exodus 40:16-33)

What we think of today as the Mosaic system was underway. Moses did everything just as God told him. He made sure the outer hangings, the framed structure and coverings for the Holy Place and Most Holy Place, and the veil were made and assembled per God's instructions. He made sure the ark of the covenant, the table for bread, the lampstand, the altar of incense, the basin for washing, and the bronze altar of burnt offerings were made and placed just as God directed. Since Christ, it is the people of God who form the dwelling place for His Spirit. If we want God's presence with us, we must also respect that presence by honoring Him. We must obey what He has said to do.



#### Key Truth: God's Presence is Glorious (Exodus 40:34-38)

When everything had been done as God commanded, the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. This

seems to have been a cloud so thick no one could enter the Tabernacle. The same thing happened when Solomon completed and dedicated the Temple (1 Kings 8:10-11). It is fitting that His glory appeared at the dedication of each to demonstrate and validate His presence. God's demonstrations of His presence and glory usually come as a result of faithful obedience.

#### **Discussion Starters**

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- How would you define the word glory?
- How did the Israelites prepare for the presence of God?
- How does God manifest His presence to believers today?
- How can we prepare to be in God's presence, both individually and together as His church?
- What will you do this week to allow God's presence to dwell within you?
- For Elementary: How can you feel God's presence in your life?
- For Elementary: How does obeying God's Word affect our experience of God's presence? (See John 14:21-23)

## **Everyday Extras**

What scents can your children recognize without seeing their source? Outside, you've recognized the scent of fabric softener from someone's dryer, chlorine from someone's pool, or grass from a freshly cut lawn. Indoors, your nose may have picked up on cinnamon rolls cooking in the oven or bacon frying for breakfast. You may be able to identify your grand-mother's cologne or your dog's need for cologne!

God does not have a special scent, but He does have a special essence — a way we understand His presence, even though we cannot see Him. The Tabernacle was designed by God so that His people could understand Him better. He filled it with His essence so that it became a place to meet with Him. Can you feel God's presence when you go to church? Does that change the way you act there?

# Preschool Highlights for SQUARE & ROUND

Today your child learned Elisha's messenger told Naaman to dip in the Jordan River seven times. Naaman was angry that Elisha did not come to meet him. But Naaman's servants were able to get him to follow the instructions. After the seventh dip, Naaman was healed. God was faithful to Naaman, and **God Is Faithful** to us too.

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