

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Key Verse:

“Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name.”

1 Kings 5:5

The Point:

We give the best of ourselves when we work to fulfill our callings.

Making Connections:

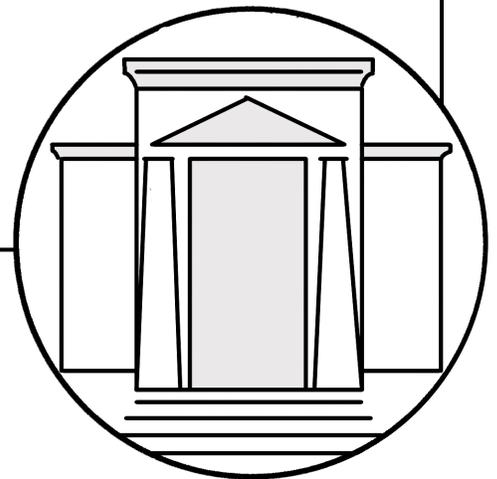
Called by God

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

The Temple

Spiritual Practice:

Service



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

Today we see how Solomon is called—invited by God—to continue his father David’s work in establishing the nation of Israel by creating a focus for Israel’s prayer and worship. Solomon builds the temple, and God honors his work by filling the completed space with almost unbearable glory.

Story Summary:

Solomon’s Temple

Today we learn that the people of Israel will not only be united under one king, but also in one permanent place of worship, the temple. For Israel, having a permanent central temple serves as a reminder that they have been chosen to be God’s people with the expectations for worship and service that comes with that honor.

God honors the temple by filling it with God’s presence. It is clear, though, that God’s presence is overwhelming for those present, and they can only bear it for a short time. This is a reminder that although we might build earthly spaces to honor God, and God honors our attempts at faithfulness, we can never truly contain or even understand all of God’s glory.

The people of Israel used the temple as to focus on their relationship with God. We do the same through our acts of individual and collective prayer. The more we are engaged with this kind of interaction with God, the more we see ourselves the way God sees us. We are no longer defined by our mistakes or failings. Instead, we realize that God is with us and loves us unconditionally.

The Point

We give the best of ourselves when we work to fulfill our callings. When we are truly allowing God to work through us to do the work God invites us to do—our callings—God molds us to be whom God has called us to be. We may try to utilize our gifts to the best of our own abilities, but when we allow God to utilize the gifts within us, we become something of almost unbearable beauty. It is only through God’s presence in our lives that we reach the fulfillment of our call as disciples.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

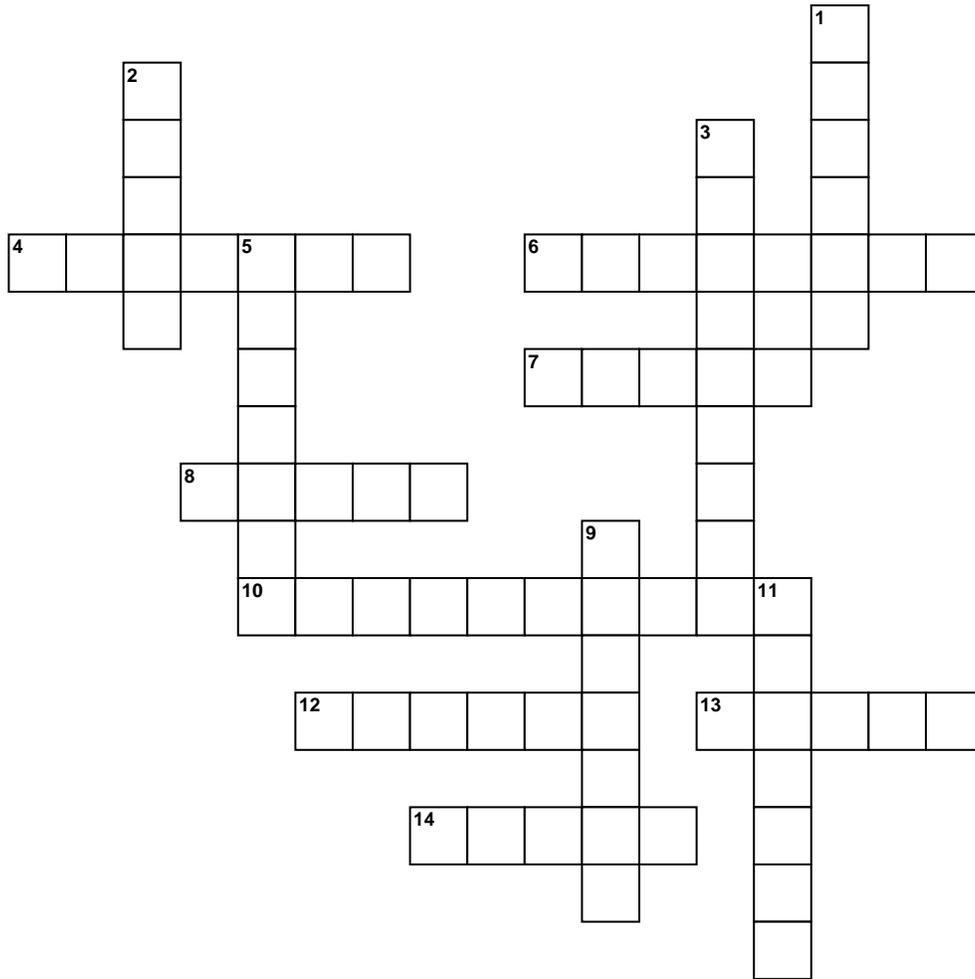
The Temple

According to the Bible, King Solomon built the temple as a replacement of the tabernacle—the holy worship tent that God commanded the Israelites to build at Mount Sinai—in order to provide a more permanent and centralized place of worship. This temple was also home to the Ark of the Covenant, which was likely later destroyed during the Babylonian conquest. While the temple is similar to our churches of today, there are also a number of differences. We will spend time comparing the temple to our church buildings.

Spiritual Practice: Service

We continue our focus on the spiritual practice of service. We recognize that God is present throughout our world and not only in our places of worship. However, in honor of our lesson today, we will discuss ways that we can serve in our own congregations.

Solomon's Temple

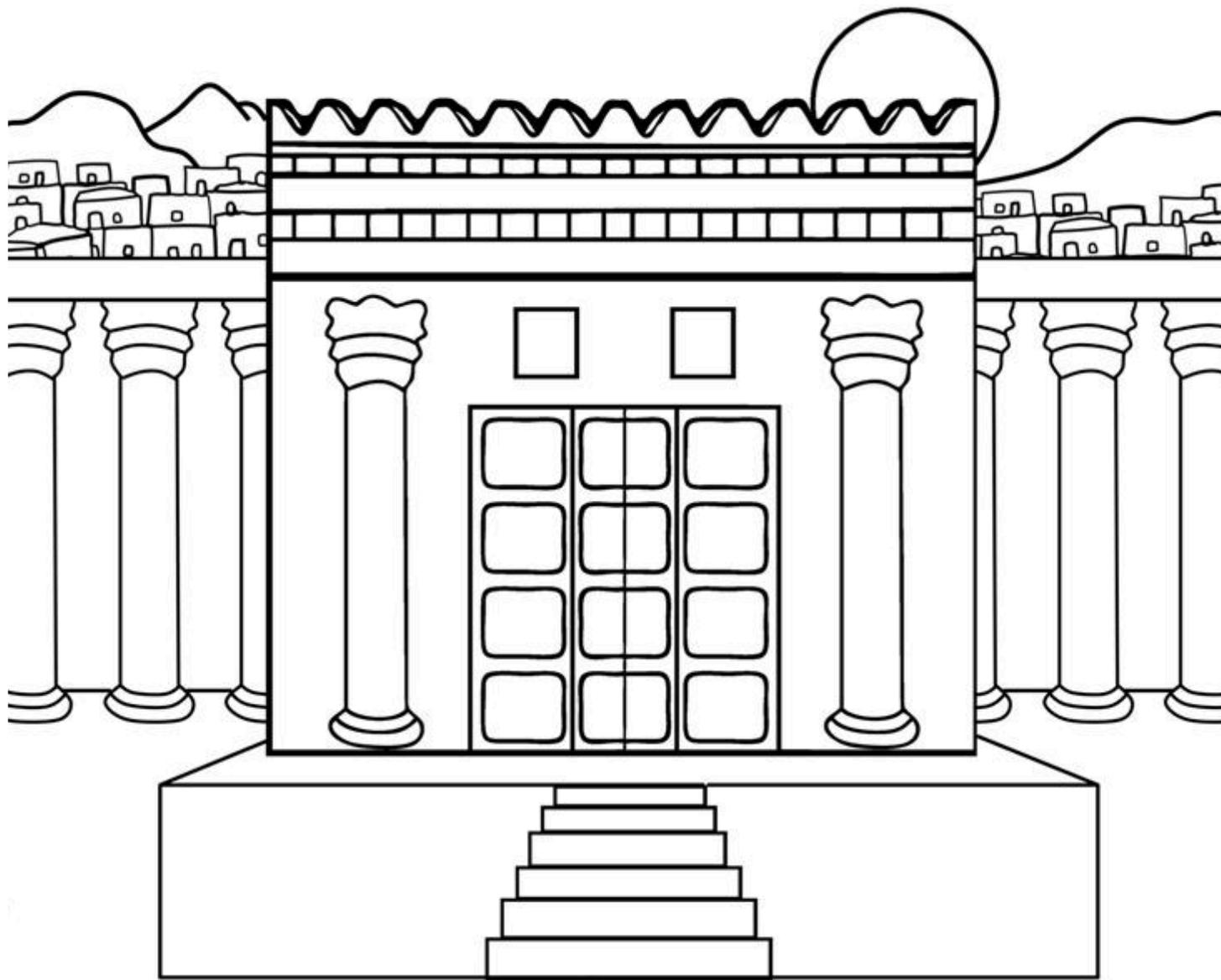


Across

- [4] Solomon prayed and _____ God.
- [6] The people praised God for _____ days before they returned home.
- [7] King _____ wanted to build a special place to worship God.
- [8] A talented man who could make beautiful things from bronze.
- [10] Gold _____ were made to give light in the temple.
- [12] The special place of worship was called a _____.
- [13] God's _____ filled the temple.
- [14] It took _____ years of hard work to finish the temple.

Down

- [1] The temple had many windows and beautiful _____ walls.
- [2] The workers cut _____ wood and stone to build the temple.
- [3] Solomon had _____ made for the temple.
- [5] David wanted the ark of God to have a _____ home.
- [9] Solomon had the floor _____ with gold.
- [11] God had chosen David's son, _____ to build the special place of worship.



THE WISE KING SOLOMON

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



THE WISE KING SOLOMON



Discover the hidden words.

S	O	L	O	M	O	N	I	O	D	A	V	I	D	T
F	V	M	N	E	F	M	U	H	U	N	E	K	H	R
K	O	J	V	E	V	T	C	J	E	V	P	G	M	N
I	K	E	N	G	O	E	W	O	E	V	I	O	Q	Z
N	L	T	H	R	E	M	S	B	R	E	L	D	E	W
G	P	O	Y	M	K	P	Z	L	W	S	X	E	M	O
Q	U	L	B	Z	X	L	S	D	I	L	G	U	W	S
I	N	X	E	F	R	E	L	O	W	D	Y	Y	U	A
A	I	O	W	I	S	D	O	M	S	R	N	M	N	C
C	S	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	G	E	U	I	N	R
T	H	F	F	E	W	X	L	N	D	A	V	J	N	I
Y	M	Z	G	Q	D	P	T	H	S	M	V	Q	X	F
J	E	H	V	U	U	C	R	E	X	Z	I	B	Q	I
E	N	N	W	F	A	T	H	E	R	V	J	Y	I	C
F	T	Q	H	E	V	I	E	F	E	D	G	S	S	E

Word Bank

SOLOMON
KING
DAVID
FATHER

TEMPLE
JOB
WISDOM
KINGDOM

SACRIFICE
DREAM
GOD
PUNISHMENT

Solomon's Wisdom

Unscramble each of the clue words.
Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

HATRE

LOEV

HIESRC
6 8

MDREA
4

HOONR
3

GINK
1 5

TYPGE

DOG

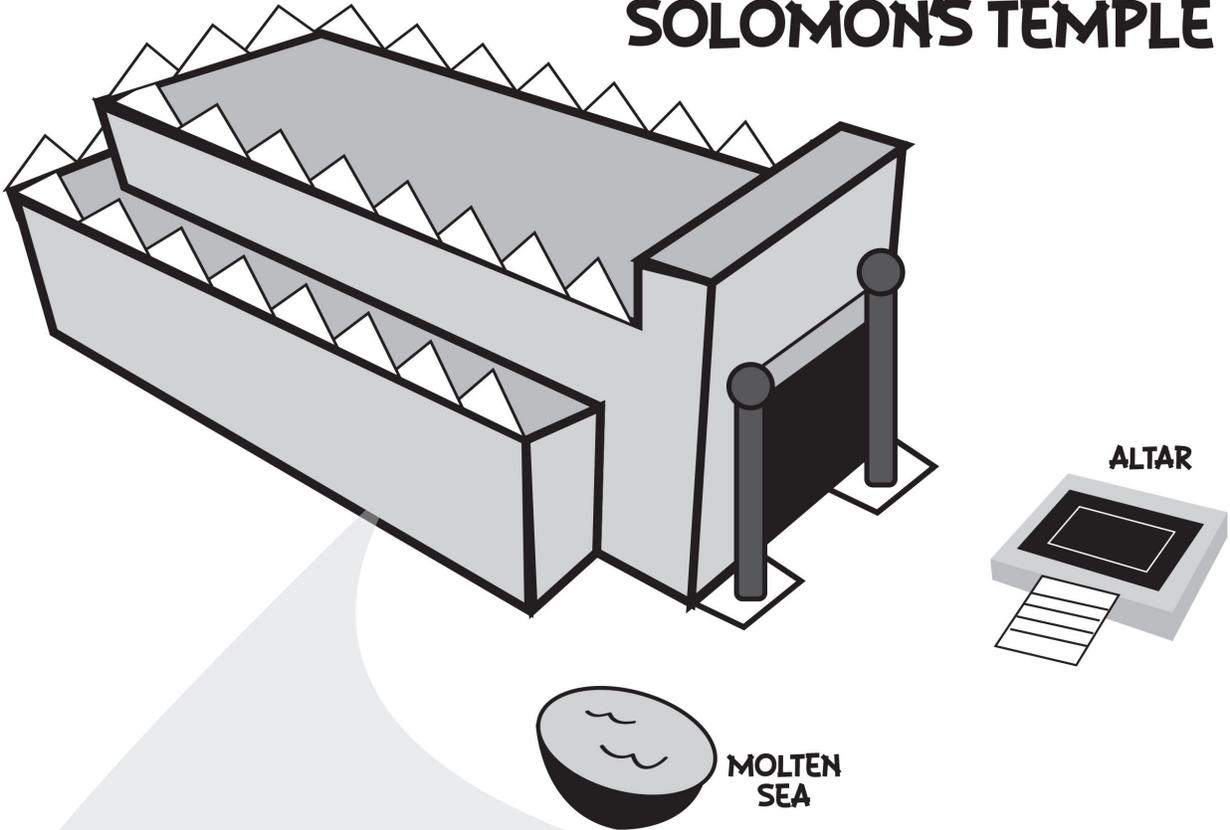
DOMSIW
2 7

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

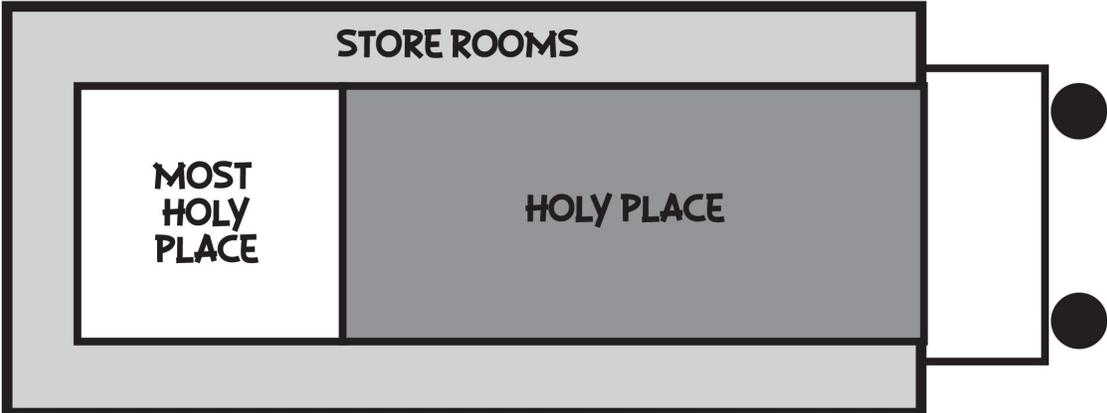


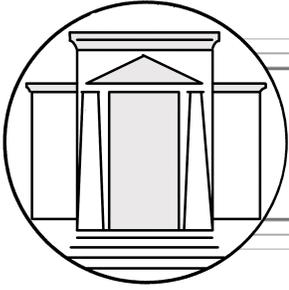
THE TEMPLE

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE



INSIDE





THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2025-2026)

Lesson #4-8
1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

LAST WEEK

The Israelites demanded a king, so God directed Samuel to anoint Saul as king over Israel. Saul failed, and so God sent Samuel to anoint a new king, a young man named David (1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14).

THIS WEEK

Solomon oversees the building of the temple, creating a permanent place for the Israelites to worship their God (1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13).

STORY SUMMARY

Solomon's Temple

The people of Israel were united under one king and in one permanent place of worship, the temple. For Israel, having a permanent central temple serves as a reminder that they have been called as God's chosen people with the expectations for worship and service that comes with that honor. God honors the temple by filling it with God's presence. But God's presence is overwhelming for those present, and they can only bear it for a short time. This is a reminder that although we might build earthly spaces to honor God, and God honors our attempts at faithfulness, we can never truly contain or even understand all of God's glory.

THE POINT

We give the best of ourselves when we work to fulfill our callings.

NEXT WEEK

The prophet Elijah finishes a competition between the Lord and the prophets of Baal and runs away from the queen's wrath. God takes care of him in the desert, and then visits in a still, small voice (1 Kings 19:1-18).

PRACTICE SERVICE

We continue our focus on the spiritual practice of service. We recognize that God is present throughout our world, and not only in our places of worship. How can your family volunteer to do something helpful for the church building itself?

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

The Temple

According to the Bible, King Solomon built the temple as a replacement of the tabernacle—the holy worship tent that God commanded the Israelites to build at Mount Sinai—in order to provide a more permanent and centralized place of worship. This temple was home to the Ark of the Covenant, which was likely later destroyed during the Babylonian conquest. While the temple is similar to our churches of today, there are also a number of differences.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- † Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- † What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- † What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

Solomon oversees the building of a permanent temple to worship God. Think of five ways you can see God’s light in each other.

Monday—Read 1 Kings 11:1-13

Even wise Solomon makes bad choices. Solomon had many wives who were not from Israel and did not serve Israel’s God. Talk about the friends you have and how important it is to have friends who help you grow in your relationship to God.

Tuesday—Read 1 Kings 11:41–12:19

Conflict divides the nation of Israel. Talk about things that you can do to help when your friends or family members are disagreeing.

Wednesday—Read 1 Kings 16:1-28

Ahab encounters a challenging situation. God is able to work for good for God’s people, even when we make mistakes and bad choices. How has God worked through or in spite of a mistake in your life?

Thursday—Read 1 Kings 16:29-34

Ahab becomes king and marries Jezebel. Ahab fell away from God. What are things in your life that may distract you from your relationship from God? Pray for forgiveness and strength.

Friday—Read 1 Kings 17:1-24

Elijah, the drought, and the widow of Zarephath. Have a ritual snack time. Take your time drinking the water, eat each bite slowly, and thanking God for providing it. Marvel at how God’s gifts to us never run out!

Saturday—Read 1 Kings 18:20-46

Elijah, the prophets of Baal, and the end of the drought. Draw pictures of the things that come between you and your relationship with God. Ask God for help in these areas. Optional: An adult can burn the pictures in a safe place.