

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Finding Happiness,” the High School Sunday school lesson for June 7, 2015. The lesson is found on page 5 of *High School Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

# the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

Versailles is a famous French palace, rich in history and significance. It is also the name David and Jackie Siegel have given their Orlando super-mansion, due to be completed by 2017. When the billionaire couple started building their 90,000 square foot property in 2006, they dreamed it would be the largest and most expensive single-family home in the nation. And it looks like they’ll be right—at least for now.

When completed, the home will boast nine kitchens, numerous indoor and outdoor swimming pools, spas, and 14 bedrooms. Oh yes, and a roller-skating rink. Jackie’s bedroom closet alone will be larger than 4,000 square feet—the size of a football field (not counting the end zones). The Siegels will be able to entertain up to 1,000 people inside their home, in addition to the outdoor spaces. “We are going to have other structures on the property, too, like our guardhouse and things like that,” Jackie explains.

So when she packed her bags to appear on an episode of *Celebrity Wife Swap*, the “Queen of Versailles” was in for quite a culture shock. “I was totally not prepared,” she admits. “I mean, I packed fur coats and, like, one of my best minks, a white fur mink.” She ended up spending a week on an Oklahoma farm as part of the show.

Her husband, David, is the founder and CEO of Westgate Properties, the biggest timeshare company in the world. When the recession hit, he opted to hold off on constructing the home so that he wouldn’t have to lay off any of his employees. He and Jackie cut back on expenses such as hired house staff and shopping. But all that is behind them now, and it’s full speed ahead.

“I have to figure out if I need to . . . start knocking down walls this way, and expanding the closet,” jokes Jackie. “As each of the [9] kids move out, maybe I’ll just start knocking down their bedroom walls and let the closet keep growing.”

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:*

**What is your first impression of this couple and their home?**

**Why do you think people would want to build a house so large?**

**Why do you think Jackie’s closet is so important to her? What does it tell you about her?**

**There are all kinds of things that we think we can’t live without, things that make us happy. But the Bible tells us that we should look to God for the things that really matter. Let’s talk more about it.**

*You can find photos of the home and its owners by visiting [www.Google.com](http://www.Google.com) and searching “Queen of Versailles house.”*



MEETING GOD FACE-TO-FACE

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