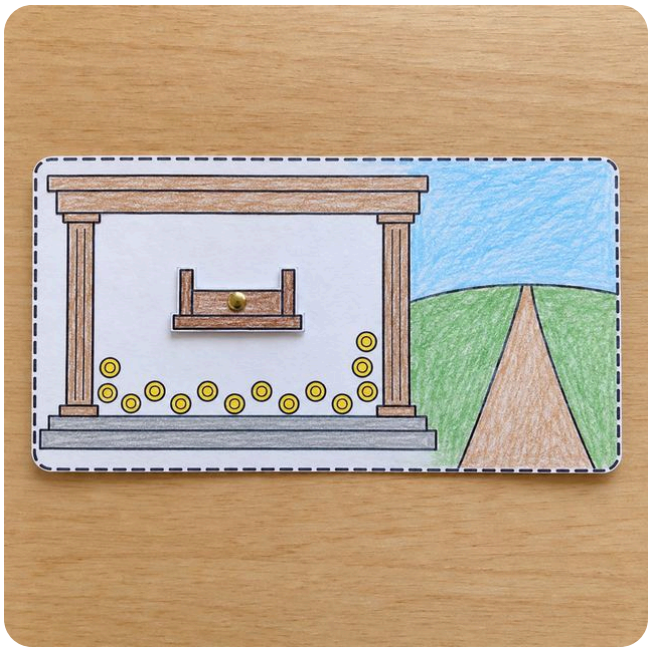
Preschool–Grade 5

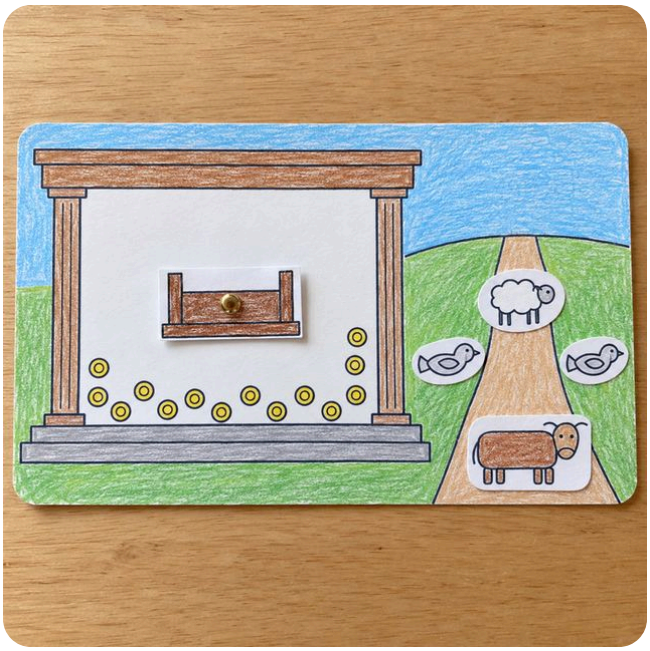
Jesus Cleanses the Temple Craft

He overthrew the tables · John 2:13–17 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



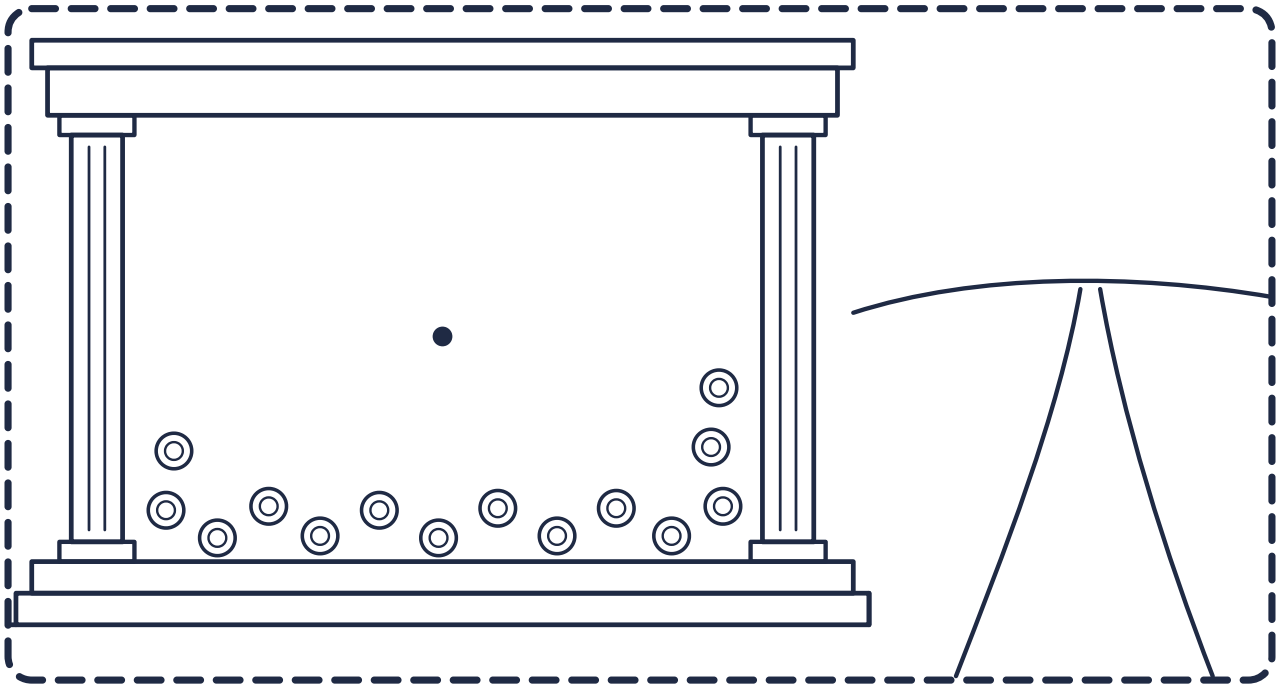
Harder

Both levels are a card with the temple on the left: a light brown roof and pillars, gray steps and yellow coins poured out on the floor (John 2:15). A brown paper table turns on a brad, and here it is overthrown, legs up. Outside on the right are a light blue sky, green grass and a light brown road. Medium (left): the card. Harder (right): the same with an ox, a sheep and two doves outside the temple, driven out (2:15).

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: roof and pillars light brown, steps gray, coins yellow, sky light blue, grass green, road light brown. Leave the inside of the temple white.

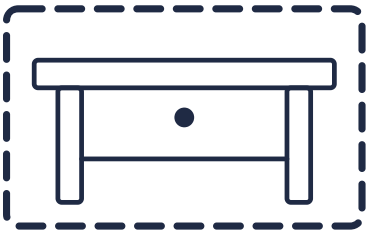


table: color it brown; the brad goes through the black dots

And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.

John 2:16 (KJV)

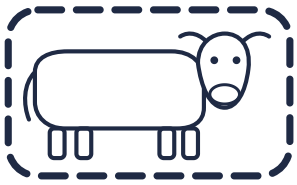
verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the table and the verse strip. A grown-up pokes a hole through the black dot on the table and the black dot on the card. Fasten the table to the card with a brad so it turns.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level



ox: color it brown



sheep: wool white, head and legs gray





2 doves: color them light gray

How to add the animals

1. Make the card from page 2 first.
2. Color the ox brown. Leave the sheep's wool white and color its head and legs gray. Color the two doves light gray. Cut out each animal on its dashed line.
3. Glue them outside the temple, going out: the ox at the bottom of the road, the sheep higher up the road, and one dove on the grass on each side of the road.
4. Tell it: Jesus found in the temple "those that sold oxen and sheep and doves" (John 2:14). He "drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen" (2:15). To them that sold doves He said, "Take these things hence" (2:16).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/jesus-cleanses-the-temple-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), one brad (paper fastener) per child, a sharp pencil for poking holes (grown-ups only), crayons or markers in light brown, gray, yellow, light blue, green and brown, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the cards, tables and verse strips ahead of time. For every level, plan to poke the brad holes yourself.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces. Kids color the card and the table. Then you poke the holes, fasten the table with a brad and glue the verse strip on the back. Kids turn the table over.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, push the brad through and glue the verse strip. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card, then color and cut out the ox, the sheep and the two doves from page 3 and glue them outside the temple (John 2:15). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the roof and pillars light brown, the steps gray, the coins on the floor yellow, the sky outside light blue, the grass green and the road light brown. Leave the inside of the temple white.
2. **Color the table** brown.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the table and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Holes:** a grown-up pokes a small hole with a sharp pencil through the black dot on the table and through the black dot on the card.
5. **Brad:** push the brad through the table's dot, then through the card's dot. Open its legs flat on the back of the card. Check that the table turns.
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, next to the brad, and read it together.
7. **Tell it:** turn the table so it stands on its legs. The changers of money were sitting there (John 2:14). Jesus "poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables" (2:15): turn the table over, legs up, and point to the money on the floor.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- What feast was near when Jesus went up to Jerusalem? *(The Jews' passover, John 2:13)*
- What did Jesus find in the temple? *(Those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting, 2:14)*
- What did Jesus make? *(A scourge of small cords, a whip of small ropes, 2:15)*
- Turn the table over. What did Jesus do with the money and the tables? *(He poured out the changers' money and overthrew the tables, 2:15)*
- What did He say to them that sold doves? *("Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise," 2:16)*
- What did His disciples remember? *("The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up," 2:17)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: passover** is the feast that remembered how the LORD passed over Israel's houses in Egypt (Exodus 12:27); **at hand** means near; **oxen** means cattle; **changers of money** were people who traded one kind of money for another; **scourge of small cords** means a whip of small ropes; **overthrew** means turned over; **hence** means away from here; **my Father's house** means God's house; **merchandise** means buying and selling; **zeal** means a strong, burning love.
- **What the Bible says:** Jesus "poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables" (John 2:15). The Bible says tables, more than one, and doesn't say what the temple, the tables or the money looked like. The pillars, the steps, the one table, the coins, the road and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn, and never Jesus:** the template shows only the temple, the table, the money and (harder level) the animals. The scourge isn't drawn either. John 2:15 says Jesus drove them all out; it doesn't say He struck anyone.
- **Brads:** poke the holes yourself with a sharp pencil over a ball of play dough or a folded towel. Open the brad's legs flat so they don't scratch.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and fasten the brads for them. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child turn the table over while you read John 2:15.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Jesus cleanses the temple lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/jesus-cleanses-the-temple.

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