

BIG TRUTH: THE CHURCH IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD

2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Corinthians 3:17; Hebrews 8:10; Revelation 21:3; 1 Peter 2:5

BIBLE VERSE: 1 CORINTHIANS 3:16

"Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?"

BIG IDEAS

- God's presence is no longer limited to a physical space.
- God's Holy Spirit dwells within His people.
- The church grows in its awareness of and communion with God's Spirit as it walks by the Spirit.

BIBLE PASSAGE: EPHESIANS 2:17-22; 1 CORINTHIANS 6:11-20

UNITE: LIVING IN COMMUNITY

The Unite year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are brought into the family of God- seen throughout the Old Testament as "God's People" and in the New Testament and today as the church (Exodus 6:7; Colossians 1:18). We are set free from our sin to walk in freedom in Christ (Galatians 5:1) and use our influence to call others to do the same.

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- God has always been making and keeping a people for Himself
- In this age, the church is God's people
- Being a part of God's people should inform every aspect of our lives



Every student should feel...

- Love for God and the people of God
- Accountable to God and to the church to pursue holiness
- Responsible to use their influence to make much of God alone



Every student should strive to...

- Study the connections between God's people in the Old Testament
- and the church in the New Testament
- Memorize the Bible verse each week
- Invite others into God's people, the church



Every student should want...

- Be marked by their faith
- Talk about God every day, in every setting and circle of influence
- Live as a faithful member of their local church

FAMILY WORKOUT:

This week we will consider how to discuss with our son or daughter the truth that the church is God's temple. We will pray with them to grow in their understanding of this truth as we lead them to practice living in a daily awareness of God's presence in their lives.



Read Ephesians 2:17-22 and answer the questions below in your journal:

- What does Paul mean in Ephesians 2:17 when he says that Jesus came and preached peace to those who are far off and those who are near? Why is this significant to the church?
- According to Ephesians 2:18-19, what change does the Holy Spirit bring about for a believer? Why is this important to the church?
- According to Ephesians 2:20-22, how does the Holy Spirit grow the church? Why is the Holy Spirit growing the church?

Read and meditate on Ephesians 2:17-22 this week. Use these questions to guide your meditation:

- Ponder how you can discuss the truth that the church is the temple of God with your son or daughter. How does the presence of the Holy Spirit cause the church to look and act differently than other groups in the world?
- Consider how you can help your son or daughter to understand that believers live with an awareness of the Holy Spirit each day. How can you model this daily awareness for them?
- Ponder how you can help your son or daughter know that the Holy Spirit changes believers.



Pray with your son or daughter this week.

- Ask God to guide them to walk by the Spirit and to grow in their awareness of His presence.
- Meet with your student to pray with them. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide them to grow as they seek to live lives that are set apart and holy.



Memorize 1 Corinthians 3:16 this week with your son or daughter.

- Write the verse on an index card. Review the verse daily to help your son or daughter memorize the verse.
- Share with your son or daughter some ways that you practice a daily awareness of the Holy Spirit. Share how these habits help you daily walk in the Spirit and obey God's commandments. Discuss with your son or daughter some practices he or she can do that will help them walk in the Spirit daily.
- Meet with your student to discuss how he or she can develop daily habits that help them pursue holiness to live set apart and holy. Discuss ways the church can work together to pursue holiness as the temple of God.