



Build Your Own Church



7+

Building Faith Series

Lesson Plan to accompany the "Build Your Own Church" set. Or can be used and adapted for other needs. Digital instructions for this set can be found on the resources page of Calderbank Brick Academy at:

www.calderbankacademy.com

Learning Objectives for All Students:

Cognitive Objectives (Knowledge and Understanding):

- **Identify** different parts of a church building (e.g., steeple, doors, windows).
- **Understand** that a church is more than just a building; it's a place for people to gather and worship God.
- **Recall** a story from the Bible that took place in a church or temple (e.g., Jesus teaching in the temple, Paul preaching).
- **Recognise** that everyone can contribute to building a strong church community.

Affective Objectives (Attitudes and Values):

- **Appreciate** the importance of the church as a place of worship, learning, and community.
- **Demonstrate** a willingness to participate in church activities and contribute to the community.
- **Express** their feelings about church and their role in it in a safe and respectful environment.

Psychomotor Objectives (Skills):

- **Participate** actively in the lesson activities and discussions.
- **Collaborate** with others to design and build a church.
- **Communicate** their ideas and thoughts effectively.
- **Practice** problem-solving and creative thinking skills.

Remember to:

- **Adapt** these objectives to the specific needs and abilities of your students.
- **Clearly communicate** the learning objectives to the children at the beginning of the lesson.
- **Use a variety of assessment methods** to evaluate whether the objectives have been met (e.g., observation, discussion, creative expression).

By setting clear learning objectives, you can ensure that your "Build Your Own Church" lesson is engaging, meaningful, and impactful for all your Sunday school students.

Learning Objectives for Older Students:

Cognitive Objectives (Knowledge and Understanding):

- **Explain** what makes a church special and important to them.
- **Describe** ways they can help build up the church community (e.g., being kind, helping others, participating).
- **Connect** the idea of building a church to building a strong and welcoming church community.

Affective Objectives (Attitudes and Values):

- **Reflect** on how they can be active and responsible members of the church.
- **Consider** the importance of including everyone in the church community.
- **Value** the diversity of gifts and talents within the church.

Psychomotor Objectives (Skills):

- **Engage** in role-playing scenarios to practice welcoming new people to the church.
- **Create** a drawing or story about their ideal church community.
- **Apply** the concepts of the lesson to real-life situations within the church.

Remember to:

- **Adapt** these objectives to the specific needs and abilities of your students.
- **Clearly communicate** the learning objectives to the children at the beginning of the lesson.
- **Use a variety of assessment methods** to evaluate whether the objectives have been met (e.g., observation, discussion, creative expression).

By setting clear learning objectives, you can ensure that your "Build Your Own Church" lesson is engaging, meaningful, and impactful for all your Sunday school students.

Welcome Introduction:

Introduction and Check-In (10 minutes)

1. **Welcome:** Greet the children enthusiastically and create a welcoming atmosphere.
2. **Opening Prayer:** Begin with a short prayer, thanking God for the church and the people in it.
3. **Icebreaker/Check-In:**
 - Younger Children: Sing a song about church or building. Ask, "What is your favorite thing about church?"
 - Older Children: Start with a quick discussion: "If you could design your dream church, what would it have?"
4. **Introduce the Theme:** Show the "Build Your Own Church" set and explain that they will be working together to create their own church. Introduce the theme "Building God's House Together."

'Build Your Own Church' Building Task:

Social Communication & Main Task (20 minutes)

1. **Collaborative Building:** Divide the children into small groups (mixed ages if possible) and give each group a pile of building-bricks.
2. **Facilitate Collaboration:**
 - a. **Younger Children:** Encourage them to build freely, focusing on teamwork and sharing ideas.
 - b. **Older Children:** Challenge them to think about the different parts of a church and how they can work together to create a complete model.
3. **Observe and Support:** Circulate, offering guidance and encouragement. Highlight examples of good communication, problem-solving, and creativity.



Biblical Learning:

Learning (20 minutes)

1. Church Building:

- "What are some important parts of a church?" (steeple, cross, doors, windows, etc.)
- "Why do we have churches?" (to worship God, learn about the Bible, be together with other Christians)
- "How is our brick-church like a real church?" (a place to gather, learn, and grow in faith)

2. Church Community:

- "Who are the people who make up a church?" (pastors, teachers, friends, families)
- "How can we make our church a welcoming place for everyone?" (be kind, helpful, include others)
- "How are the bricks like the people in our church?" (different shapes and sizes, but all important for building something strong)

3. Explore Bible Connections:

- Younger Children: Share a simple story about Jesus in the temple or another story that takes place in a church setting.
- Older Children: Discuss the importance of the church in the New Testament (e.g., Acts 2:42-47 – the early church).

Biblical Learning:

1. Interactive Activity:

- "Strong Foundation" Game: (Optional) Have the children take turns adding a block to a tower, saying something that makes the church strong (prayer, love, kindness, helping others).



Evaluations and Reflections:

Evaluations and Reflections (5 minutes)

1. Discussion:

- **Younger Children:**
 - "What did you like best about building our church?"
 - "How can you be a good helper at church?"
- **Older Children:**
 - "How can we make our church even better?"
 - "What are some ways you can use your talents to help the church?"

2. Creative Expression: (Optional)

- Have the children draw a picture of their favorite part of church or their brick-creation.
- Encourage them to write or tell a story about a time they felt welcomed at church.

Plenary and Finish:

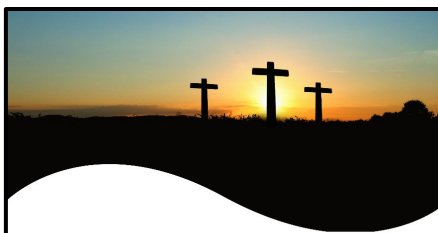
Plenary and Finish (5 minutes)

1. **Review Key Concepts:** Briefly summarise the main points of the lesson.
2. **Closing Prayer:** End with a prayer, thanking God for the church and asking for help to be good church members.
3. **Take-Home Activity:** (Optional) Provide a simple activity or coloring page related to church for the children to complete at home.

Adaptations:

- **Younger Children:** Use simpler language, shorter activities, and more visual aids.
- **Older Children:** Encourage deeper discussions, more complex activities, and connections to real-life situations.
- **Time:** Adjust the time allocated to each phase based on the needs and engagement of your students.

This detailed lesson plan provides a framework for your "Build Your Own Church" Sunday school lesson. Remember to be flexible, adapt to your students' needs, and most importantly, create a fun and engaging learning experience!




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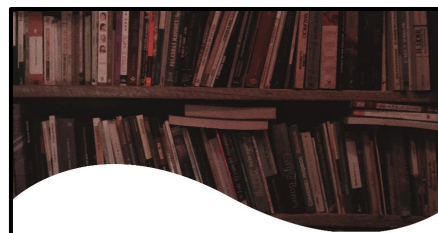
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