



LESSON 2

REFERENCES: 2 KINGS 12:1-15; 2 CHRONICLES 24:1-14; THE SDA BIBLE COMMENTARY, VOL. 2, PP. 923, 924.

Repairing the Temple

Have you ever helped with a family project such as washing windows or weeding a flower garden? Joash led his country in a big church project. Everyone worked together.

King Joash saw something he really wanted to do. During all the years when wicked kings and queens ruled Israel, God's temple hadn't been cared for.

Some of the kings and queens had even taken away part of the temple walls and used the stones

to build temples to the idols they worshipped.

The sons of wicked Queen Athaliah had taken the golden and silver dishes from the temple and used them to worship their idols.

Now that Joash was king, he wanted to fix the temple. He wanted to rebuild the walls with fine wood and stone. He wanted new dishes for the service of the Lord. But it would cost a lot. Where would he get the money?



Memory Verse

“Work together as a team for the faith.”

PHILIPPIANS 1:27, 1CB

The Message

In God's family, we work together.

Then Joash had an idea. He'd save for it. But he wouldn't be the only one. He'd ask everyone in the country to help too.

Joash had his workers make a chest, something like a big wooden box, with a hole in the top. He placed the chest near the doorway to the temple. When the people came to worship, they dropped their offering in the chest. Some people had a lot of money to give; some only a little. But they all gave cheerfully. All their offerings added up, and before long the chest was full.

The priests took the money out of the chest. They sent it to the king's treasury, where it would be safe. Then the priests set the empty chest by the door to the temple again. Again and again the priests emptied the chest and put it back to be filled. And the people kept bringing their offerings to fill the chest with the hole in the top.

More and more money went into King Joash's treasury. All the offerings of all the people added up to a lot of money. Soon Joash had enough to begin fixing the temple.

The priests hired the best carpenters and stonemasons in all the land. They bought the finest wood and stone. Men who worked with iron and bronze were hired too. Together they rebuilt the temple so it looked like it had before. And when they were finished, they had money left over! With the leftover money King Joash ordered new golden dishes and other furnishings to be used in the temple service.



Joash was pleased. So were the people. They were happy they had worked together to honor God. They had made God's house a special, beautiful place.

We can work together to honor God too. We can help keep God's house clean and beautiful. We can work together to honor God at home, at church, and at school.

Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story together and review the memory verse by using the following motions:

Work together . . . Pretend to pull a rope with both hands.

as a team Clasp hands together over head.

for the faith. . . . Point upward.

Philippians 1:27 . Palms together; then open as if opening a book.

SUNDAY

Encourage your child to share the temple they made in Sabbath School with someone and tell how people worked together to repair the temple. (Or draw a simple outline of a church and have your child color and decorate it.)

MONDAY

If possible, take your child to observe a building project. Ask: What are these people doing? Talk about ways the people are working together. Remind them that God's people work together to do good things for God.



TUESDAY

Have everyone in your family get something to use as a rhythm instrument, such as two spoons to hit together, a

spoon and a bowl, two sticks, etc. Have each one play alone while one person sings a song. Then have everyone play together while everyone sings. Ask: Which is more fun? God's children work together to honor God.

WEDNESDAY

Have your family work together on a task at home (washing the car, planting flowers, weeding the garden, picking up trash, etc.).

Remind everyone that God's children work together too.

Sing "With Jesus in the Family" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 273), but add "When families work together, happy, happy home."



THURSDAY

Plan a way your family can do something as a team to care for or improve your church. Include something for your child to do.

FRIDAY

Help your child "build a church" as your family acts out the story.

Thank God that you can work together to do things for Him.

Sing a "helping" song before prayer.