

Parent Guide

Elementary-March 15

BIBLE STORY:

Matthew 21:12-17; Mark 11:15-19; John 2:13-22

MAIN POINT:

Jesus drove out the people who were misusing the temple.

CONNECT QUESTION:

Ask your child to share a time they were really happy recently and a time they were really angry recently.

"God gave us all different kinds of emotions. Did you know that all of our emotions, including anger, can be used to worship and bring glory to God? Jesus has all the same emotions we have, including anger. Today we are going to see one time while Jesus was on earth where He showed His anger in a godly way."

ACTIVITY: COIN TOSS CHALLENGE

What you need: pennies and a container

Position a container in the center of the room. Stand around the edges of the room. Give each kid a small handful of pennies. Explain that when you say "go," toss the pennies toward the bucket.

Challenge them to see how many coins they can land in the bucket in two minutes. When time is up, count the number of pennies in the bucket. If time allows, play again.

Say: "What a fun game! It sure was loud! Would you expect to find people moving coins, making that much noise, in a place of worship? Why or why not? Today's Bible story is about a time Jesus went to the temple and found people doing just that. They were exchanging money, and Jesus wasn't happy about it!"

ACTIVITY: SONG AND STORY

What you need: [links to today's lesson](#)

Song: Our God is a Great Big God

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAjUa4C_HLE

Bible Story: Clearing the Temple

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLOVY5FD6wA>

ACTIVITY: BIBLE STORY RETELL

Jesus knew that the temple was supposed to be used by God's people to pray and bring gifts to worship God, but the people were using it for other purposes that were keeping people from worshipping God! Some people were using it as a shortcut to get from one place to another. Others were making money from God's people by selling the animals for the sacrifices at a dishonest price. Still others were charging too much to change the people's money into the right currency to give to God.

All of these things were keeping people from using the temple for what it was made for: to honor God. So, Jesus got angry, and it was right for Him to be angry! **Jesus drove out the people who were misusing the temple.** His anger helped Him lead others to worship God.

When we get angry, it's usually because we feel like someone has done something wrong to us. Jesus was angry because He saw that people were doing something wrong to God. They were keeping other people from worshipping God, and Jesus drove them out.

"God, You are worthy of our love and worship. You want all people to worship You. Help us to live our lives in a way that makes it easy for people to love You and want to worship You too. Amen."

