

Solomon's Temple

Solomon's Temple was built to be the dwelling place of God Himself.



GOD'S STORY
THE TRANSFORMATION FOR ADULT LIFEGROUPS

1 Kings 5-8

July 12, 2020

(1 Kings 5:2-9) ² Solomon sent back this message to Hiram: ³ "You know that because of the wars waged against my father David from all sides, he could not build a temple for the Name of the Lord his God until the Lord put his enemies under his feet. ⁴ But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side, and there is no adversary or disaster. ⁵ I intend, therefore, to build a temple for the Name of the Lord my God, as the Lord told my father David, when he said, 'Your son whom I will put on the throne in your place will build the temple for my Name.' ⁶ "So give orders that cedars of Lebanon be cut for me. My men will work with yours, and I will pay you for your men whatever wages you set. You know that we have no one so skilled in felling timber as the Sidonians." ⁷ When Hiram heard Solomon's message, he was greatly pleased and said, "Praise be to the Lord today, for he has given David a wise son to rule over this great nation." ⁸ So Hiram sent word to Solomon: "I have received the message you sent me and will do all you want in providing the cedar and juniper logs. ⁹ My men will haul them down from Lebanon to the Mediterranean Sea, and I will float them as rafts by sea to the place you specify. There I will separate them and you can take them away. And you are to grant my wish by providing food for my royal household."

(1 Kings 6:11-13) ¹¹ The word of the Lord came to Solomon: ¹² "As for this temple you are building, if you follow my decrees, observe my laws and keep all my commands and obey them, I will fulfill through you the promise I gave to David your father. ¹³ And I will live among the Israelites and will not abandon my people Israel."

(1 Kings 8:27-30, 41-43) ²⁷ "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! ²⁸ Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. ²⁹ May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. ³⁰ Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive...⁴¹ "As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name— ⁴² for they will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when they come and pray toward this temple, ⁴³ then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

COMMUNITY – CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER

- What is the most amazing man-made structure that you have ever visited? What is it about the structure that you admire so much?
- Are there any buildings or monuments that are still on your "bucket list"?

CONTENT – EXPLORING GOD'S STORY

Have a volunteer read 1 Kings 5:2-9

- Why was Solomon able to build a Temple for the Lord when David wasn't?
- What do you think about Hiram's reaction to Solomon's proposed partnership in building the Temple?

Have a volunteer read 1 Kings 6:11-13

- Why do you think the Lord came to Solomon to remind him of the promises that He made to David? Though Solomon became unfaithful, would God still honor His promises to David?
- What are the exact promises that the Lord made to David?

Have a volunteer read 1 Kings 8:27-30, 41-43

- Why was the idea of God living on earth so far-fetched for Solomon? What is the astounding answer to this question?
- What was one of Solomon's hopes for the Temple? Why do you think Solomon was concerned with the "foreigner"?

COMMISSION – ENGAGING IN GOD'S STORY

- How does understanding the Lord's faithfulness to the House of David help us as a group today?
- What does studying passages like the dedication of Solomon's Temple teach us about the importance of Bible Study in small groups?
- Why might showing others that the Temple was meant to be a sign for the nations help us in sharing the gospel with them?

PRAYER: In a time of group prayer, ask the Father to help us have the wisdom to understand the Scriptures. Pray that the Father will help us see how the entirety of the Bible points us to the person of Jesus Christ.

CONTINUE TO JOURNEY THROUGH GOD'S STORY

Bible Reading Plan:

DAY 1 – Proverbs 1-2
 DAY 2 – Proverbs 3-4
 DAY 3 – Proverbs 16-18
 DAY 4 – Proverbs 31
 DAY 5 – 1 Kings 11-12

KEY VERSE: Proverbs 3:5-6

H.E.A.R. Method:

Highlight a verse or two.
 Explain what the text means.
 Apply the verse to your life.
 Respond to God.

Our team has put together Bible study resources to encourage and inspire you as you engage in God's Story. Visit chetscreek.com/gods-story for videos, study guides, and more.

OUR VISION

To be a church
 for the unchurched,
 here and around the world.

ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Gospel-centered communities that aim to KNOW
 GOD together and BE CHANGED by Him in a
 way that will CHANGE THE WORLD.