



### THE GOSPEL PROJECT JR. Unit 11.3 Solomon Built the Temple

**Date:** Sunday May 17, 2026 **Teachers:** Rachel A (**lead**), Isaiah (**co-lead**)

**Bible Passage:** 1 Kings 6–8 **Key Passage:** Proverbs 2:6-7

**Props: from home:** blanket/sheet from home (Rachel)

**At centre:** activity sheet, Draw or cut out cloud and fire image on white/orange paper

#### Review Rules:

One Mouth speaking at a time (Teacher points to mouths/kids point to their mouths)

Two Hands kept to myself (kids wiggle hands and keep them to themselves)

Two Feet kept to myself (kids cross legs)

Speak Kind Words like our God 3 in One

#### ACROSTIC OF JESUS

Vicky

**INTRO TO BIBLE STORY:** *“God’s wants TO BE WITH US!”*

Mike

**materials:** (show google doc of pics on computer/TV)

These are all examples of what? (homes/dwelling place) What does dwell mean? To live or reside in a specific place.

God’s goal from the beginning has been what? TO BE with us. Or, to DWELL with us. That’s what the garden in the beginning of the biblical story was about. It was where heaven and earth met, God’s realm and Humanity’s realm touched, Genesis tells us that they walked with God in the cool of the day.

But because of the rebellion of Adam and Eve, this heaven and earth place could no longer be, they were banished from the garden, but did God’s presence leave them? No. We read in the Scriptures that God made a covenant with Noah, and then with Abraham, to be their God and for them to be His people. A lot takes place before we hear about God’s presence showing up again in a fiery bush with Moses, and then when God leads His people out of slavery in Egypt, God’s presence goes with them by a ?(cloud) by day and a ? (fire) by night.

Then, God gave Moses instructions to build a tabernacle in the wilderness? Why? So, God’s presence could be with them. They were made for Him, so God wanted to BE WITH THEM.

In today’s story we are going to hear about a permanent place for God’s presence to dwell. Does anyone know what it is called? The Temple. Both the instructions given to Moses, and the instructions given to Solomon had all kinds of beautiful plants and wildlife, what is this supposed to make God’s people think of? Think back to the garden where God’s realm and our realm touched.

This is where we are in the Biblical story today...but spoiler alert, something better than the temple was going to happen.

When Jesus came to earth He was the temple (John 1) He DWELT (tabernacled/tented) among us. When Jesus ascended to the Father He gave us His Spirit, so that now WE are His mobile temples’ Heaven and earth come

together. Do we still need a temple to approach God? (He is our High Priest and we have his Spirit, so we can approach God anytime; Hebrews 4:14-16). And it still gets better.... Christ will come again and make all things new, and heaven and earth will be reunited again, and God will dwell with us, and He will be our God and we shall be His people.

*Rev. 21: 1 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth,"[a] for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.*

## **BIBLE STORY: (VIDEO) SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE**

### **DISCUSSION VIDEO**

*Rachel*

Do any of you have a friend who lives far away? Do you wish you could spend more time together? We don't have this problem with God, The temple was like a house for God to dwell with His people. Because of Jesus, God is with us even without the temple!

### **KEY PASSAGE VERSE:**

*Isaiah*

***"For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity."* Proverbs 2:6-7**

Say the verse teaching the hand motions below then slowly wipe away the corresponding sections and they have to say aloud whatever you point to on the body.

- Point to head—For the Lord gives wisdom;
- Point to mouth—from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.
- Stand up tall with hands on hips—He stores up success for the upright;
- Hold arms vertically in front of body like a shield—He is a shield for those who live with integrity.

## **DISMISS JR. KIDS**

**ACTIVITY: "Cloud & Fire" materials:** (Draw or cut out cloud and fire image on white/orange paper) *Isaiah*

Select a preschooler to hold the cloud image and walk around the room while the rest of the group follows him. Dim the lights and select another preschooler to hold the fire image and walk around the room while the rest of the group follows her.

For many years, God's people followed a cloud during the day and fire at night. This was God's presence leading His people. God's people always took the tabernacle with them. The tabernacle was a tent. When the cloud or fire stopped moving they set up the tabernacle and stayed there. Now, God was going to give His people a temple to worship Him. The temple would stay in the same place all the time.

**ACTIVITY: materials:** activity page 2 copies (JK- Rachel, SK- Isaiah)

Rachel, Isaiah

Divide class into JK/SK

Invite preschoolers to find the differences between the two pictures and circle them on their activity page.

Do you remember our story in the Bible where David wanted to build a temple for God? God told David that his son would build Him a temple instead of David. In today's Bible story, King David's son, King Solomon, built a beautiful temple for God's presence to dwell.

**SING A SONG: Sing to the tune of “The More We Get Together” :**

*Rachel*

**“The Bible is God’s words; it’s God’s words, it’s God’s words!**

**The Bible is God’s words, and God’s words are \*true.”**

**\*Substitute good, right, and wise in subsequent rounds.**

**ACTIVITY: “Review Game”**

*Isaiah*

Ask ?’s kids jump up if they know the answer:

Solomon was a wise? *King*

He wanted to build God a? *Temple*

Because of Jesus God hears us when we? *Pray!*

**ACTIVITY: materials:** (blanket, table) cover the table with the blanket

*Rachel*

Kids can take turns coming in and out of the “tent” Before God told Solomon to build Him a temple, God met with His people in a tent called a tabernacle. It has always been God’s goal to BE with His people like He was with humans in the garden, the tent is replaced by the temple and the temple is eventually replaced by Jesus! And now because of Jesus making a way to God, we can have God’s spirit in US.

**PRAYER: *God, thank you that Jesus made a way for you to BE WITH US! Amen.***

**COLOURING SHEET (connect the dots) /FREE PLAY//SNACK/**