

# SOARING STRUCTURES

## LESSON 1: LION OF JUDAH

**MAIN POINT:** Jesus, the Lion of Judah, conquered death.

**BIBLE VERSE:** “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” Revelation 5:5

**BIBLE STORY:** Tribe of Judah, Genesis 49; Opening the Scroll Revelation 5:1-5

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE TEACHING:

A lion symbolizes power and a conquering king. Jesus, as the lion, is powerful and conquered death through his victorious resurrection. As Lion of Judah, he is the conquering king from the tribe of Judah.

In Genesis, as Jacob lays dying, he tells the future for each of his sons. Of Judah, he says, “Judah is a lion’s cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?”

From Judah’s line (descendants) would come David and eventually Jesus who is the lion from the tribe of Judah.

Jesus, the Lion of Judah, conquered death. In Revelation, Jesus is the only one who is worthy to open the scroll with the seven seals because of his victory over death.

### EACH LESSON CONTAINS:

#### PLANNING: GATHERING THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NAME

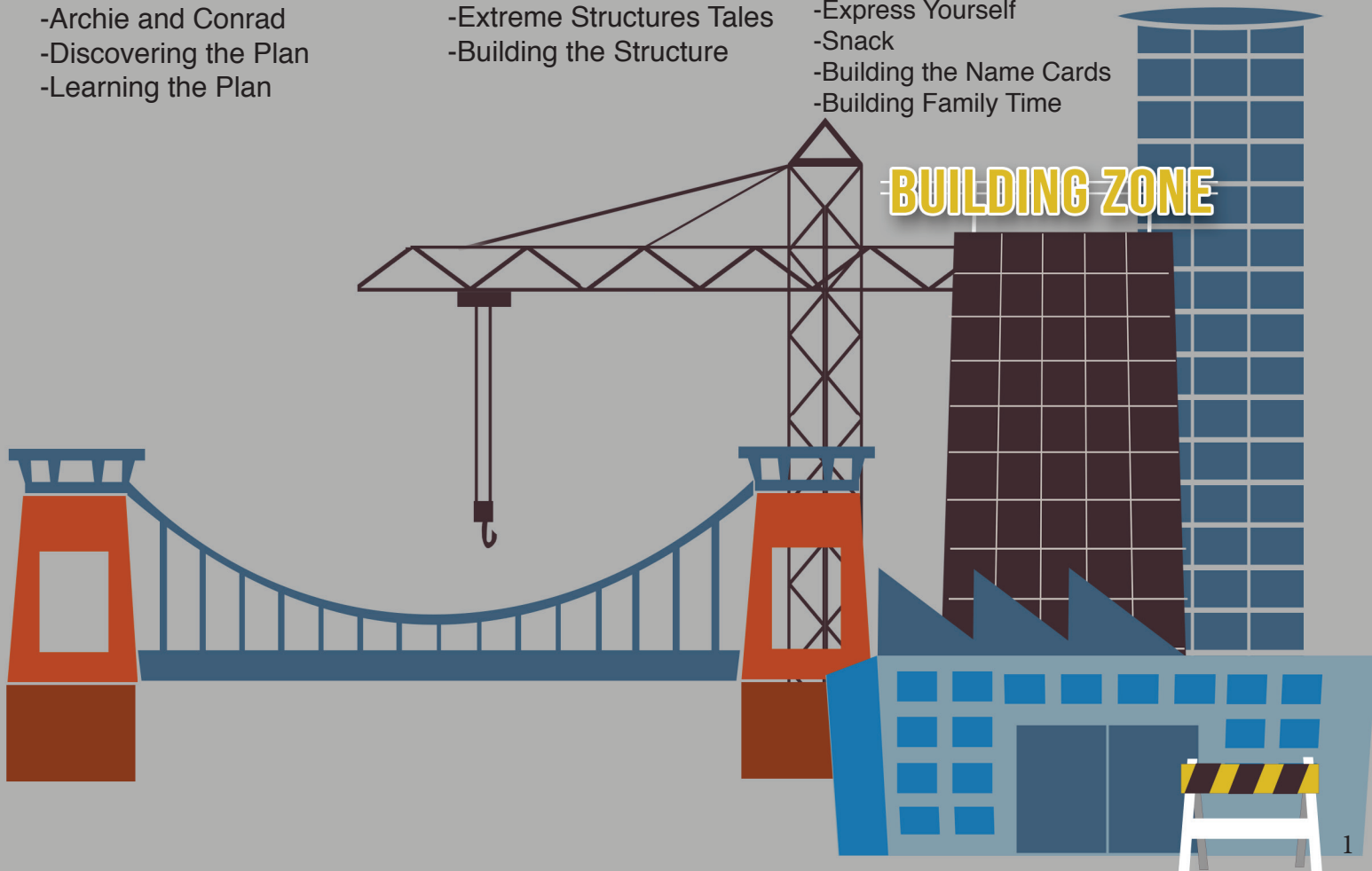
- Minute to Build it Game
- Archie and Conrad
- Discovering the Plan
- Learning the Plan

#### CONSTRUCTING: PUTTING TOGETHER WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT THE NAME

- Bible Story
- Prayer
- Extreme Structures Tales
- Building the Structure

#### TESTING: APPLYING THE NAME

- The Building Lab
- Craft
- Games
- Bible Memory
- Express Yourself
- Snack
- Building the Name Cards
- Building Family Time



# PLANNING

## MINUTE TO BUILD IT GAME: UPSIDE DOWN TOWER

**Supplies:** Fifteen empty soda cans, four paper plates

Contestant has one minute to stack five levels of cans with a paper plate in between the levels. The first level has one can with the plate on top. The second level has two cans, and so forth until the top of the tower is five cans balancing on a paper plate.

## ARCHIE AND CONRAD

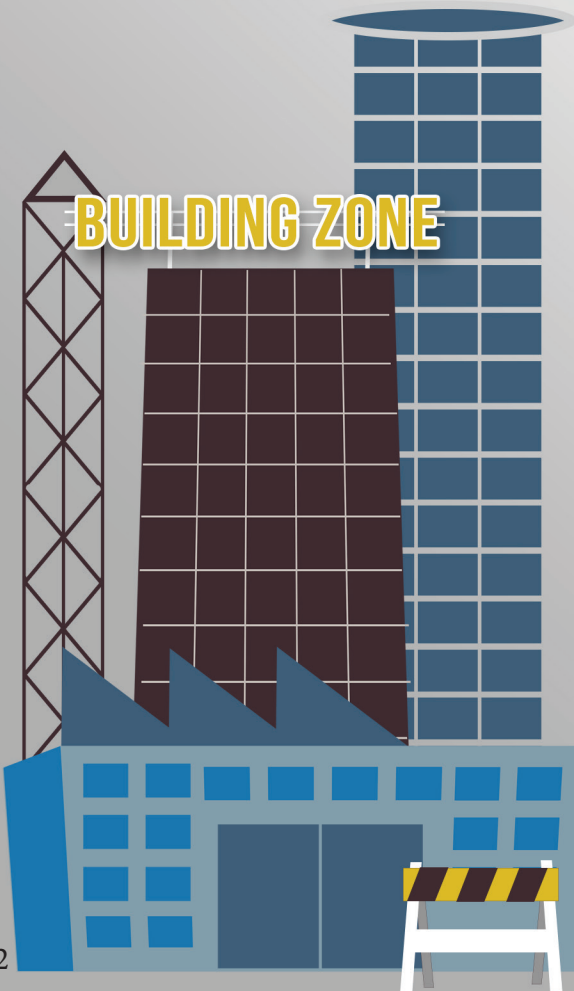
**Supplies:** blocks, string, small action figure

Archie is building a tower with the blocks. He has string hanging off the side of the tower with an action figure tied to the string.

Conrad enters.

Conrad: **Hey Archie, what's that?**

Archie: **This is my latest project. We are designing rides for an amusement park. We must come up with a design for a ride which will be called the Power Tower of Terror.**



Conrad: **Ohhhh.** (Clearly impressed and excited.) **What does this ride do?**

Archie: (Using the model, he demonstrates as he talks.) **The riders will be put into harnesses at the bottom of the tower. Then they will be pulled to the top of the tower. A countdown will happen. . . 3, 2, 1. . . and the rider will be plunged down to the bottom in a matter of seconds.**

Conrad: **Yes! Pure terror. I bet you can't wait for this to be built so you can ride it.**

Archie: **Uh no. I will not be riding this.**

Conrad: **What? We can go on it together. You know- two friends- riding the Power Tower of Terror side by side. You- the architect to be and me- the builder to be. Perfect.**

Archie: **No.**

Conrad: **Why not?**

Archie: **Heights.**

Conrad: **What do you mean heights?**

Archie: **I mean I don't like to be up high. It is. . . well. . . scary.**

Conrad: **You are afraid of heights???? Really???**

Archie: **Yes, really. Now leave me alone so I can finish this project. It is due tomorrow and I need to get a good grade on it.**

Conrad stands still, thinking and looking at Archie.

Archie: **What? Why are you standing there like that? Don't you have something you need to build or something?**

Conrad: **I have an idea.**

Archie: **No, not one of your ideas.** (Whining.) **I don't have time for one of your ideas.**

**Conrad: It's a good idea.**

Archie: **I doubt it.** (Keeps working on his project.)

Conrad pulls a chair out. He stands on it and jumps off yelling in "terror."

Archie: **What are you doing?**

Conrad: **Pretending to be you.**

Archie: **That isn't funny. Friends shouldn't make fun of each other.**

Conrad: **I'm not making fun of you. I'm thinking of a plan to help you conquer your fear of heights so you can go on the Power Tower of Terror with me. I think that if we start small and work our way up – by the time this amazing ride is finished-you will have conquered your fear.**

Archie: **I don't think so.**

Conrad: **Please, give it a try. Now just come over here.** (Guides Archie to the chair.) **Get up on this chair.** (Helps him up.) **You ok up there?** (Archie shakes his head.) **Ok, when I count to three then you jump. Ready?** (Archie shakes his head violently.)

Archie: (Scared) **This is bad.**

Conrad: **Archie, you are only a foot off the ground.**

Archie: (Shaking.) **Very high.**



Conrad: **No, very low.**

Archie: (Hugging himself.) **Not good.**

Conrad: **Ok, this could be tougher than I thought. But you are already up there and you have to get down so jump. Ok, JUMP!**

Archie: (Shakes head.) **No jump.**

Conrad: (Sighs.) **Archie, to conquer something is to overcome it. You must overcome your fear of heights. To do this, you must jump just a wee little bit. It will be the first step to freedom.**

Archie: **I don't want to be free. I just want down.**

Conrad: **So you must jump. Just close your eyes and jump. You can do it! I know you can. I'll catch you.**

Archie: (Suddenly snaps out of his fear.) **You are NOT going to catch me.** (Squeezes his eyes shut tight and lets out a yell as he jumps from the chair. He falls on the floor and dramatically rolls.)

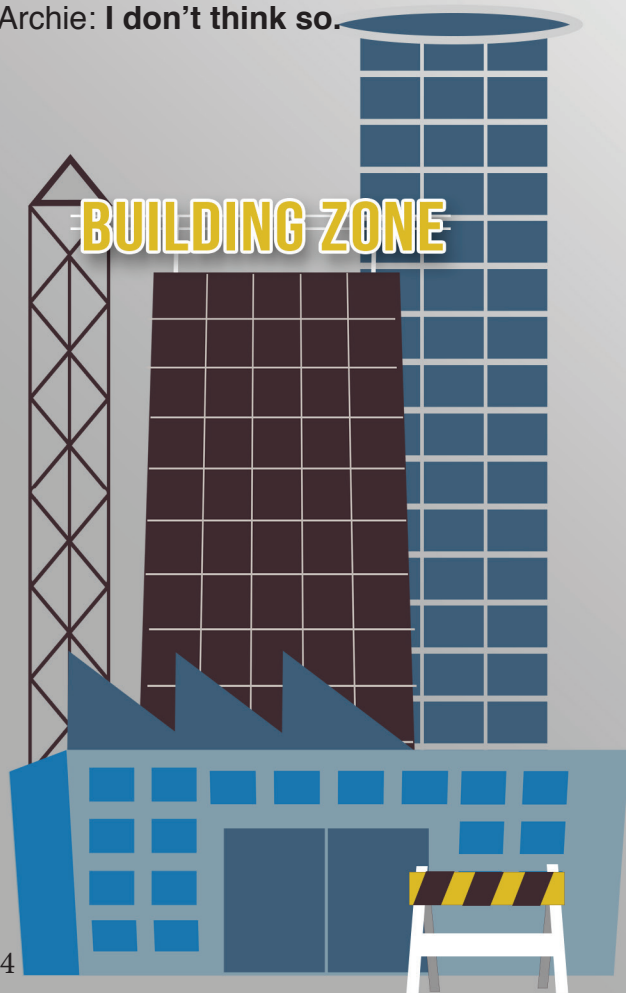
Conrad: **See! You conquered this first step.**

Archie: **Am I still alive?**

Conrad: **Yes! You are still alive. Next week, we will climb up on the table.**

Archie: **I don't think so.**

Conrad: **I think so. We will conquer this fear. And we will OWN the Power Tower of Terror together!**



## DISCOVERING THE PLAN **PP**

**Supplies:** Box of design materials (Tinker toys, Legos, pipe cleaners, rubber bands, paper, blocks), sign “Lion of Judah”

**Each week our name of Jesus is going to have a symbol to help us remember the meaning of the name. We will have two teams and a team captain for each. The team captain will pick one person to build the symbol while the rest of the team tries to guess.**

(Choose two kids, one from each team. Tell them the symbol is a lion. Instruct them to use the materials in the box to make a lion. As they are creating the lion, the teams can try to guess what they are making. The first team to guess wins.)

**The lion symbolizes the name Lion of Judah. Have you ever heard Jesus referred to as a lion?**

A lion is a symbol for power and for royalty. Jesus is both. He is powerful. He was so powerful that He conquered death. He was crucified, but rose from the dead and is alive. Jesus is also royalty. He came from the line of King David.

What do you think it means that Jesus is the Lion of Judah? Who was Judah? He was one of the sons of Jacob and from his line would come David which means that Jesus also came from the line of Judah.

Let's remember that Jesus, the Lion of Judah, conquered death.

**Option:**

*Display: Place the lion in the display. Make sure to print out the name "Lion of Judah" from the file to label the lion.*

## LEARNING THE PLAN PP

Read Revelation 5:5 together:

"Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." Revelation 5:5

Let's say the verse again with some motions to help us remember it.

**Weep no more;** (Put hands up to eyes and rub as if crying.)

**Behold** (Put hands out in front open with palms facing out and fingers spread wide.)

**The Lion of the tribe of Judah** (Look like a lion.)

**Has conquered,** (Place arms to side with elbows parallel to shoulders, elbows bent and hands in a fist. Shake fists.)

**So that he can open the scroll** (Pretend to open a scroll.)

**And its seven seals.** (Hold up seven fingers.)



# CONSTRUCTING

## BIBLE STORY **PP**

Tribe of Judah, Genesis 49; Opening the Scroll Revelation 5:1-5

We are going to play a trivia game about lions. Everyone can vote on the answers by roaring when I call out the answer if you think it is correct.

Question #1: **PP**

In Swahili, the word for lion is

- A. Muhaha
- B. Simba
- C. Judah
- D. None of the above

Answer: B. Simba

Question #2: **PP**

The lion in The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe was named Aslan. He symbolized:

- A. Death
- B. Judah
- C. Jesus
- D. None of the above

Answer: C. Jesus

Question #3: **PP**

A nickname for the lion is

- A. King of the Jungle
- B. Prince of the Tundra
- C. Lover of the Desert
- D. All of the above

Answer: A. King of the Jungle

Question #4: **PP**

The lion symbolizes

- A. Power
- B. Nobility
- C. Courage
- D. All of the above

Answer: D. All of the above

Question #5: **PP**

When a lion roars, he marks out his territory. How far away can this roar be heard?

- A. ½ mile
- B. One miles
- C. Two miles
- D. Five miles

Answer: D. Five miles



Jesus, as the Lion, is powerful. We know that he is nobility, as He is the King of the Jews, the King of kings. He came from the line of King David. He is courageous and strong.

When He died on the cross, He did not roar, however, He did shout “It is finished.” And this marked His territory. He had come to die for the sins of the world. His territory was all those who were and are lost. He came to take the guilt for our sins and to die so that we could live forever. Jesus, the Lion of Judah, conquered death.

Why is He called the Lion of Judah? Why Judah? Long before Jesus came to earth, there was a man named Abraham. He had a son named Isaac. And Isaac had a son named Jacob who had twelve sons. One of those sons had the name Judah.

When Jacob was dying, he called his sons to his bedside where he spoke a prophecy over each one telling them about their future. When he came to Judah, he said that Judah was like a young lion that would one day overpower his enemies. This act would earn him the allegiance of his brothers. Years after this prophecy, the tribe of Judah (Judah had already died) stormed into battle carrying a banner with the symbol of a lion on it. They were able to win the battle and win the land- the Promised Land.

When Jesus is referred to as the Lion of Judah, He is referred to as a descendant from the tribe of Judah. The prophecy was not just about the battle that took place hundreds of years before Jesus, it was also about Jesus, the lion, who would rise up and overpower his enemies to conquer death. He would do this not by a battle but by his death on the cross.

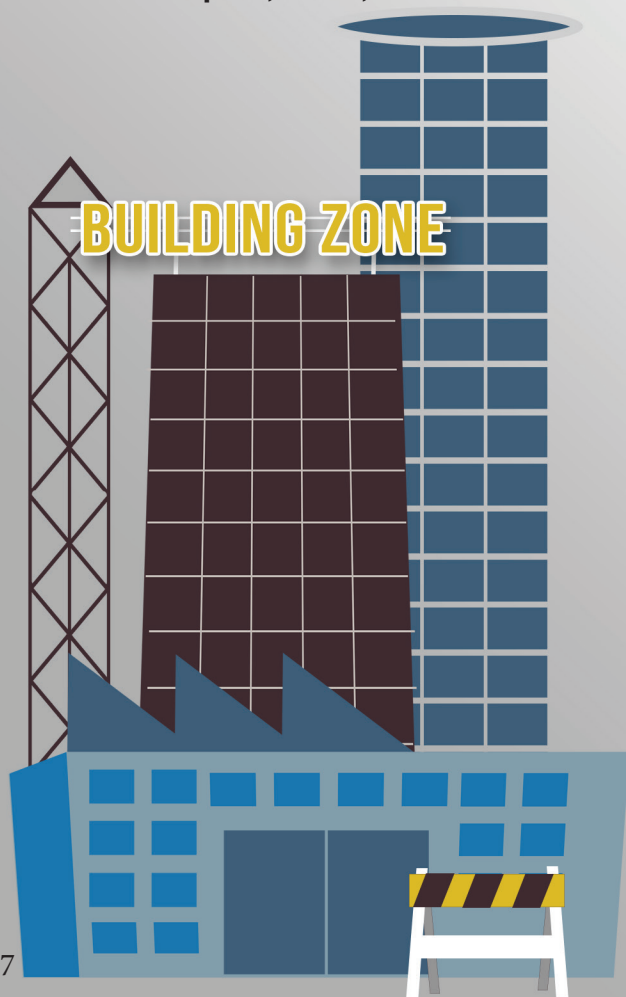
The name, Lion of Judah, is found in the last book of the Bible called Revelation. One of Jesus’ disciples, John, wrote Revelation along with four other books in the New Testament:

The Gospel of John, 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John. The book of Revelation contains prophecy, that means things that are to come. John was given a vision and wrote what he saw. Revelation tells us a lot about Jesus coming again.

In Revelation 5:1-5 it says:

Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

God was sitting on the throne with the scroll. No one could be found worthy to open the scroll. John was weeping because of this. Then, one of the elders pointed out that Jesus, the Lion of Judah, had conquered. He could open the scroll.



Let's say our memory verse together: **PP**

"Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." Revelation 5:5

## PRAYER **PP**

Thank Jesus for conquering death. Thank Him for preparing a place in heaven for all those who follow Him. Take some time for the kids to think about what Jesus has done for them.

## EXTREME STRUCTURE TALES: TALL TOWERS **PP**

Have you ever been gone to the top of a skyscraper before? Or how about a tall ride at an amusement park?

Let's look at some soaring towers:

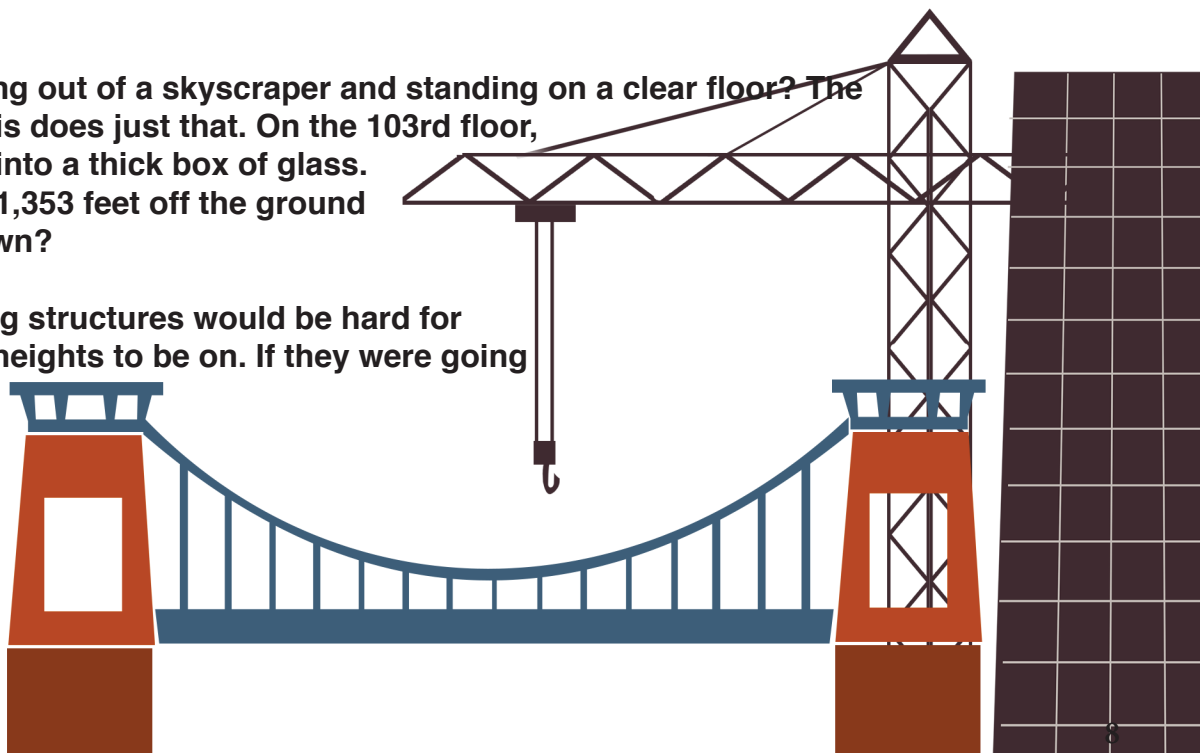
**PP** 1. This is the Khalifa Tower. It is (as of 2013) the tallest man-made structure in the entire world. It is in Dubai and is 2,722 ft tall. That is over  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles high. How would you like to clean the windows on this building? It takes 36 workers 3-4 months to clean all the windows.

**PP** 2. This is called the Big Shot and it is a ride in Las Vegas, Nevada that shoots you 160 feet in the air and then drops you. In fact, you get to do this twice. This ride is unique because the ride is on top of a 921-foot high platform. So at the top of the ride you are 1,081 feet high. All this with your legs dangling freely.

Another ride on top of the Stratosphere is the XScream where riders are dangled over the side of the tower. They are pulled back and then dangled over the side again. How many of you would be scared if you rode that ride?

**PP** 3. How about walking out of a skyscraper and standing on a clear floor? The Ledge in Chicago, Illinois does just that. On the 103rd floor, you can walk out 4 feet into a thick box of glass. Can you imagine being 1,353 feet off the ground and looking straight down?

All three of these soaring structures would be hard for someone with a fear of heights to be on. If they were going to be able to go up high





in the Khalifa Tower, ride the XScream or the Big Shot, or walk out onto The Ledge, they would have to conquer their fear.

To conquer means to overcome something. Conquering fear of heights would mean to overcome the fear and be able to go up in a high building and look out the window or step out onto an observation deck looking down. It means that the fear does not have control anymore.

Jesus, as the Lion of Judah, conquered death. He died on the cross for our sins, however, He was resurrected. When He overcame death, He made a way for all of us to overcome death too. We will all physically die one day. However, that will not be the end. We will live with Him forever in heaven if we have accepted Him as our Savior.

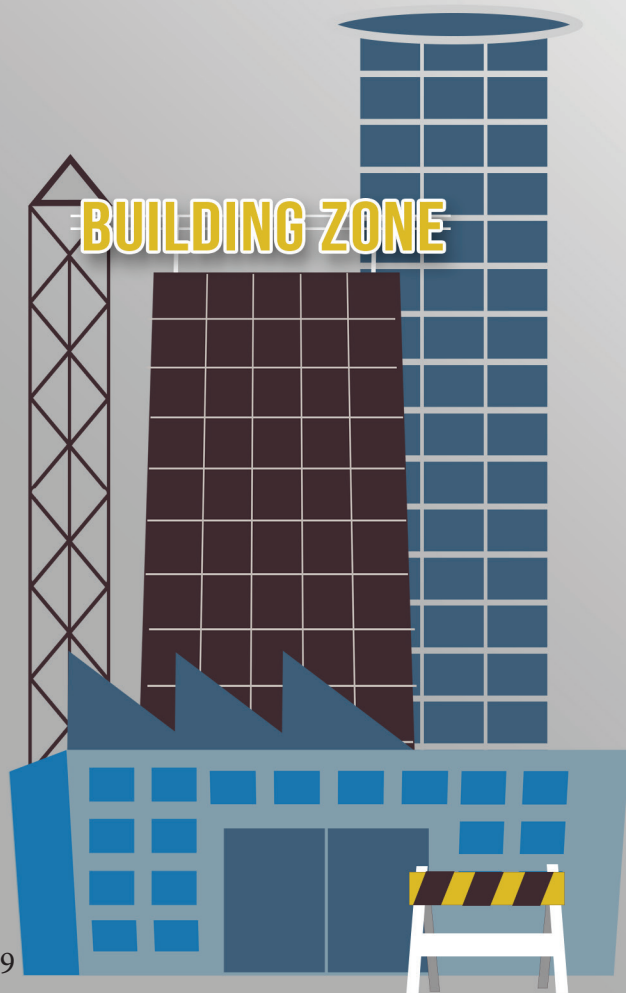
Death does not control us anymore because Jesus conquered it. We can live knowing that one day we will be with Jesus forever. We can enjoy the time we have here on earth knowing that there will be something even greater for us one day-being with Jesus.

## BUILDING THE STRUCTURE: TALLEST TOWER PP

**Supplies:** Legos (or other building materials), cardboard

**Preparation:** Cut a cardboard square for each team to build a tower on.

Divide the kids into teams. Each team builds the highest tower possible without falling down. Once the towers are made, the teams should move their piece of cardboard back and forth gently shaking the tower. Will it withstand being shaken?



Sometime in life we are “shaken.” Things happen that we do not expect. Sometimes those things are big things and sometimes they are small things. Can you think of some things that have shaken you? (Give the kids an opportunity to answer. You might have to give them some direction: going to a new school, a younger sibling tearing up a favorite toy, a pet dying.)

Some things that shake us are things that we can get over quickly. Other things change our lives so it is harder to deal with them.

Whenever our lives are shaken, we can remember that Jesus, as the Lion of Judah, is powerful. He has the power to help us through whatever situation we may be in. He might not “fix” things the way we want them fixed, however, He will help us overcome fear and anxiety and sadness. When we are shaken, we can ask Him to help us and He will. He might bring a friend to help us feel better. He might remind us of how much He loves us. He will be with us through whatever hard things there are and will never leave us. When we are sad, He knows and cares about us. We can trust Jesus, the Lion of Judah, to powerfully help us overcome our problems and to conquer any fears we have with them.

# DEBRIEFING

## THE BUILDING LAB: SPONGE TOWERS

**Supplies:** Household sponges (rectangular)

**Preparation:** Cut sponges into one inch wide rectangular pieces.

Divide the kids into small groups. Have them work together to build a tower with the sponges. Start with a square for the base and layer the sponges going up. After the tower is built, have them take turns removing one piece at a time, trying to keep the tower from falling.

Talk with the kids about the importance of having a strong foundation to build their life on. Jesus, as the Lion of Judah, is that foundation. He is powerful to guide them when their towers are shaken.

## CRAFT: LION OF JUDAH NOTEHOLDER

**Supplies:** glue, yellow cardstock, orange yarn, google eyes, black marker, two clothespins

**Preparation:** Cut the yellow cardstock into circles with a 3 inch diameter.

Cut the orange yarn in 1-2 inch pieces. Glue around the circle to make a mane. Glue the google eyes on the face. Draw a nose and mouth. Glue the two clothespins (the closed ends) to either side of the circle on the opposite side of the face. Stand up the lion on the clothespins (legs). Open the clothespins to hold notes.

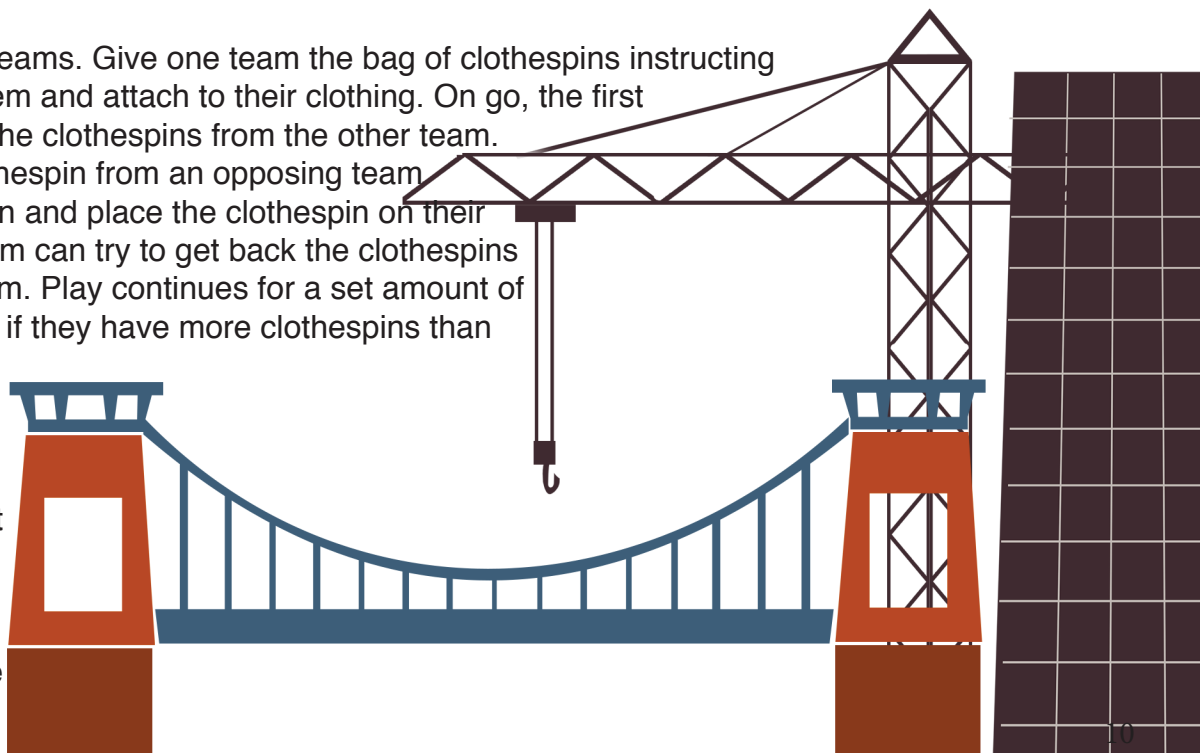
## GAME: CLOTHESPIN CONQUER

**Supplies:** bag of clothespins

Divide the kids into two teams. Give one team the bag of clothespins instructing them to evenly divide them and attach to their clothing. On go, the first team tries to take away the clothespins from the other team.

When they snatch a clothespin from an opposing team member, they kneel down and place the clothespin on their clothing. The second team can try to get back the clothespins that were taken from them. Play continues for a set amount of time. The first team wins if they have more clothespins than the second team.

Talk about how the first team had to overcome the second team and get the clothespins in order to conquer them. What did Jesus have to overcome to become the conquering Lion of Judah?



# BIBLE MEMORY: UNCOVERING THE VERSE

“Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” Revelation 5:5

**Supplies:** poster board, markers, 12 sheets of colored paper, two dice

**Preparation:** Write the numbers 1-12, one numeral per paper, on the 12 sheets of colored paper. Write the verse on the poster board in large letters. Cover the poster board using 12 sheets of paper (cut the paper to fit the poster board.)

The kids will take turns rolling the dice. Whichever number they roll, they take the piece of paper off the board. After all the pieces are off the board, practice saying the verse.

Reverse the game, placing the pieces of paper back on the board one by one. Say the verse after each piece of paper is placed.

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

**Supplies:** Copy of questions for each small group

1. How does the lion symbolize Jesus?
2. What does it mean that Jesus is the Lion of Judah? How did he come from Judah?
3. How is Jesus powerful like a lion?
4. What does it mean that Jesus conquered death?
5. Who is Jesus' enemy? How did He conquer His enemy?
6. How does Jesus' power help us when we are shaken by life?
7. Can you share a time when your life was shaken? Do you remember Jesus helping you?

## SNACK: LION FACE

**Supplies:** Cheez-its, bread, raisins, string cheese, plate, round cookie cutter (or drinking glass)

Cut a circle out of the bread. Place the circle in the middle of the plate. Make a face using raisins and string cheese. Use Cheez-its around the face for a mane. Cut ears out of left over parts of the bread.

Review why the lion symbolizes the name, Lion of Judah.

## BUILDING THE NAME CARDS

**Supplies:** printed card for each child, markers or crayons (optional)

**Name:** Lion of Judah

**Symbol:** lion

**Verse:** Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals. Revelation 5:5

Give each child the card. If using the coloring cards, use markers or crayons to decorate them. Go over the verse together and review the symbol.

# SUPPLY LIST

**MINUTE TO BUILD IT:** ☐ Fifteen empty soda cans ☐ Four paper plates

**ARCHIE AND CONRAD:** ☐ Blocks ☐ String ☐ Small action figure

**DISCOVERING THE PLAN:** ☐ Box of design materials (Tinker toys, Legos, pipe cleaners, rubber bands, paper, blocks) ☐ Sign “Lion of Judah”

**BIBLE STORY:** ☐ None

**BUILDING THE STRUCTURE:** ☐ Legos (or other building materials) ☐ Cardboard

**THE BUILDING LAB:** ☐ Household sponges (rectangular)

**CRAFT:** ☐ Glue ☐ Yellow cardstock ☐ Orange yarn ☐ Google eyes ☐ Black marker ☐ Two clothespins

**GAME:** ☐ Bag of clothespins

**BIBLE MEMORY:** ☐ Poster board ☐ Markers ☐ 12 sheets of colored paper ☐ Two dice

**EXPRESS YOURSELF:** ☐ Copy of questions for each small group

**SNACK:** ☐ Cheez-its ☐ Bread ☐ Raisins ☐ String cheese ☐ Plate ☐ Round cookie cutter (or drinking glass)

**BUILDING THE NAME CARDS:** ☐ Printed card for each child ☐ Markers or crayons (optional)

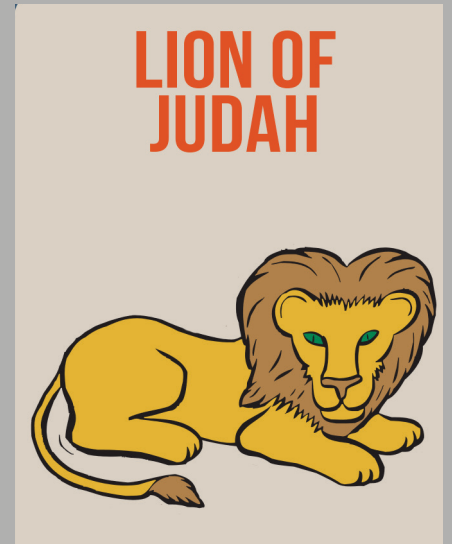


# SOARING STRUCTURES: BUILDING FAMILY TIME

**MAIN POINT:** Jesus, the Lion of Judah, conquered death.

**BIBLE VERSE:** Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals. Revelation 5:5

**BIBLE STORY:** Tribe of Judah, Genesis 49; Opening the Scroll Revelation 5:1-5



## Family Imaginative Thinking:

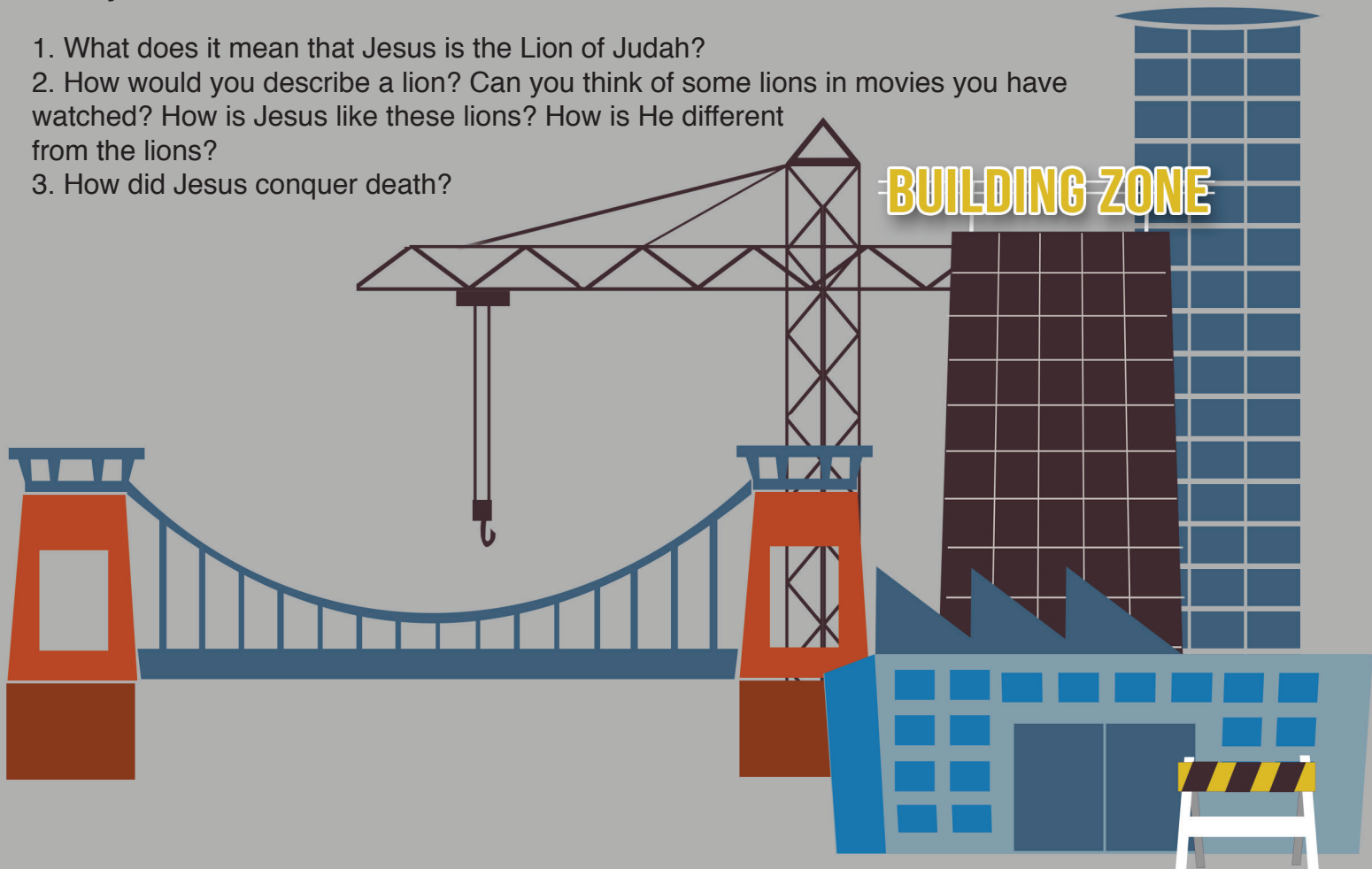
Lions are powerful. They are also known as the king of the jungle. Take turns being the “king of the home” or the “lion of the home.” How would you be powerful? How did Jesus show His power as the Lion of Judah?

## Family Building Activity:

Work together to conquer gravity by building a tower as high as possible using the power of your imagination and reasoning skills. Use any materials found around the home. Where did Jesus’ power to conquer come from?

## Family Discussion:

1. What does it mean that Jesus is the Lion of Judah?
2. How would you describe a lion? Can you think of some lions in movies you have watched? How is Jesus like these lions? How is He different from the lions?
3. How did Jesus conquer death?



## **EXPRESS YOURSELF**

- 1. What does it mean to be Lord?**
- 2. How does Jesus become Lord of our lives?**
- 3. What things do we sometimes act like might be lord to us instead of Jesus? (What might rule our lives?)**
- 4. What can we do to remind us that Jesus is Lord?**
- 5.. What do you think it would have been like to be there at the Day of Pentecost?**
- 6. Do you think anything happened on the Day of Pentecost that helped people make Jesus Lord of their life? (Think about the Holy Spirit.)**
- 7. How does the Holy Spirit help us today to live in a way that Jesus is Lord of our life?**



**LION OF JUDAH**



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