



Supplies

- Bibles*
- “Tabernacle” handouts*
- red washable markers*
- craft sticks
- transparent tape
- torn paper curtain from Core Bible Discovery

Set It Up

Make sure kids have their “Tabernacle” handouts from Core Bible Discovery.

Say: **We’re learning that God is holy, which means he’s super special and set apart from anything bad. In the Bible, he needed a special place to live because he’s so holy.**

But that raises a question. Sometimes we talk about the fact that God is our friend. But holy, set apart, special...these sound like words that make God distant. How can God be set apart but also be our friend? Let’s dig in to that.

Dig Deeper

Say: **Hebrews chapters 9 and 10 explains the answer to our question! It’s a lot of verses, so we’ll just read parts of it. And it starts out by remembering what the Tabernacle looked like! As I read this, follow along on your Tabernacle map, pointing out places I name.**

Read Hebrews 9:1-5.

Say: **So these verses point out that God made a covenant—kind of like a promise to be friends with Israel—by building the Tabernacle. But we don’t have a Tabernacle. So how can we get close to God?**

Have small-group leaders distribute red markers.

Say: **In order to stay close to God, the Israelites had to have the High Priest make sacrifices so God could forgive them for their sins. Every year, the priest had to go in and do it again, because the Israelites kept sinning just like we do. Use your marker to draw arrows in and out and in and out and in and out of the Most Holy Place on your map.**

Allow time.

Say: **Whew! That’s a lot of back and forth! The Israelites had a High Priest to go into the Most Holy Place and renew their friendship with God. We don’t have a High Priest. Or do we? Listen to this.**

Read Hebrews 9:24-26.

Say: **Jesus is our High Priest. Because he used his own blood to pay for our sins and entered heaven, he only had to die for us once.**

Have kids each tape two craft sticks together to make crosses.

Say: **When Jesus died on the cross, it made a way for us to be holy. We still make wrong choices that hurt us and others, but we can receive forgiveness and be friends with God because of Jesus' death. God made a way to be our friends even though he's too holy to be around sin!**

Set the torn pieces of the curtain from Core Bible Discovery on the floor, with space between them. Have kids carry their craft-stick crosses and walk between the pieces as you read Hebrews 10:19-22.

Say: **The curtain that kept everyone out of the Most Holy Place was torn when Jesus died for us. Jesus made a way for us to get to God. Listen to one more verse as a blessing over you.**

Read Romans 5:11.

Say: **God is holy. And we're not—at least not on our own. But through Jesus, we can be friends with our holy God.**

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