

Solomon Builds The Temple

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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're learning another important lesson from Solomon. Remember, Solomon became king after David. When David was king, he really wanted to build a beautiful temple where people could go to worship God. But God told David that Solomon would get to be the one to build the temple. So, during Solomon's reign as king, he oversaw the building of this big, beautiful temple. The temple was important because it was where God's presence was felt most. There was a special room called the Most Holy of Holies that had a special box in it that contained the 10 Commandments. God's presence filled that special room. That might sound strange to us. We don't go to big temples to worship God anymore. You know why? Because of Jesus! When we put our trust in Jesus, he gives us the Holy Spirit who comes and lives in our hearts. So, God lives in our hearts! WE become like the temple where God dwells. We don't need to go to a building to find God. He is with us all of the time! So kids, if you haven't invited Jesus into your heart, do that today!

Big Idea

We don't need temples because God lives in our hearts.

Key Question

How do we invite Jesus to live in our hearts?

Memory Verse

1 Corinthians 3:17 "For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: If you could design your own house, what would it look like?** (Tip: Maybe you'll have a basketball court in the living room or a closet full of skittles! Solomon built a cool temple for God.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **By saying we're sorry and that we want to obey him.** (It's very simple. Trusting in Jesus means we recognize we have a sin problem, we tell Jesus that we're sorry for those sins, and then invite him to live in our hearts. Then, he helps us to live to honor him by obeying what the Bible says.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What do we need to do to invite Jesus into our hearts? What book helps us to honor God? **4-5th** What is sin and why is it a problem? How did Jesus fix that problem?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. Who gives us the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit help us to do?** (Answer: God gives us the Holy Spirit to help us to live to honor him. The Holy Spirit is God and he lives in our hearts to help us to know what's right and wrong. He gives us the strength to say "Yes" to God and "No" to sin.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to PursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: SOLOMON'S TEMPLE CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Temple template (page 5) and 3 pieces of card stock.
- Have the kids color the temple and then have them build the temple by standing the card stock pieces upright and taping them together at the corners making a U shape. Then, tape the temple to the front, closing up the U to be a square.
- As they work, remind the kids that Solomon wanted to build a temple for God. God's presence was felt there in a powerful way. But, because of Jesus, we don't need temples anymore. God lives in our hearts and we become his temple!

Supplies needed: Temple template (pg. 5, precut, 1 per kid), Card stock (cut into squares that fit the size of the Temple template, 3 per kid), Tape, Crayons

OPTION 2: BUILD A TEMPLE GAME

Instructions:

- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team 20 plastic solo cups and some construction paper. When you say, "Go!", have the teams race to build a creative building using the cups and paper provided. It can be tall or wide. Encourage them to be creative. Give them 3 minutes to complete. (If you feel like this might be too hard for the kids, you could build a temple as a class.)
- Then, read about the story from 1 Kings 5:3-5. Remind the kids that Solomon wanted to build a temple for God. God's presence was felt there in a powerful way. But, because of Jesus, we don't need temples anymore. God lives in our hearts and we become his temple!

Supplies needed: Plastic Solo cups (20 per group), Construction paper (a few pieces per group)



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God's presence used to live in a big shiny temple, but now it lives in us!

Key Points:

- David's job was to fight wars; Solomon's job was to build a _____.
- Solomon's temple was _____ and _____.
- Solomon's temple is where _____ presence lived.
- We don't need temples anymore because God lives in _____.

Memory Verse:

| 1 Corinthians 3:17 For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *If you could design your own house, what would it look like?*
3. *Who got to build God's temple? What was inside the special gold box?*
4. *Why don't we need temples today?*
5. *Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. Who gives us the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit help us to do?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture.

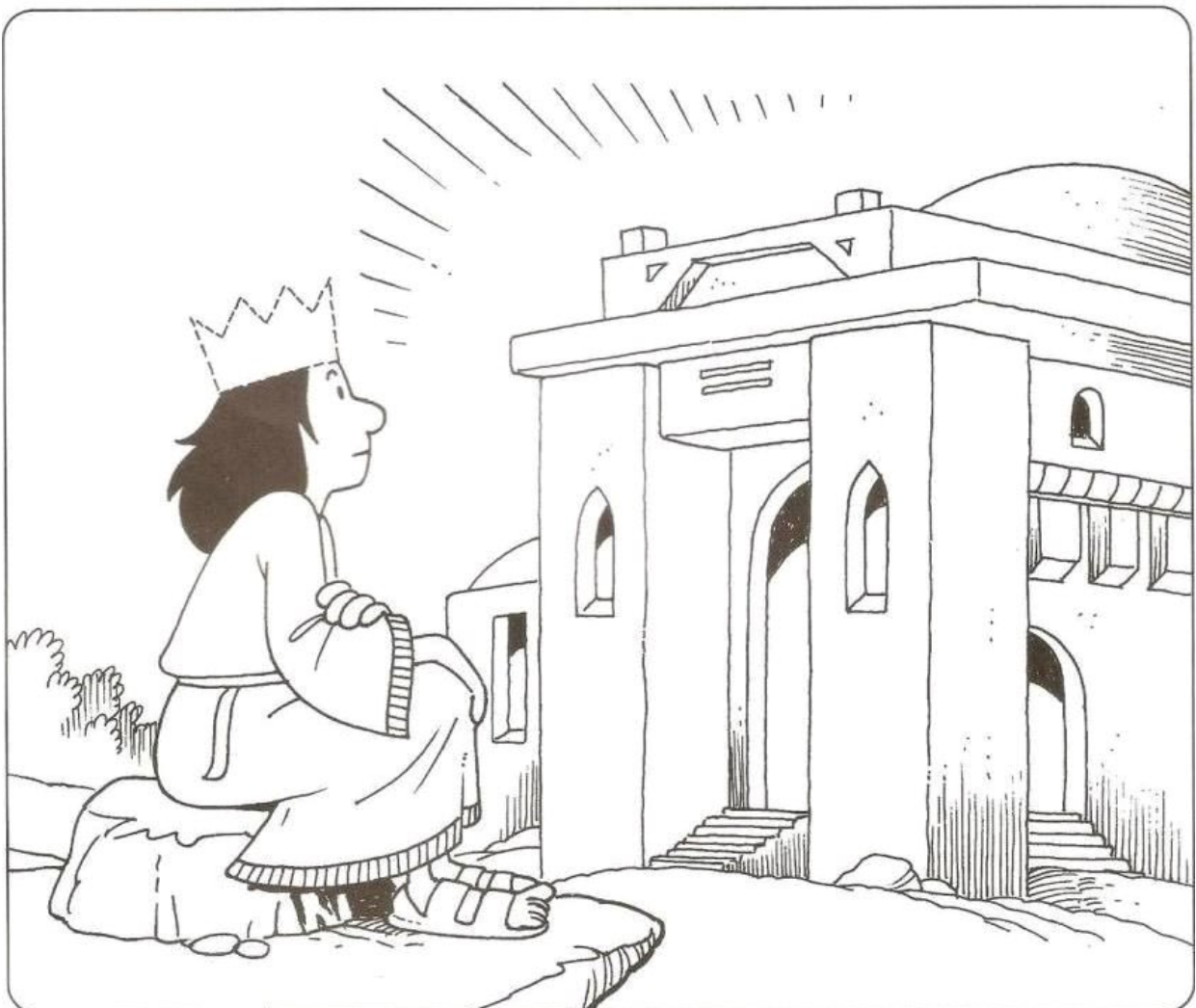
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