



"And now I am no more in the world,  
but these are in the world..." (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance  
of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®  
or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

### **THE END OF THE ROAD**

The life of a presidential primary candidate is like taking an arduous journey. The candidate has a series of temporary homes as he or she travels around the country. Only one candidate will make it to the end of the road—the White House. In this year's contests, the candidate shakeout in both parties has begun. Jeb Bush announced on February 20 that he was suspending his campaign. He was preceded by Jim Webb (October 20, 2015), John Gilmore (February 12), Carly Fiorina and Chris Christie (February 10), Rick Santorum (February 3), Martin O'Malley, Rand Paul, and Mike Huckabee (February 1).

### **THE BEGINNING OF A NATION**

The Festival of Tabernacles is an annual reminder to the Jewish people of the toilsome trek to the promised land that their ancestors endured. The Scriptures command that the people of Israel remember the struggles endured by the Hebrews of the past by living in temporary structures for a week.

1. Imagine the life of a presidential candidate. What aspects of conducting a nationwide political campaign do you think would be most difficult for you personally? Explain.
2. When choosing to suspend a political campaign, candidates often thank those who were by their side during that campaign. How does the Festival of Tabernacles not only commemorate the journey to the promised land, but also the one who was with them each step of the way?
3. The Festival of Tabernacles is not just about the difficulty of the journey, but also about the joy of the journey. How was that expressed? Why are both important to recognize?
4. What value do you find in holiday celebrations that remind you of significant events of the past? Tell the class about ones that have special meaning to you.

—Charles R. Boatman

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