

## Tabernacle II That's Sweet!

**Text: Exodus 27: 1-8, 30:1-110, 34:38**



### Caleb, the Hebrew Boy



Participants: teenage boy to play the part of Caleb, adult to play the High Priest. Have them wear a Bible time costume.

Preparation: Put spices in jar/clay like containers

Caleb: (Comes walking in with 3 clay/jar like containers full of "spices". He sneezes 3 times as he approaches the front.) Holy tabernacle! Does anyone have a Kleenex I could use? (teacher hands him a tissue. He blows his nose.) The reason I'm sneezing is because I'm taking these spices to the High Priest and the smell is messing with my nose. Yesterday he asked me to be sure to pick up these 3 sweet spices. (Raises each one near his nose, sneezes again) and some frankincense. I'm really curious to know what he is going to use them for. (Thinks for a second) Maybe he's going to cook a meal with them. Not real sure why he would want to use frankincense for cooking though, I've heard that its VERY (emphasize) bitter tasting. Well, Thanks for the Kleenex, gotta get going, I'll be back later to let you know what he used them for. (Leaves, sneezing again as he exits and comes back for one more Kleenex. He sneezes and blows his nose again on the way out.)

### Lesson 3

Note: Tabernacle overview for all six lessons, Exodus 26:1-37

**Pivot Skit Supplies:**  
Pivot Point slide 2, four spices, Four jar like containers

#### Large Group



### Pivots



Prayer - to talk with God in praise, worship, petitions, or thanksgiving



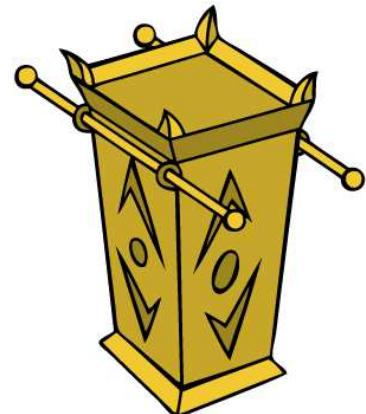
God provided prayer for us to talk to him anytime, anywhere about anything



Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done Phil. 4:6 NLT

#### Pivot Supplies

PP slides 3 - 5





Presentation: Note: If you prefer to not light candles in your classroom, substitute fragrant items such as aerosol sprays, containers of room freshener solids, spices, etc. Be creative and modify the presentation to work for what you chose.

Talk about what it's like to walk into a house where something is cooking and how it smells so good. Especially if it is a type of cake or roll or dish that you really like! Sometimes you can even just walk past a restaurant or bakery, or maybe even in the summer someone is grilling out; how does that affect you? Make you hungry? Don't you just want to stand there and enjoy it? Light one of the candles and allow it to fill the room with the fragrance. Ask is kid's can identify what the fragrance is? Do this with the other scents

Lead in how the Bible talks about something that smells particularly good to God. Any ideas? He came up with a special recipe that was pleasing to him. He created it just for him to enjoy. Let's move to the Lesson Launch and see what it was!

**Lesson Launch Text:** Exodus 30:1-10, 34-38

Tip: for a great conclusion to lesson- serve the actual cookies to the class! Bake the night before and let them enjoy!

Preparation: Plate of chocolate chip cookies (store bought if short of time) you chose



Presentation: Display slide 6 – do a brief review of Holy Place elements thus far.

Say: Now there is one more important object in the Holy Place...and it has to do with a recipe. Is it an oven...no, a little early for that! God had

a specific recipe for something. It was so special that the priests could not use it for themselves. It was only to be used for God in the Holy place.

God had a recipe for incense to be burned at an altar. Not the brazen altar outside, but the Altar of Incense. (display slide 7) God designed the altar to be: made of acacia wood and overlaid with gold.

There was a horn in each corner (refer to PP slide) that was carved out of the same piece of wood as the altar.

The rings and pole to carry the altar were overlaid in gold too just like the Table of Showbread last week.

The altar measured 3' H x 1 1/2' W x 1 1/2' L

The altar was placed directly in front of the curtain or veil to the Holy of Holies

Let's peek behind the curtain again –but let's not bring EVERYTHING out yet! (Bring out the 3 spices and bottle of perfume from behind the curtain.) God had a specific recipe of incense made from 4 special, rare perfumes and spices. God had specific measurements to produce the perfect fragrance or smell. The recipe could not be "altared" (couldn't resist the pun –sorry). The priest was to burn incense

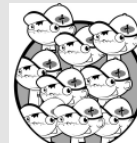
**Rampin' Up supplies:**

*candle fragrances kids would like, possibly vanilla, pine, cinnamon (your choice), lighter, large plate that you can place candle on to (CAREFULLY/ SAFELY) burn the candles*

**Lesson Launch Supplies:**

*Curtain set up from last week, PP slide 6-9 (chocolate chip cookie recipe) baked choc. Chip cookies, plate, four bottles of spices, (Note: place all objects behind curtain)*

**Large Group**



## Lesson Launch Continued:

in the morning and in the evening when the lamp stand wicks were trimmed also. Only God's recipe of incense was to be burned there – NOTHING else Hot coals were taken off the brazen altar and used to burn the incense at the Golden Altar of Incense. The priest made intercessory prayer to God for the people of Israel. The room was filled with the sweet smell as the smoke rose- it represented Israel's prayer to God going to Heaven



### Apply it today

Have any of you ever made a special recipe for something you really loved to eat? Have you helped your parents in the kitchen measure the ingredients? You had to use the correct cups or spoons didn't you? There were exact measurements for each ingredient. Display the PP slide 8. Let's take a look at a recipe you probably would like. (Call attention to the different ingredients and measurements). Now – what do you think this makes? (allow for answers – display PP slide 9) Ahhh, I can almost smell them! Show PP slide 10 – Yep, I can almost taste them now!

Yes, if you followed the recipe closely- this should be what you get each time! Now- have you ever made a mistake or changed some ingredients or left some out? What happened? Did it taste the same? (allow answers) NO! I bet you could tell the difference. It's the same way with God- he knew what the smell or fragrance should be if mixed per his recipe.

The incense going up to God represented the prayers of Israel. Our Pivot Trait says : (display PP slide 3) Prayer is to talk with God in praise, worship, petitions or thanksgiving. Look at that – a recipe of four things! Each one of those things are important to God. He loves our praise and worship for who He is – our petitions (things we need or want him to do) or intercession for others- and thanksgiving for what he has done for us! Our prayers should never just be petitions or asking for things alone! His recipe for prayer includes all 4 things!

Today- because of what Jesus did for us- when we pray in his name –by faith and belief in Him – our prayers go directly to God in Heaven. We don't have to have a priest offer prayer for us. Isn't that cool? Our Pivot Point says: (display slide 4) God provided prayer for us to talk to him anytime, anywhere about anything

Also- Jesus, who is our great High Priest forever in Heaven, intercedes or offers prayer on our behalf to God that mix with our prayers! That is waaay cool!

Our Pivot Verse says: (display slide 5) Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done Phil. 4:6 NLT

Now- I think there is one more thing behind that curtain! (bring the cookies out and inhale deeply to enjoy the sweet aroma!) Now that is worth following the recipe for! Enjoy the cookies!



Participants: Caleb the Hebrew boy and an adult recruited to play the part of the high priest.

Caleb: (Walks in excited and almost in a rush.) I found out the spices are for a really cool piece in the Holy of Holies! It's called the golden altar and is shaped like a box with a horn of gold in each corner. I brought you a picture of what it will look like. (holds up picture and display on overhead if applicable.) The golden altar will be used for burning incense twice every day. The priest will offer the incense after he tends the wick and oil on the holy lamps. Here's the really weird part; he will also sprinkle blood from the sin offering given at the bronze alter on each horn. This will be done as an offering for our sins being forgiven by blood. God also wants the priest to keep the sweet incense burning all the time. The smell of the sweet incense burning, made from the spices I told you about this morning is pleasing to God. It expresses our love and worship. Now that I know all this, it was worth all the sneezing! It's really been fun helping build the Tabernacle. I'm going to see if there is anything else the High Priest needs me to do. Catch you all later. (Whistles cheerfully as he exits and sneezes one more time.)



### Relay

Preparation: place each muffin pan on a table at one end of the room. Empty half the pop corn in each large bowl. Place each bowl on a chair at the opposite end of the room. Divide the class into 2 teams and line them up next to a chair. Give a measuring spoon to the first person in line for each team.

Play: Start the race. Each team's first member scoops out some popcorn and walks quickly to the other end and dumps it in a muffin cup in the pan. The member then walks quickly back and hands the spoon to the next person in line. Repeat until all the holes are filled. First team to fill all the cups wins.

#### Variations:

Label each muffin cup with a number 1-6. The teams have to fill the muffin cups in order.

To shorten race, cover up certain cups with tape.

Note: this is messy but fun. Popcorn was chosen for cost and ease of cleanup instead of another powdery substance or spice. Also- teacher, stand at the table and level out the cups as they are filled to get a fair reading of when it is actually filled. Indicate to the team that that one is filled and tell the next person to start a new cup.

Relay the truth: Explain that the priest had to carry the coals and the incense powder to the altar. you have been talking about spices and baking. When we pray to God, we bring our prayers to the altar for him to hear and enjoy.

### Pivot Skit 2 Supplies:

*PP slide 2,7*

*Picture of the Golden altar*



### Relay Supplies:

*2 Tablespoon measuring spoons, 1 large bag of UN-POPPED popcorn (NOT MICROWAVE), 2 large bowls, 2 6 ct. muffin baking pans, 2 tables, 2 chairs*

## Demonstrate It Skit

Pivot Verse: Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done Phil. 4:6 NLT

Preparation: on each paper write one different word, "bad news", "worse news", "horrible news" in large letters. Place each letter in a separate envelope.

Participants: two actors- boy and girl

Display PP slide 5 in background. The actor comes in the door carrying a stack of envelopes. He goes through one at a time opening them and pulling out the paper. He makes a progressively worse face of fear and disappointment/sadness with each letter reading. He reads the backside of the letter while holding the letters out so class can easily read. After the third letter, there is a knock on the door. He opens it and a girl comes in and acts as if yelling at him. The girl actor waves arms and moves around him looking very angry. The boy just stands looking shocked with mouth open. The girl leaves and the boy paces back and forth with a helpless look. He then slumps down in chair and puts head in hands. He suddenly pulls head up and puts finger in air with a happier face indicating he has an idea. He then gets on knees and begins to pray. He stands up, mouths a big THANK YOU GOD, looks much happier and at peace. He breathes in a deep breath, smiles and heads out the door.

## Pivot Verse Game

Pivot Verse: Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done Phil. 4:6 NLT

Preparation: Write each word of the memory verse on two cards, including two cards for the scripture reference. This will total all 44 cards. Shuffle the cards and write a number on the back of each card from 1-44. Tape the cards, numbers facing out, to the wall in four rows of eleven cards. Divide the class into two teams.

When all the words are matched. The first team to correctly assemble and call out, "Philippians 4:6", wins

Play: Display the PP slide 5 and allow kids to repeat it several times. Turn the slide off. Go around the room and allow kids to take two turns selecting one card and then another card, trying to make a match. As each card is selected, turn it over until the turn is completed. For each match hand a card to each team of that word. Have them assemble the verse out of the view of the other team on a table or on the floor. Play the game until Our Pivot Trait says : (display PP slide 3) Prayer is to talk with God in praise, petitions, or thanksgiving



**Small Group** Time to Thrash (If possible, separate by age group)

**Air Time: (Review)**

1. What did we learn about today? Prayer-altar of incense
2. What was burnt at the altar? By whom? Incense –the priest

## Demonstrate It Skit Supplies:

3 envelopes, 3 sheets of paper, marker, chair, PP slide 5

## PV Game Supplies:

44 index cards, tape, Black Marker, PP Slide 5



**Note:** If possible, separate by age group

**Small group**



## Air Time cont.

3. How many different typed of incense were burned? One different smell for each day of the week? NO- God's special recipe was it!
4. What are the four parts of God's recipe for our prayer we talked about today? Can anyone name one? Another? Etc. Praise, worship, petition, thanksgiving
5. How often was the incense offered to God? Two times - In morning and night
6. Who can name all 3 objects we have studied in the Holy Place? Golden Lamp Stand, Table of Showbread, Altar of Incense

## Activity 1-5 grade

Preparation: place the different scents in appropriate containers. Try to keep the scents that would be easily identified visually, secret (like foods). Write a number on each container and make a key to the containers so you will know which ones they are. Split the kids up in groups of 2-5 depending on size of class. Hand out a paper and pencil to each group. Pass around the bags and allow each group's members to sniff the container and guess what it is. The team then writes down the container number and their guess to what it is. Allow the team to write a couple answers if they have many opinions. Pass around the containers again if necessary. When done, go through each container asking the teams for their answers.

Purpose: Talk about how there were some smells that were offensive or you didn't really care for; other scents were appealing to at least some. Talk about how the prayers of God's people are a pleasing and sweet aroma to God.

### 1-5 Activity supplies:

*zip lock baggies, small containers with lids for liquid scents, various strong spices, scents, perfumes or colognes, flavorings, medicines, etc. Try to pick ones kids might be familiar with as well as some unusual scents. Also pick some scents that kids wouldn't like such as foods like tuna or eggs, etc., papers, pencils, markers*

## Final Spin A lesson wrap up



Prayer - to talk with God in praise, worship, petitions, or thanksgiving



God provided prayer for us to talk to him anytime, anywhere about anything



Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done Phil. 4:6 NLT

### Final Spin Supplies:

*Power Point slides 3 – 5, stick of incense stick, lighter*

### Large Group



## Final Spin cont.

Light the incense and read the following and discuss briefly. Talk about how the prayers of God's people are a sweet smell unto God.

Psalm 141: 1-2 A psalm of David.

1 O LORD, I am calling to you. Please hurry!

Listen when I cry to you for help!

2 Accept my prayer as incense offered to you,  
and my upraised hands as an evening offering.

Rev. 5:8 And when he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of God's people.

Discuss with the class how we need to talk with God through prayer everyday. Talk also about how the priests before they entered the Holy Place had to cleanse themselves at the Laver. As part of our prayers we need to confess and repent of any impure thoughts or wrongdoing that day. Lead the children in a brief prayer of repentance, praise, worship and thanksgiving. Give them a chance to petition God for needs they may have.

