



AUGUST 10, 2025

SOLOMON BUILT THE TEMPLE

1 KINGS 6-8

CHRIST CONNECTION

Solomon built the temple, but he knew that the fullness of God did not live there. **Jesus is the fullness of God, and He came to dwell on earth** (John 1:14). Only those who trust in Him will be forgiven of their sin and live with God forever.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What does God know? God knows everything.

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 3:7

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In 1 Kings 6-8, Solomon embarked on the project his father, David, had first envisioned: building a temple for God. It was no small task, yet Solomon set out to create a place for God to dwell with His people. Though the fullness of our omnipresent God cannot be contained by manmade structures, the temple represents a greater fulfillment: God would send His Son to live, die, and rise again so that God's people would dwell in His presence forever.

What was the temple's purpose? Why do we no longer need the temple today?

Solomon built the temple as a place for God's people to worship and experience His presence—similar to the role the tabernacle had previously held for Israel. The temple was a reminder of God's promise to never leave or forsake Israel and to remain faithful to His covenant promises. Because Solomon sought to honor the Lord as holy, he spent seven years thoughtfully and intricately designing the temple's every detail.

Solomon dedicated the temple to the Lord and blessed Israel as they stood before it. He recalled God's faithfulness in rescuing their ancestors from Egypt and then in establishing the throne of his father David. Solomon prayed to the Lord, esteeming Him as the gracious God who keeps His promises. Solomon recognized God's glory and might, stating that He could not be contained by a manmade temple. Solomon asked the Lord to hear their prayers, forgive them, righteously judge them, and uphold their cause for His glory. Lastly, Solomon urged Israel to be devoted to God's ways.

In Jesus, we see the fulfillment of God's promise to dwell among His people. Jesus came to earth to provide the way for God's people to worship Him in Spirit and in truth wherever they are. Before Jesus' ascension, He promised His followers that the Holy Spirit would come, giving them power to share the gospel and follow Jesus' commands. Now, believers become living temples of God, indwelt by the Holy Spirit and being built up together into one house of worship (1 Peter 2:5).

Lead boys and girls to see that Jesus has made the way for believers to dwell with God forever. Remind kids that Christians can worship God anywhere through His Spirit living in them and that one day, God's people will worship Him face to face.

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or review the memory verse as a group!

MEMORY VERSE

Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

Proverbs 3:7, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's Memory Verse bin to review the verse with the kids. A hand motion video is also available to learn and review on your room's TV.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on August 31!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

SOLOMON BUILT THE TEMPLE

Solomon had been king for four years when he began to build the temple for the Lord. He planned to build a big, beautiful building made of the finest materials for God to dwell permanently with His people.

God said to Solomon, "If you obey my commandments, I will fulfill my promise to you that I made to your father David. I will dwell with my people and not abandon them."

The ark of the Lord's covenant would be in the innermost part of the temple. Solomon overlaid everything in this part of the temple with pure gold, including the altar. He also made two huge statues of cherubim (a type of angel) that were overlaid with gold. It was a beautiful space for the ark of the Lord's covenant.

Solomon hired a man named Hiram to create objects out of pure bronze for the temple. Hiram made pillars, a large basin, water carts, and more out of bronze. Everything he made was beautifully decorated with pomegranates, lilies, lions, oxen, and angels.

Solomon gathered all of Israel to bring the ark of the Lord's covenant into the temple, to the most holy place beneath the wings of the cherubim. When the priests came out of the holy place, the glory of the Lord filled the temple. Solomon said, "I have built an exalted temple for You, God, a place for You to live forever."

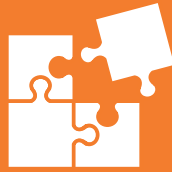
King Solomon turned around and blessed all of Israel, saying, "The Lord has fulfilled what He promised. I sit on the throne of Israel, and I have built the temple for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel."

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord, and spread out his hands toward heaven, and prayed to God: "Lord God of Israel, there is no god like You. You have kept what You promised to my father David. But will God live on earth? Even the highest heaven cannot contain You, much less this temple I have built. Please hear the prayers of Your people when they pray toward this place. May You hear in Your dwelling place in heaven and answer. When Your people sin against You—for there is no one who does not sin—when they return to You with all their heart and all their soul, may You forgive Your people who sinned against You and may You grant them compassion."

CHRIST CONNECTION

Solomon built the temple, but he knew that the fullness of God did not live there. **Jesus is the fullness of God, and He came to dwell on earth** (John 1:14). Only those who trust in Him will be forgiven of their sin and live with God forever.

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY

Pass out the various craft supplies provided and instruct kids to build the temple and the items found at the temple. This is a group activity, so encourage kids to work together to make the various parts.

Once they're done, display the items in the room or the hallway for parents to see when they come to pick up their kids!

CONNECT THE DOTS



Today we learned that Solomon built a temple for God to dwell—or be—with His people. Solomon took great care to lead workers to build the temple for God's glory. There's no temple like that today, because we don't need one for God to be with His people. When we put our faith in Jesus, the Holy Spirit—God—dwells in us!

CONNECT THE DOTS



The Bible is so important because it's the Word of God! It's a big book that can be hard to understand sometimes, which is why we want to grow in our Bible skills! By growing in these skills, we can better understand God's Word and learn where to turn to find the truth of who God is and how much He loves us.

BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

On the TV in your room, open the file labeled "Old or New Testament?".

You can either divide kids into two teams or have them all work together as one big team. On each slide, there will be a book of the Bible. As a team, kids will decide whether the book is in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Encourage them to try without using a Bible for help!

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. Why wasn't the temple a permanent place for God to live?
2. What was the most special part of the temple? Why?
3. How can we live with God forever?
4. Is a church the only place we can worship God? Why not?
5. Do we have to wait until we get to heaven to experience God's presence? Why not?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the "extra time" folder on the TV.

If there's a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!