



The Israelites Build the Tabernacle

Exodus 35:4–36:38

Even little ones can have a great impact for God. There are many fun ways to introduce children to the concept of serving. They may only seem like games to the children, but when you meet their first attempts at serving with excitement and praise, then serving becomes a fun and happy experience in the future. Your efforts to make serving God a fun experience for children will be a blessing to their faith development.

INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	We Can Help Hear a rhyme that tells about building the Tabernacle.		
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Drop It In Play a game about helping.	several small toys, basket	
	Where's My Hand? Play a game with babies' hands.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Bible Point
We all can serve God.



Key Verse
"You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will understand that they can serve God, too.





TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	What Did They Bring? Learn how people helped with the Tabernacle.	Bible, scissors, fabric Teacher Pack: 1 copy of the “Building the Tabernacle” teaching picture 	Cut out the individual pictures from the teaching picture. Cut fabric into 6-inch squares.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Ball Pickup Play a game with balls.	several different sizes of balls, basket	Fill a basket with a variety of large and small balls.
	What’s the Same? Play a game with shapes.	scissors, envelopes, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child plus 1 copy for yourself of the “Gem Shapes” handout (at the end of the lesson) Teacher Pack: “A Special Building for God” teaching picture 	Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut apart the gems from the handouts. Place the gems from each handout into separate envelopes to give to parents as they pick up their children. Keep one set of gems for yourself.
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



The “Growing With Jesus” page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we’ve made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we’ve included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child’s pieces together.





2-YEAR-OLD



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Bright Colors Learn about the colors of the Tabernacle.	red, blue, yellow, and brown construction paper; tape; scissors Teacher Pack: “The Israelites Build the Tabernacle” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Helping Hands Are Happy Hands Play with finger paints to make a mural.	newspaper, several colors of finger paint, several shallow pie tins, 1 sheet of poster board, marker, baby wipes	Cover a table with newspaper. Pour several different colors of finger paint into shallow pie tins. Set out the pie tins and the sheet of poster board on top of the newspaper.
	Matching Gifts Play a game about things brought to the Tabernacle.	scissors Teacher Pack: 1 copy of the “Building the Tabernacle” teaching picture 	Cut out the individual pictures from the teaching picture.
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.

The “Growing With Jesus” page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we’ve made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we’ve included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child’s pieces together.



The Israelites Build the Tabernacle

Exodus 35:4–36:38



BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

Generous Offerings

It was time for the Israelites to build a portable dwelling place for the worship of God. When Moses asked for contributions, the people gave generously. Apparently the events of the previous months inspired them to give to God. They may have realized how they had wronged God in worshipping the golden calf and wanted to do what they could to make amends for the damage done. They gave so generously that eventually they had to be told to stop bringing more materials (Exodus 36:6-7)!

One might wonder where these former slaves got gold and fine cloth to donate to the Tabernacle. The answer lies in the generosity of the Egyptians as the Israelites were escaping. God told the Hebrews to ask for things from the Egyptians; the Egyptians responded with silver, gold, and clothing (Exodus 12:35-36).

Talented Workers

Not only did the Hebrews give things, but they gave time and talents as well. This passage singles out Bezalel and Oholiab as the leaders of the workers and also mentions women skilled in spinning goat hair (Exodus 35:26) and other skilled and willing people (Exodus 36:2).

Willing Worship

What can we learn from this event? Serving God involves all kinds of different tasks and abilities. If you can't build a structure, maybe you can spin cloth. If you can't sing, maybe you can tell a co-worker about Jesus. Each one of us has God-given abilities and spiritual gifts. God wants us to use what he's given us to serve and honor him in whatever ways we can. God can use anyone to serve him and to further his kingdom here on earth. The only thing stopping our service to him is ourselves.

The Jesus Connection

Our relationship with Jesus gives us daily opportunities to serve him. He is our friend, our Creator, and our Savior. Service is a choice we make on a daily basis. But how often do you analyze your motives for serving? Wrong motives can rob us of blessings and limit our effectiveness in service.

For the Christian, service comes out of thankfulness for salvation and devotion to honor our Creator. If we are not serving for those reasons, perhaps we're really self-serving. Write a prayer here asking God to refine and hone your heart as you serve today and each day going forward.





INFANT

1

**GETTING
STARTED**

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing or listen to “Love the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) (track 6 on the CD) anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with infants.



**Love the Lord your God with all your heart
And with all your soul,
With all your strength.
These commandments that I give today
Should be upon your heart,
Upon your heart.**

(Chorus)

**Hear, O Israel,
The Lord our God,
The Lord is one.
Hear, O Israel,
The Lord our God,
The Lord is one.**

(Repeat from the beginning; then repeat chorus.)

“Love the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Afterward, say: **We show God we love him when we serve him. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**

Sing “Big and Small” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Jack and Jill” anytime during the lesson. During the song, lift babies’ hands over their heads and then down to their toes.



**Big and small,
And short and tall,
Can all learn to be helpers.
Show us now,
And we’ll learn how.
We’ll serve God as his helpers.**

Afterward, say: ► **WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: “Love the Lord”
(Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
(track 6)





2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

We Can Help

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Hold a baby on your lap, or lay him or her on the floor.

Say: **God gave the people special plans to build a house for him. All the people helped build God's house. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**

Say this rhyme to the rhythm of Pat-a-Cake to tell about all the people helping build God's house. You may get a laughing response from your little ones.

Say: **We will help, we will help, with our hands,** (*gently pat baby's hands together*)
Just like the people who followed God's plans. (*alternate putting baby's hands on top of each other*)

They gave, (*hold baby's hands out with palms up*)

And they worked, (*put baby's arms above head*)

And we can, too! (*put baby's arms out to the sides*)

Lord, guide our little hands to serve only you. (*clap baby's hands together*)

Afterward, say: ► **WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Drop It In

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit next to the toys and empty basket with a baby on your lap. Sing "Big and Small" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Jack and Jill" to the baby. As you sing, place a toy in baby's hand.

🎵 **Big and small,
And short and tall,
Can all learn to be helpers.
Show us now,
And we'll learn how.
We'll serve God as his helpers.**

Drop It In Supplies

.....
several small toys
basket



After the song, help baby toss the toy into the basket, and rejoice with the child when he or she does so. Say: **You're learning to do more each day! You're learning that ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD. God will help you learn to serve and be a good helper.**

Where's My Hand?

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gently hold a baby in your arms, and quietly sing "Where Is My Hand?" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Where Is Thumbkin?" as you rock the baby slowly.



Where is my hand? Where is my hand? (*hold hand out of sight of baby*)

Here it is. Here it is. (*hold hand in front of baby*)

Our hands can serve Jesus. Our hands can serve Jesus. (*walk fingers up baby's tummy*)

Yes, they can. Yes, they can. (*nod head*)

Where is your hand? Where is your hand? (*shrug shoulders*)

Here it is. Here it is. (*hold up baby's hand*)

Your hands can serve Jesus. Your hands can serve Jesus. (*wave baby's hand slightly back and forth*)

Yes, they can. Yes, they can. (*nod head*)

Afterward, say: ► **WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

TODDLER

1 GETTING STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing or listen to "Love the Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) (track 6 on the CD) anytime during



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.


Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: "Love the Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) (track 6)





the lesson. Toddlers will enjoy imitating your actions as you sing. Instead of singing the word “love” when the song repeats, sing the word “serve.”

 **Love the Lord your God with all your heart** (*place hands on heart*)
And with all your soul, (*hold arms out wide*)
With all your strength. (*flex arm muscles*)
These commandments that I give today (*sway back and forth*)
Should be upon your heart, (*place hands on heart*)
Upon your heart. (*place hands on heart*)


(Chorus)
Hear, O Israel, (*cup hands around ears*)
The Lord our God, (*point up*)
The Lord is one. (*point up*)
Hear, O Israel, (*cup hands around ears*)
The Lord our God, (*point up*)
The Lord is one. (*point up*)

(Repeat from the beginning; then repeat chorus.)

“Love the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Afterward, say: **We show God we love him when we serve him. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**

Sing “Big and Small” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Jack and Jill” anytime during the lesson. Help toddlers do the motions in parentheses as you sing.

 **Big and small,** (*reach arms above head*)
And short and tall, (*touch toes*)
Can all learn to be helpers. (*clap in rhythm to the song*)
Show us now, (*reach arms above head*)
And we’ll learn how. (*touch toes*)
We’ll serve God as his helpers. (*clap in rhythm to the song*)

Afterward, say: ► **WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**



2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

What Did They Bring?

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather two or three toddlers. Open your Bible to Exodus 35, and show children the words. Tell them the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **The Bible says some people wanted to help build a wonderful place to worship God. God told the people what he wanted his house to look like and how it should be built. The people had many things they could give to help make this wonderful place.** Hand out the cutouts from the teaching picture and the fabric squares to children. **These are the kinds of things the people brought.** Let children hand you the things they're holding.

Say: **Some people gave pretty fabric to help. Some people gave silver and gold to help.** Describe each object a child gives you. **Everyone served God by giving things to help build a special house for God. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD and be helpers in God's house, too.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Ball Pickup

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather two or three toddlers around a basket full of balls. Help the toddlers tip the basket over and watch the balls roll away. Encourage the children to be helpers by gathering the balls back into the basket. For more of a challenge, you can direct the children to get a big ball or to get a small ball and put it into the basket. Clap each time a child gets a ball back into the basket.

Say: **You're serving God by being a helper at church. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**



What Did They Bring? Supplies

Bible
scissors
fabric

Teacher Pack

1 copy of the "Building the Tabernacle" teaching picture

What Did They Bring? Easy Prep

Cut out the individual pictures from the teaching picture. Cut fabric into 6-inch squares.

Ball Pickup Supplies

several different sizes
of balls
basket

Ball Pickup Easy Prep

Fill a basket with a variety of large and small balls.





What's the Same? Supplies

scissors
envelopes
My Bible Snuggles or
1 copy per child plus
1 copy for yourself
of the "Gem Shapes"
handout (at the end of
the lesson)

Teacher Pack

"A Special Building for
God" teaching picture

What's the Same? Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson
7 pages from each
My Bible Snuggles
student book. Cut
apart the gems from
the handouts. Place
the gems from each
handout into separate
envelopes to give to
parents as they pick up
their children. Keep one
set of gems for yourself.

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1
copy per child of the
"Growing With Jesus"
page (at the end of the
lesson)

What's the Same?

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather one to three toddlers. Lay three different paper gems on the floor in front of the children, and give each child a different paper gem.

Point to the first shape on the floor.

Say: **Who has a shape just like this one?** Have the children look carefully at the shape each person is holding. **Which shape is the same?** When the children match the shapes, praise their efforts. Repeat for the other two shapes.

Hold up the gems. Say: **These are precious gems. God asked the Israelites to serve him by bringing gems like these to a special building.** Show the "Special Building for God" teaching picture. ► **WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD, too. Find the place your gems belong on this picture.** Lay the teaching picture on the floor. Help toddlers place the gems over the matching shapes on the picture. **You're serving by bringing your gems to church just as the Israelites did.**

Give the envelopes with the paper gems to parents as they pick up their children.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home the envelopes with their "Growing With Jesus" pages/gem shapes. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.



2-YEAR-OLD

1

**GETTING
STARTED**

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing or listen to “Love the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) (track 6 on the CD) anytime during the lesson. Lead twos in the motions in parentheses as you sing. Instead of singing the word “love” when the song repeats, sing the word “serve.”



Love the Lord your God with all your heart (*place hands on heart*)

And with all your soul, (*hold arms out wide*)

With all your strength. (*flex arm muscles*)

These commandments that I give today (*sway back and forth*)

Should be upon your heart, (*place hands on heart*)

Upon your heart. (*place hands on heart*)

(Chorus)

Hear, O Israel, (*cup hands around ears*)

The Lord our God, (*point up*)

The Lord is one. (*point up*)

Hear, O Israel, (*cup hands around ears*)

The Lord our God, (*point up*)

The Lord is one. (*point up*)

(Repeat from the beginning; then repeat chorus.)

“Love the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Afterward, say: **We show God we love him when we serve him. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**

Sing “Big and Small” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Jack and Jill” anytime during the lesson. Lead twos in doing the motions in parentheses as you sing.



Big and small, (*reach arms above head; then touch toes*)

And short and tall (*reach arms above head; then touch toes*)

Can all learn to be helpers. (*clap in rhythm to the song*)

Show us now (*put arms out to sides*)

And we’ll learn how. (*touch index finger to forehead*)

We’ll serve God as his helpers. (*clap in rhythm to the song*)

Afterward, say: **► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD.**



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: “Love the Lord”
(Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
(track 6)





2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Bright Colors

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child one piece of red, blue, yellow, or brown construction paper, distributing at least one of each color. Keep a stack of the same colors with you. Hold up the corresponding color of construction paper each time that color is mentioned when you tell about building the Tabernacle. Direct the children to hold up their papers when their colors match what you're holding up.

Say: **Very long ago there were people who wanted to build a wonderful place to worship God. God told them exactly how to build it. They had many things they wanted to give to build that beautiful place. God asked the people who had red cloth to bring red cloth.** Hold up the red paper. **God asked the people who had blue cloth to bring blue cloth.** Hold up the blue paper. **God asked the people who had lots of gold jewelry to give the gold jewelry.** Hold up the yellow paper. **Some people wanted to give brown animal skins.** Hold up the brown paper. **All the people served God, making the beautiful building from the things they gave to God. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD in our church, too.**

Show children "The Israelites Build the Tabernacle" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack). Cut the colored paper into small enough pieces so that each child has a piece of each color. Help children tape their pieces of paper to the poster to make it beautiful, just as the Israelites decorated the Tabernacle to make it beautiful for God.

Bright Colors Supplies

red, blue, yellow, and
brown construction
paper
tape
scissors

Teacher Pack

"The Israelites Build
the Tabernacle" poster
(from the Big Bible
Poster Pack)



3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Helping Hands Are Happy Hands

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Allow each child to choose a color of finger paint. Then help each one cover his or her hand with the paint and place it on the poster board to make a handprint.

Say: ► **WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD. You can serve God with your hands. Your picture can help make our room [or church] a happy place.**

Use a marker to write each child's first name beneath his or her handprint. Clean children's hands with baby wipes. Place the mural where children can see it.

Matching Gifts

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Mix up all the cutouts from the teaching picture, and lay them out. Let one or two children work to find all the matching pairs.

Say: [Child's name], **you found both pieces of the [name of item]. God asked people long ago to serve him by giving [name of item]. ► WE ALL CAN SERVE GOD by giving what we have to him, too.**

Play until each child has had a turn.



Helping Hands Are Happy Hands Supplies

newspaper
several colors of finger paint
several shallow pie tins
1 sheet of poster board
marker
baby wipes

Helping Hands Are Happy Hands Easy Prep

Cover a table with newspaper. Pour several different colors of finger paint into shallow pie tins. Set out the pie tins and the sheet of poster board on top of the newspaper.

Matching Gifts Supplies

scissors
Teacher Pack
1 copy of the "Building the Tabernacle" teaching picture

Matching Gifts Easy Prep

Cut out the individual pictures from the teaching picture.





Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 7 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.





Growing With Jesus



Your child learned we all can serve God (from Exodus 35:4–36:38). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

INFANT

Where’s My Hand?

Sing “Where Is My Hand?” to the tune of “Where Is Thumbkin?” and rock your baby.

Where is my hand? Where is my hand? *(hold hand out of sight of your baby)*

Here it is. Here it is. *(hold hand in front of your baby)*

Our hands can serve Jesus. Our hands can serve Jesus. *(walk fingers up your baby’s tummy)*

Yes, they can. Yes, they can. *(nod head)*

Sing again, substituting “your hand” for “my hand” and using baby’s hand for the motions.

Afterward, say: **We all can serve God.**



Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Look in a mirror. Talk about your child’s hands and feet, saying, “Where are your hands? Your hands can serve God. Where are your feet? You can use your feet to serve God.”
- Make a tent together in your child’s bedroom. Talk about how God’s people served God by making a special tent to worship in. Go inside, and sing some songs together, reminding your child that your family can serve God, too.

TODDLER

Ball Pickup

Set out a basket filled with a variety of large and small balls. Help your toddler tip the basket over and watch the balls roll away. Encourage your child to be a helper by gathering the balls back into the basket. For more of a challenge, you can direct your child to get a big ball or to get a small ball and put it into the basket. Clap each time your child gets a ball back into the basket.

Say: **You’re serving God by being a helper. We all can serve God.**

2-YEAR-OLD

Helping Hands Are Happy Hands

Cover a table with newspaper. Pour a small amount of finger paint onto a paper plate. Set a sheet of paper near your child. Help your child cover his or her hand with paint and then place it on the paper to make a handprint. Use a marker to write your child’s name under the handprint.

Say: **We all can serve God. You can serve God with your hands. Your picture can help others feel happy.**



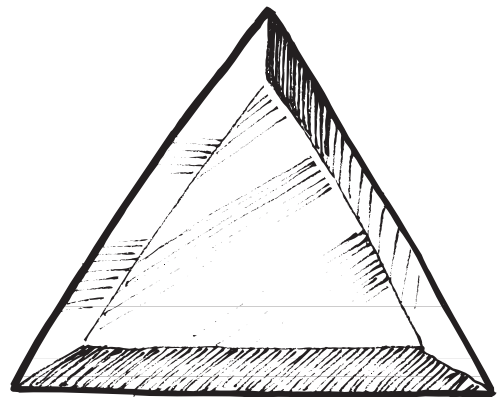
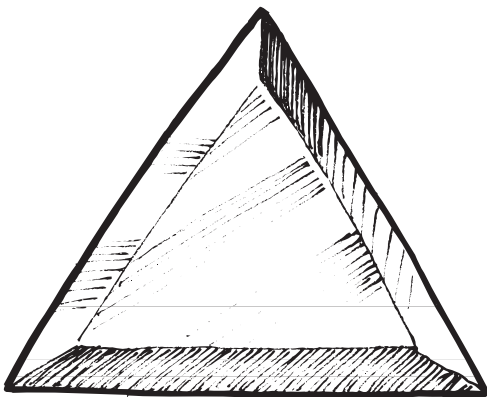
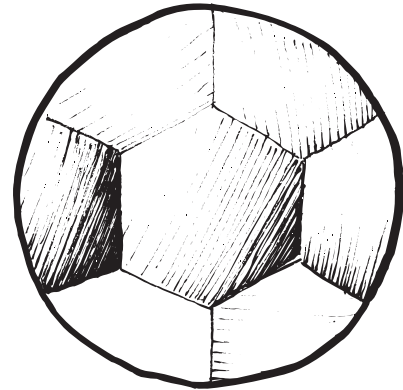
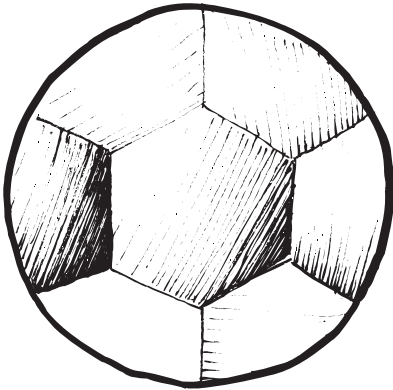
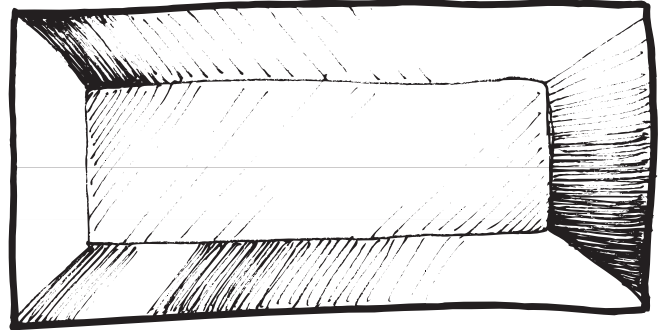
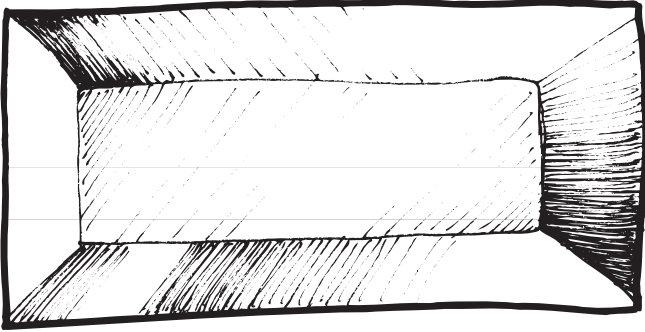
Personal Space

God gave exact instructions for the design of his Tabernacle. It was to be a place that reflected his grandeur. Children love places that are designed to reflect who they are, too. Perhaps your child has the luxury of his or her own room. Or your child’s “spot” might be a place to put his or her things, such as a carpet square next to a bin of toys, or a cardboard box. A baby as young as 9 or 10 months old can benefit from a unique space. Let your child develop a sense of pride in arranging and organizing his or her special space. Encourage other members of the family to respect it.

OK TO COPY



Gem Shapes



OK
TO COPY

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.

