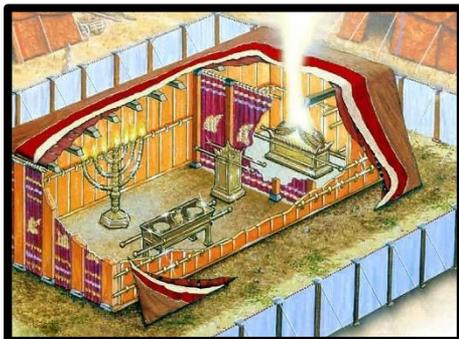




FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH
Pastors: *Dennis & Diane Gordon*

THE TABERNACLE #1
JESUS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Exodus 25:1-38:20



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

When I Love Jesus but I've Made A Mess
He Covers Me with His Own Righteousness

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK: *Repeat 2x with Congregation*

1 John 4:15

*"Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God;
God dwells in him and he in God."*

INTRODUCTION: From the beginning, it was always God's purpose to dwell among His people and enjoy loving communion with each and every one of us throughout the day, but sin keeps us from having holy communion with Him, because no unclean thing can stand in the presence of our Holy God. Jesus longs to have communion with you, and He desires that you prepare Him a sanctuary, a place of refuge and protection from the world, a place where His Holy Spirit is always welcome to be one with you!

ORDER OF SERVICE:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Light Candles & Pray | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song' | |
| 2. Children's Songs/Story | 5. Adult Fellowship Break | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring | 6. Worship Song Set | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |

OBJECTS TO BRING: *Photo Album, Large Bible, Big Tabernacle Picture, 7 ½' Paper Towels, Pole/Socket/Cap, Globe, White Robe, Silver Cap (mixing bowl), Eraser*

2. CHILDREN’S STORY: Bruce & Greg’s Hide Out

Bruce and Greg had been best friends since pre-school and now in the 4th grade and still best friends. Every day after school they would get their homework done really quick, grab a snack and meet at their secret hideout. Bruce had an old tent his dad was going to throw away, and said he could have it, so they set it up out behind the garage, and no one knew it was there. They could play all kinds of games, or talk, and hide from the pirates or gremlins. Sometimes they would get to spend the night in the hideout; their moms would pack enough food for a whole army, and they had a great time!



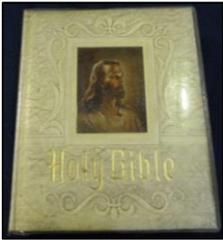
One day Greg was invited to go to a ball game with a new boy at school and he didn’t meet Bruce at the hideout. Greg was excited and forgot to tell Bruce he wasn’t coming over until it was too late. He felt bad but forgot about it because he had so much fun at that ball game. The next day at school, Greg saw Bruce and was getting ready to apologize when the new boy came up and said, “That was a great game, huh, Greg!” Greg felt embarrassed and muttered some answer, then the bell rang and he went to class. Greg felt like he had lost his very best friend. Oh, if only he had told Bruce, he knew he would have understood. But the way he had treated Bruce, he wouldn’t blame him if he didn’t want to be his friend anymore.

After school, Greg walked home slowly. Then he went to the hideout and just sat. Bruce wasn’t there but it wasn’t long before Bruce showed up and went inside. Greg felt so bad, “I don’t deserve to even be your friend, Bruce, why are you even talking to me?” Bruce said very kindly, “Greg, why would I get rid of the best friend I ever had just because of one bad day? My mom made us some great sandwiches, let’s eat!” Greg thought, “Bruce is being just like Jesus. **Whenever I mess up, Jesus covers me with His kindness and forgives me just like I never sinned.**” Bruce felt blessed and thanked the Lord Jesus, for giving him a special friend like Gregg.

3. THE BIBLE IS A PICTURE ALBUM OF GOD'S FAMILY

(Show Family Photograph Album)

This is a picture album of our family. First you can see how funny we used to dress, but you notice the coming together of two different families and how they grew and became many families; the sad times when some did not walk with the Lord, and the happy times too. **We remember when we look at the pictures.** Both the happy and the sad times make us what we are today. If you didn't know anything about me, you could know me better and feel closer to me by looking at pictures of my life. God's picture book is like that.



(Show Family Bible): The Bible is like God's photograph album for us. God gave His people the Tabernacle to show them a picture of Jesus and His church – that's you and me too, isn't it?

(Show Big Picture of Tabernacle) In each of our lessons about the Tabernacle, we will see pictures that God has given us of Himself. We will look carefully at each picture revealed in the Tabernacle, and we will learn to know God much better, through the pictures we see! The first thing we see is that from the beginning of creation, before God became flesh in the Messiah to save us, to the very last book, we see that Jesus made us for His pleasure because He loves us!

Psalm 33:6 *"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them **by the breath of his mouth.**"*

John 1:1 & 14 *"In the beginning was the Word, and **the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** ¹⁴And **the Word was made flesh,** and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."*

Revelation 4:11 *"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for **thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.**"*

Jesus, in form, as the invisible Spirit who is God, loved to be with His people, and came near to commune with them every day!

Genesis 3:8 *"And **they heard the voice of the LORD God** walking in the garden in the cool of the day..."*

4. FROM THE BEGINNING OF CREATION GOD WANTED TO HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIS PEOPLE, BUT WHEN GOD’S PEOPLE SIN, THEY HIDE FROM HIM.

Genesis 3:8 “And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.”



When we sin and then come before God, we feel afraid because it feels like we have been stripped naked, and feel vulnerable. But God doesn’t leave us naked and afraid because He loves us, so He seeks us and asks, “Where are you? What have you done?”

Genesis 3:9-10 “And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, **Where art thou?** ¹⁰ And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and **I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.** ¹¹ And he said, **Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?**”

Why does God ask where we are? Is He exposing us so we will feel bad? Well, yes, actually, because God wants us to identify what we have done and have sorrow for our sin so we will confess our sin to Him. God knows that if we do not identify and confess our sins to Him, that the sin remains in our heart to fester and grow.

Isaiah 59:2 “But **your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.**”

God wants you to understand that when you sin, you have separated yourself from God with the result being that His face is hidden from you, but He wants you to come back to Him! Contrary to popular teaching, you cannot expect that God continues to hear your prayers when you choose to keep walking in sin! No, and that is love, because if God blessed you in your sin, you would continue to be a slave to sin, but Jesus keeps calling to you, asking where you are, so you may see where you are, confess your sin, and come back into His presence, where there is love and light and mercy and grace!

5. GOD’S PRESENCE IS A CONSUMING FIRE WHERE NO SIN CAN STAND WITHOUT BEING CONSUMED.



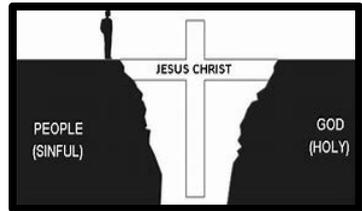
When the first man and woman disobeyed, they lost the covering of God’s glory, and broke the intimate relationship they had by putting a pit of sin between themselves and God. The result was that they could no longer stand in God’s holy presence.

Exodus 24:17 “And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.”

When Man sinned, they could not be in God’s holy presence they were before or they would burn up from the brightness of His glory!

2 Thessalonians 2:8 “And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.”

God wants to have a wonderful, close relationship with you . Have you been disobedient? Is there a pit of sin standing between you and God? God wants you to confess your sin to Him and be washed clean by your faith in His blood shed for you on the cross that fills that gap with His love. Jesus wants you to come to Him for forgiveness daily, so He can have intimate fellowship with you, and do mighty works in your life!



1 John 1:8-9 “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

God wanted to be near the people He had created and loved. So God made a way for the sins of His people to be forgiven so they could be in Heaven with Him forever. **God told them to make sacrifices looking forward to that day when God became flesh in Jesus Christ, to die on the cross so our sins could be forgiven!**

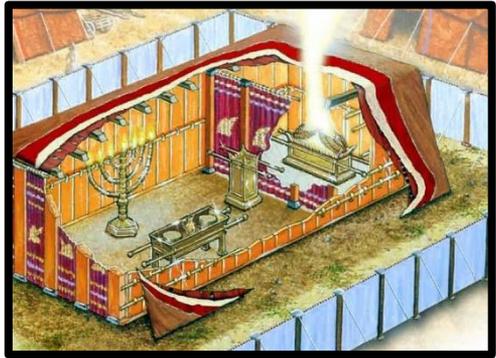
6. GOD MADE A WAY TO RE-ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIP WITH MAN IN THE TABERNACLE.

Until Jesus came, **how could our Holy God be near the sinful people He had created?** God had them build a Tabernacle so He could come to live among them and have fellowship with them.

Exodus 24:15-16; 25:8 “And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount. ¹⁶ And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.”

Exodus 25:8 “And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.”

The Tabernacle would be a sacred holy place for God. That’s why our churches are called Sanctuaries or Tabernacles today because we meet with God there. The invisible God of Heaven made His Tabernacle in His Son Jesus Christ, and when Jesus lives in you, He lives in the Tabernacle of your heart through His Holy Spirit. That is how Jesus can live in and through you, so you can know Him and love Him as much as He loves you, and bring Him glory through your life lived for Him! The Tabernacle is a picture of Jesus in us.



1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

Until the fullness of times when Jesus came, God gave Moses an exact pattern for the Tabernacle, just like the place where He lives in Heaven. The Tabernacle was to be a picture for the people, so they could see, and know, and understand the living God of Heaven, and understand who Jesus is, who was coming to save them!

7. THE PEOPLE GAVE ALL THEY HAD WITH WILLING HEARTS TO BUILD THE TABERNACLE FOR GOD.

To build the Tabernacle for God, God's people must bring Him everything they have, offering up our whole hearts and lives to Him.

Exodus 25:1-9 “And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ² Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering. ³ And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, ⁴ and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, ⁵ and rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, ⁶ oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, ⁷ onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate. ⁸ And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. ⁹ According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.”



God told Moses to have the people bring offerings of costly and precious things to build a beautiful Tabernacle for Him. Where do you think all the beautiful fabrics and gold came from? Remember that when the Israelites escaped from Egypt, their neighbors gave them all the costly things they could carry? God wanted them to give of all they had, from their hearts, to build a place for God to dwell.

Jesus wants you to love Him, and give with a willing, happy heart!

Exodus 31:1-11 “And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ² See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: ³ and I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship... ⁶ And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee.”

God will give wisdom to everyone who has a heart to serve Him.

8. GOD GIVES US EVERYTHING WE NEED TO DO THE WORK HE HAS PLANNED IN ADVANCE FOR US TO DO.

Have you ever felt like you were not smart enough to do something you had to do? How could Bezaleel know how to make the Tabernacle when he had never done anything like that before? God filled Bezaleel with His Holy Spirit, and gave him all the knowledge and skills he would need to make the beautiful things for the Tabernacle! Always remember that Jesus loves you so much, and He will give you everything you need, just like He gave to Bezaleel!

1 Thessalonians 5:24 “Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.”

Isn't Jesus wonderful! He has a special pattern and plan for your life, just like He had a special pattern for the Tabernacle, and He doesn't just call you to do it, but He gives you everything you need to obey Him and live the wonderful life that He has planned for you!

Exodus 27:18 “The length of the court shall be an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty everywhere, and the height five cubits of fine twined linen, and their sockets of brass.”

Let's look at the outer courtyard of the Tabernacle. What do we see? The very only thing the people could see from their tents, was a curtain all around the courtyard 150 feet long by 75 feet wide, made of finely twined white linen that measured 5 cubits. It was hung on silver rods suspended from 60 brass poles. Each pole was set in a socket of brass, with a shining silver cap atop each pole.

The curtain was 7½ feet tall! How tall is that? **(Have a tall man stand next to the 7 ½' length of paper you taped to the door.)** The clean white curtain was so tall it was all the people could see, with the silver caps on top of sockets of brass. Whatever could this be a picture of?

The brass poles standing in brass sockets, remind us that we, standing alone have no hope because we stand guilty in sin, and deserve of God's judgement. *(show pole/socket/cap)* But what is that on top of the pole? A shining silver cap! The silver cap tells us that Jesus paid the price for our redemption. The white linen fence shows us the righteousness of our Lord Jesus, who paid the penalty of death for our sins, and covers us with His own holiness to make us holy!

9. WHEN GOD LOOKS AT YOU HE SEES JESUS.

(You will need a Globe, White Robe, and a Silver Cap (mixing bowl).)

The white linen curtain surrounding the Tabernacle is a picture of our lives hidden with Christ in God, covered by His righteousness.

- *(Ask volunteer), “Do you always do everything perfectly or do you make mistakes sometimes? We all make mistakes and I am thankful for God’s big eraser for my mistakes, aren’t you?”*

Psalm 103:11-12 “For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. ¹² As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.”

- *(Walk fingers East on the globe) See how if I travel East on this world I am always going East, and if I travel West, I am always traveling West, and the two never meet? That is how far your sins have gone when you confess to Jesus - gone and forgiven!*
- *(Cover volunteer with the white robe) Jesus knows that you are weak and make mistakes, so He covers you with His own holiness and gives you His own righteousness.*
- *(Place silver cap on the volunteer’s head) Jesus paid the price for your sin and crowns you with redemption because He paid the cost.*
- *Jesus died on the cross for you, because He loves you!*
- *If you have Jesus for your Savior, when God looks at you, He knows that you are not perfect under there, but God sees only the holiness of Jesus for you are covered in His righteousness!*
- *When we make a mistake, God remembers that we are made from dust and He knows we are very weak without Him.*
- *It is so important to remain covered in Jesus every day!*

The Gospel In My Hands: Hidden with Christ in God

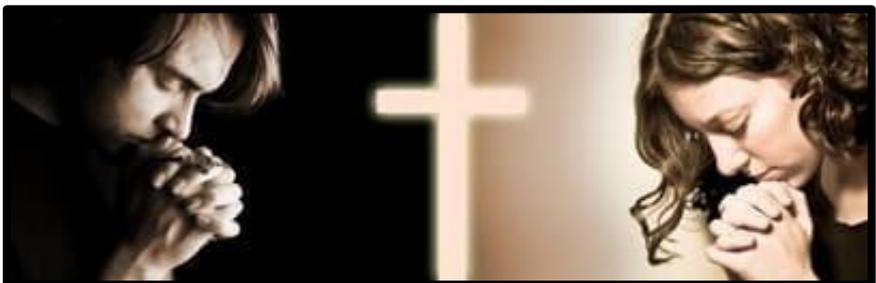
*(Hold up left thumb) My left thumb is going to represent God who became flesh in the Lord Jesus. When you believe that Jesus is God who came from Heaven, died on the cross, was buried and rose again on the third day, and put your trust in Him, He comes to live your heart *(Close fingers of left hand with thumb inside)* and God dwells *in* you. Then by His Holy Spirit, He comes to you and covers you in His love *(place right hand over left and hold)* and you dwell in God. God lives in you and you live in God, isn’t that wonderful? **When Jesus lives in you and you live in Jesus, He gives you power to witness and to do wonderful works for Him, and that is very wonderful!***

10. GOD'S PURPOSE AND PLAN FOR ME

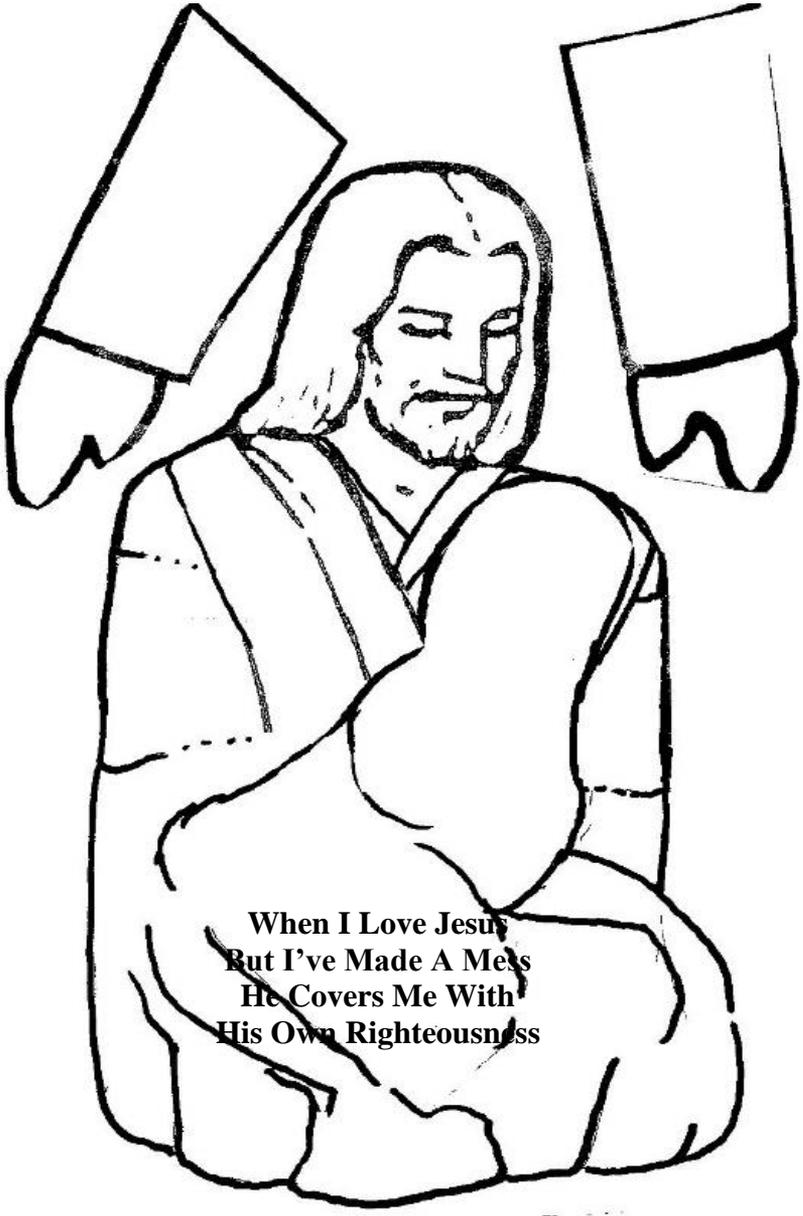
1. God has always desired to dwell with His people. Now Jesus comes to live in you and be in constant fellowship with you.
2. Whenever we mess up, we can confess our sin, and Jesus is faithful to forgive us and cover us in His robe of righteousness.
3. The Tabernacle is God's picture of who He is in Jesus Christ.
4. God asks where we are when we sin, not to condemn us, but so we will see and confess our sin and be restored to fellowship.
5. God's presence is a consuming fire where no sin can stand without being consumed by His cleansing fire.
6. God re-established relationship with His people by their faith in blood atonement as He dwelt among them in the Tabernacle.
7. The people gave with willing hearts to build the Tabernacle for God; God gives wisdom to everyone who has a willing heart.
8. God is able and faithful to give you everything you need to do the works that He planned in advance for you to do.
9. The white linen fence that is all the people could see, is a picture of the righteousness of Jesus that God sees when He looks at me.
10. My life is hidden with the Lord Jesus Christ in God, when Jesus lives in me and I live in Jesus, and He covers me in His holiness.

GROUP PRAYER:

*Dear Lord Jesus, I confess my sins before you as I let go of them now; thank you for forgiving me and washing me clean by the power of your own blood shed for my sins on the cross. Thank you for your Holy Spirit that comes to live in my heart and covers me with your own righteousness. Help me daily to separate myself from sinful things, to live my life wholly for you where I will find joy in your presence and blessing upon my life, and bring glory to your name. I love you Lord, and commit my way to you **in Jesus name, Amen.***



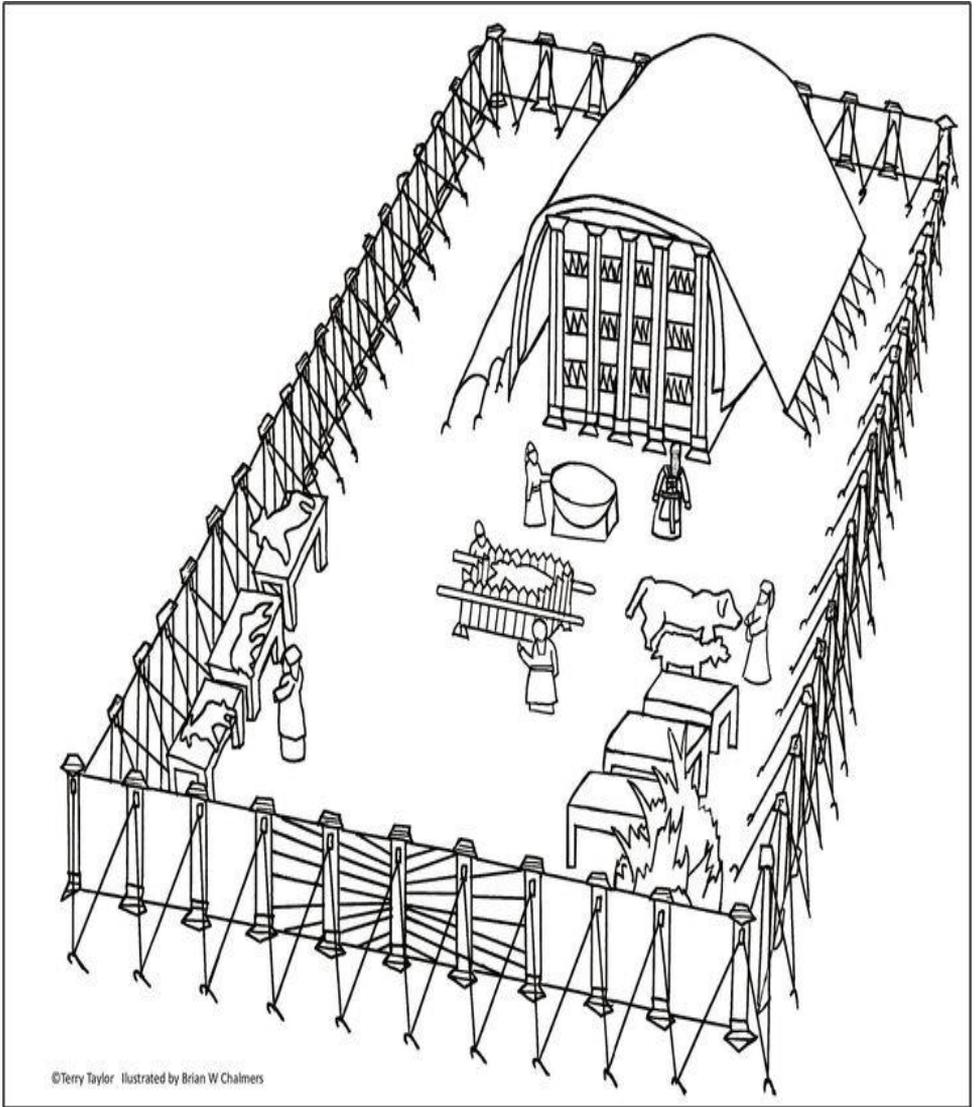
11. GOSPEL CRAFT: JESUS COVERS ME IN HIS LOVE



Directions for : (Enlarge 200% Copy onto Card Stock)

1. Before class find a head shot of each child and copy to size to glue to head of child.
2. Cut out Jesus and His arms.
3. Place arms folded outward, blank side facing you and tape in place where indicated.
4. Flip over and tape the back side on the seam.
5. Fold arms to cover child for a great big Jesus love hug!

12. TIMELINE COLORING PAGE: THE WHITE CURTAIN



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**The clean linen fence of the Tabernacle shows me that when
Jesus lives in me, He gives me His robe of righteousness to
cover my weakness, so when God looks at me He sees Jesus..
March 1462 BC**