

GOD'S HOUSE

Timeless Truth: Putting God's business first brings prosperity.

Bible Basis: Ezra 1:1–7, 3:10–13; Haggai 1:2–11; Zechariah 8:2–22

Key Verse: They will be my people. I will be their faithful God. I will keep my promises to them.
—Zechariah 8:8 NIV

Resource: *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 19: "God's House"

PARENT TIPS

Read chapter 19 in *The Story for Little Ones* several times this week and talk about the key point. Reading the story several times will help your preschooler to remember it. Use the Table Talk questions to talk about the lesson. Use the questions anytime throughout the week, not just at the table. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your child experience following direction. The Extra Mile ideas give you more ideas to help your child remember the lesson.

GET THE POINT

God's people promised to follow God. God wants you to follow him, too.

TABLE TALK

- **What did God's people build?** (*God's people built a temple to worship God in.*)
- **Who did God's people promise to follow?** (*They promised to follow God and everything he said.*)
- **Who do you follow?**

LIVING FAITH

Use the following activity to help your child learn that he can follow God. First, draw a simple footprint on sheets of paper or print out a picture of a footprint you found online. Lay the footprints out in a path throughout your house. Have directions for an activity to do with your preschooler in each room. For example, in the bathroom, you might brush your teeth; in the bedroom, you might pick up toys; in the living room, you might read a Bible story; and in the kitchen, you can make a simple snack. You can tell your child the directions for each activity or make simple pictures for your child to guess the activity. At the end of your following activity, talk with your child about how he followed the footprints and the directions for each activity. God's people promised to follow him. How can your family follow God?

EXTRA MILE

Use blocks or cereal and snack boxes to build a church. Share with your child that the temple was a place where God's people worshiped him. Today, we worship God in a church.

Play some of your child's favorite games. Talk about the ways that you are following directions.

Rainbows remind us of God's promise to Noah. Color a rainbow picture of a church to remember that God's people promised to follow God and he wants us to follow him, too.

Use these motions to help your child remember part of the key verse.

I will keep (*Open arms out wide and then bring them in tight as if you are holding something close to you.*)

My promises (*Point to your mouth with your right hand. Make a fist with your left hand. Bring your right hand on top of the fist.*)

To them. (*Point to others.*)

Zechariah 8:8 (*Open hands like a book.*)