

## Lesson #4-18

## CLEANSING THE TEMPLE

John 2:13-25

**Key Verse:**

Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”  
John 2:19

**The Point:**

Jesus’ life, death and resurrection bring life in a way that human actions cannot.

**Unit Theme (December 26—January 16)**

Encountering the Messiah

## CLEANSING OUR TEMPLE

*Compete to clean up.*

*You will need:*

- † Scrap paper, crumpled into balls
- † Garbage cans or pails

*Instructions:*

1. **Today we learned about Jesus cleansing the temple. He cleaned out some people who were doing the wrong thing. We are going to play a game where we can clean out our temple—the church (our home)—but we are going to clean it of garbage, not of people.**
2. Divide the group into at least two teams. Give each team a garbage can or pail.
3. **Around the room you see a number of crumpled up balls of paper. We are going to have a race to see which team can get the most paper into their garbage can the fastest.**
4. Call start to the game. When all the paper has been collected, count the papers in each garbage can to see who has the most.
5. Repeat as often as desired.
6. In small groups or at home, individuals can compete instead of teams. The scrap paper can be exchanged for anything else that can be “cleaned up,” even socks!