

August 17-18, 2019

4th-5th Lesson

Unit 12, Session 3

Solomon Built the Temple

1 Kings 6-8

Story Point: God led His people to build a temple where He would dwell with them.



Open your Bible and read aloud 1 Kings 6-8, or tell the story from the following Bible story script.

Solomon was the king of Israel after his father, David, died. God made Solomon very wise. **Solomon began to build a temple for the Lord. Solomon ordered thousands of workers to help build the temple.** They cut cedar logs and stone blocks. **They laid a foundation and built the outside of the temple.**

God blessed the temple and promised Solomon, “If you obey My commands, I will keep the promise I made to David. I will live among the Israelites, and I will not abandon My people.”

The temple was built in seven years. It was beautiful! The cedar paneling inside the temple was carved with ornamental gourds and flower blossoms. **Solomon overlaid everything inside the temple with pure gold. He hired men to make bronze furnishings for the temple,** such as bronze bowls for holding water.

When the temple was complete, Solomon moved the ark of God from its place on Mount Zion to the new temple in Jerusalem. Solomon gathered the leaders of Israel. As the priests moved the ark to the most holy place in the temple, King Solomon and the leaders sacrificed sheep and cattle to the Lord.

When the priests came out of the temple, a cloud filled the temple. God’s glory was in the cloud. Solomon turned to speak to the Israelites. “Praise God!” he said. “God promised David that his son would build a temple. God kept His promise!”

Solomon stood and prayed with his hands spread out toward heaven. “There is no God like You!” he said. Then **Solomon thought about the future. He knew Israel would sin and make God angry again; so Solomon asked for forgiveness, and he asked God to hear their prayers.**

When Solomon had finished praying, he encouraged the Israelites to love and obey God. The people returned to their homes, joyful because God was good to them.

Christ Connection: The temple was a place where God was with His people. The people could go there to make sacrifices and worship God. Today, when we trust in Jesus, He is with us wherever we go. We can look to Him for forgiveness and help.

Supplies: 2 brown t-shirts, 1 brown felt, 1 yellow felt, 1 green felt, 1 red felt, 2-3 Bibles per group, permanent markers 2-3 per group, 4 popsicle sticks, 1 hula hoop per group

Opening Activities



INTRODUCE the Story

WELCOME TIME

Intro Music

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to talk about the biggest building they've ever visited. Where was it? How tall was it?

Optional Activity: Dwelling drawings

Supplies: paper, crayons or markers, rulers

Provide paper, rulers, and crayons or markers for kids to draw pictures of their dream homes. Kids may choose to illustrate the outside of the home, or they may wish to draw blueprint plans to show rooms and furnishings inside the home.

After several minutes, invite volunteers to share about their drawings. Ask kids to describe what types of materials might be required to build their dream homes and how long construction might take.

- What materials do you think people used to build in Bible days?
- How long do you think it took King Solomon to build a temple?

[*Show the countdown video to transition to Large Group.*] [Video: Countdown](#)

Large Group

Large Group Game: Order Up

It is time for another game and this one is super fun (and super fun to watch)! But first, I need 6 boys and 6 girls. [*Choose 6 kids per team and give each one 1 item. If they're given a t-shirt, instruct them to put it on over their clothes. If they're given one of the giant felt items, instruct them to hold it out.*]

OK, this game is called Order up! Each of you represents a different part of a delicious hamburger. For example, you guys [*pointing out the t-shirt kids*] are the buns of the burger. You [*brown felt*] are the patty, you [*yellow felt*] are the cheese etc... When the game starts, we are going to put an order of a burger up on the screen and you teams will race to arrange that burger in exactly the same order - from bottom to top. For example:

[CG: Plain Burger Example Order](#)

Let's say we put this order on the screen. It says "Plain Burger" and has a picture of a bottom bun, a patty and then a top bun. So one of the bun t-shirt kids would have to jump on the ground, then whoever has the patty has to lay that on top and then the last bun t-shirt kid jumps on top of that. If you see an order that does NOT include your item, you just stand to the side. Whichever team does that first gets a point and whoever has the most points at the end wins. Any questions? OK, let's play Order up!

[CG: Vegan Burger](#)

[CG: Carb-Free Burger](#)

[CG: Cheese Burger](#)

[CG: Weird Burger](#)

[CG: Everything Burger](#)



Worship

Song: The River
Song: O Taste & See

That game was so fun! Let's all stand up and get ready to worship God by singing praises to Him. Each of us was made to love and worship God.

TEACH the Story

Great singing everyone! This month we are learning about wisdom. Wisdom is something we all need to live a life that brings us joy and pleases God. God made each us and he knows what we need better than anyone. The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues people through His Son, Jesus. [*Show the giant timeline as you point to today's Bible story.*]

CG: Giant Timeline

Solomon had been on the throne four years when he decided to build a temple for the Lord. There is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Read 1 Kings 6–8.

- What does this story teach us about God? CG: Question 1

God had met with His people for hundreds of years—ever since God led the Israelites out of Egypt. But God did not allow David to build Him a temple. Instead, when God made a covenant with David, God said that David's son would build the temple. We see in our Bible story that God kept His promise. God led His people to build a temple where He would dwell with them. **God wants to be with us!**

- What was the purpose of the temple? CG: Question 2

The temple was built for the Israelites to offer sacrifices and worship God. **The temple gave the people a more permanent place where they could worship God.**

CHRIST CONNECTION

The temple was a place where God was with His people. The people could go there to make sacrifices and worship God. Today, when we trust in Jesus, He is with us wherever we go. We can look to Him for forgiveness and help.



TEACH the Story

Big Picture Question

CG: Big Picture Question

What does God know? God knows everything about the past, present, and future.

PRAY

God, thank You for Your Word. You know everything about the past, present, and future. You are faithful and keep Your promises. We know that the temple did not contain You. You are so great! Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to take away our sin. We love You. Amen.

THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.



GOD RULES. Ask: “Who is in charge at home?” Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



WE SINNED. Ask: “Have you ever done something wrong?” Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES. Ask: “What is the best gift you’ve ever received?” Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: “Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus.” Read Romans 10:9-10.



Small Group

APPLY the Story

Big Picture Question

What does God know? God knows everything about the past, present, and future.

When the temple was completed, the people were joyful because God was good to them. The Bible says every good gift has come from God.

- Why do we worship in church buildings today instead of in a temple?
- How can you be a meaningful part of the church?

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to 1 Kings 8. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Kings 8:20,27. Remind kids that for hundreds of years—ever since God led the Israelites out of Egypt—He met with His people in the tabernacle. But when Solomon became king, God led His people to build a temple where He would dwell with them.

Choose another volunteer to read aloud 1 Kings 8:20,27 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. Why did Solomon want to build a temple for God?

Guide kids to recall that King David had wanted to build a temple to honor God. God had told King David that his son Solomon would build a temple. Solomon wanted to build the temple to honor God. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 Kings 5:2-5.)

2. The temple Solomon built was where people went to meet with God. Why don't people have to go to a temple now to meet with God?

Remind kids that because God is holy, sinful people could not approach His presence in the temple. The priest could approach God's presence and obtain forgiveness for people's sin. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid for our sin once and for all. When we trust in Him, we have forgiveness and can approach God on our own through prayer, Bible reading, and worship. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Hebrews 4:16.)

3. How do you feel about communicating with God?

Invite kids to share their thoughts and experiences. Emphasize that we can approach God as a loving Father. He loves His children. We can speak to God through prayer about anything. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read James 5:13.)



APPLY the Story

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Supplies: permanent marker, 2-3 per group, 4 popsicle sticks, 2-3 Bibles per group

Write phrases of the key passage on several popsicle sticks. Instruct kids to open their Bibles to James 1:5. Lead the kids to read the key passage together. Invite kids to arrange the sticks so the words of the key passage are in order.

Remind kids that wisdom is a gift from God. Memorizing His Word can help us become wise. Encourage kids who haven't yet memorized James 1:5 to practice this week.

PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, thanking God for the local church and asking God to make kids aware of His presence.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Working together

Supplies: hula hoop, 1 per group

Invite kids to form a circle. Place a hula hoop over one kid's arm and instruct everyone to join hands. Explain that they will need to work together to pass the hula hoop around the circle without letting go of anyone's hand. Keep track of the time it takes to pass the hula hoop around the circle. If you have a small group, try joining another small group for this activity.

If time allows, invite kids to try again, this time working together to beat the time. If you have a big group, form teams and invite teams to race against each other. Discuss how working together was helpful to accomplish this task. God's people had to work together to build His temple. Many things that God asks us to do are easier with other people. We best learn how to pray by praying with others. We can best help those in need by working together with people in our church. And we can help more people hear the amazing news of Jesus by helping and supporting other churches in our city.