

CHRIST CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



JESUS IN JERUSALEM

Luke 19:45-48 & Luke 21:1-4

Jesus went into the Temple to see the money changers and merchants cheating the people who had come to pray and offer sacrifices to God. The Temple was supposed to be a holy place, not a place where people were being robbed of their hard-earned money! This was not right and Jesus told them so!

Later, Jesus explains that it is good to give our money willingly to God like the



Class routine:
Move my photo from
"home" to "church"



Class routine:
Light a candle -
respectfully
prayerfully
without playing



Class routine:
Venerate our icon



Sing "Lord have
mercy" in
English, Greek,
Arabic, Romanian

1

GOAL

Why did Jesus drive
out the moneychangers
& merchants from the
Temple?

2

AT CHURCH

Gospel Readings:
Judas became
consumed by greed too
and betrayed Jesus

3

AT HOME

We fast on Wednesdays
in remembrance of
Judas' betrayal of
Jesus.

widow who voluntarily gave all the money she had with two coins called mites, not forced like the money changers and merchants were doing to the people.

ACTIVITY 1:

Pass out one “coin purse” to each student. Each bag has a different amount of coins (mites) in them. Only one bag will have 2 coins in it (labeled for teacher’s knowledge), while the rest will have more coins.

When we go to church, we give a donation in the narthex before getting a candle and lighting it. The widow went to the Temple and gave a donation as well. Today, everyone will give a donation of two coins in the basket the teacher is holding next to our classroom candle stand.

After everyone has given their two coins, ask the kids to look into their bags to see how much money they have left and to think about who gave the most in God’s eyes.

The widow (a woman who’s husband has died) gave all of the money she had in the whole world to God, while others still had some money leftover in their pocket. The widow gave more money!



Widow’s Mites

ACTIVITY 2:

Fold a piece of construction paper in half, write the name of the child’s book and their name on the front cover - for example: “Jesus in the Temple” by Simon Peters.

On the inside, let the kids illustrate the story of Jesus cleansing the Temple and/or the widow’s two mites. Then read their story to the class or let them read their book to you. Encourage them to read their books to their parents when they get home. (Review of the lesson)

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pg 344-345

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke by Blessed Theophylact, pg 257-259

The Crucifixion of the King of Glory by Dr. Eugenia Constantinou, chapters 5-7

Podcast: [Jesus Cleanses the Temple](#) by Dr. Eugenia Constantinou



CHRIST CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

AT HOME

FOR PARENTS

And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."

Luke 21:1-4

"When the Lord renders to each his due reward, He does not consider the amount given but the amount left."

St. Theophylact

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel of Luke
page 269



HOME ACTIVITY #18

The Rich Family in Church - Read and discuss this story with your family in relation to "Jesus Cleanses the Temple" and "The Widow's Two Mites." *What can our family do this Lent to give sacrificially?*





