

2025/26 Sunday school Year - Lesson 25

GOD'S TEMPLE

RCCG The Sanctuary, Stratford, London

TEXT: 1 COR. 6:16-20

Memory Verse: Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? – 1 Cor. 3:16



OUTLINES

- INTRODUCTION & TEXT REVIEW
- THE BELIEVER'S BODY
- REASONS BELIEVERS ARE GOD'S
TEMPLE
- CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION & TEXT REVIEW

- In the Old Testament, the temple of God was a physical structure in Jerusalem, a sacred place where God's presence dwelled
- The Greek word for "temple" is 'naos, meaning the dwelling place of God
- In the New Testament, however, the temple is no longer a building but the physical body of every believer
- When we surrender our lives to Jesus Christ, our body becomes His temple, and our heart becomes His throne - **1 Cor. 3:16**
- **Text Review: 1 Cor. 6:16-20**

THE BELIEVER'S BODY

- The apostle Paul profoundly describes the Church as the body of Christ and a sacred temple where God dwells.
- He calls the Church “*a holy temple in the Lord,*” emphasising its unity as a spiritual family and dwelling place for God’s presence - **Eph. 2:19-22**
- As believers, we are not just part of this collective temple but are individual temples of the Holy Spirit “*Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit?*” - **1 Cor. 6:19**
- He warns that defiling God’s temple invites His judgement - **1 Cor. 3:17**

THE BELIEVER'S BODY

- We become God's temple through spiritual re-birth, as His Spirit comes to dwell within us - **John 3:3-7; 2 Cor. 6:16**
- This transformation makes us new creations in Christ, called to glorify God both in body and spirit - **1 Cor. 6:19-20**
- It is a dangerous deception to believe that God only cares about our hearts while our bodies are inconsequential:
 - Such thinking leads to practices that dishonour the temple God has made sacred.
 - Our lives - body, soul, and spirit, must reflect His holiness as His presence within us calls for reverence and obedience - **1 Thess. 5:23**

For Discussion

What should a believer do
in order to keep God's
temple clean?

REASONS BELIEVER'S ARE GOD'S TEMPLE

Here are some reasons why believers are God's temple:

- **His Spirit dwells in us - 1 Cor. 3:16**
- **Christ's sacrifice - They have been purchased by Christ's sacrifice - 1 Cor. 6:19-20**
- **God lives among His people - 2 Cor. 6:16**
- **A Spiritual house - Believers are built into a spiritual house where God's Spirit resides - Eph. 2:22**

REASONS BELIEVER'S ARE GOD'S TEMPLE

- **God's Priests** - Believers serve as a holy priesthood offering acceptable sacrifices to God - **1 Peter 2:5**
- **Call to Holy Living** - Being God's temple calls believers to live holy lives, reflecting God's holiness - **1 Cor. 3:17**
- **For inward transformation** - As God's dwelling place, believers are transformed into His likeness, with His glory revealed through them - **2 Cor. 3:18**

These points emphasise the profound identity and responsibility of believers as God's temple, they showcase the holy connection between God and His people

CONCLUSION

Being the temple of God is not merely a symbolic idea; it is a profound reality that demands we live in purity, honour, and submission, offering ourselves as vessels for His glory