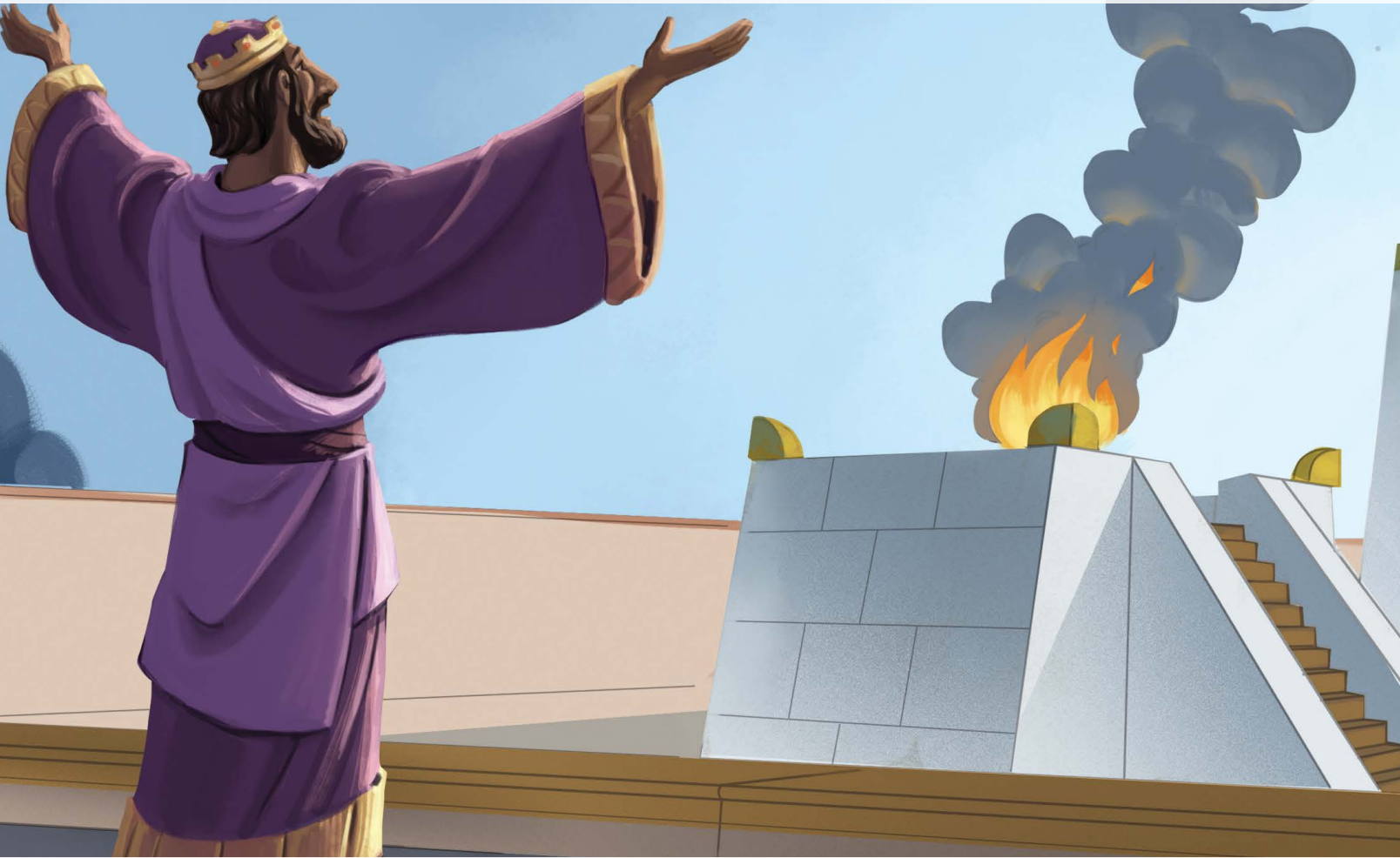


SOLOMON BUILT THE TEMPLE

1 KINGS 6–8



CHRIST CONNECTION: God loves us, and He sent Jesus to be with His people and save them from their sin.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Obey the LORD and do what is right. Proverbs 3:7

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- King Solomon wanted to build a special house for God called the temple.
- Solomon made the temple as a special place where God could stay with His people.
- God hears us when we pray and forgives us when we tell Him we are sorry for our sins.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS: King Solomon wanted to build a special house for God, the temple, so God could meet with His people. Inside, Solomon made a special place for the gold-covered box—the ark. On top of the ark were two statues of angels made from olive wood and covered with gold. A man named Hiram made beautiful bronze items—pillars, a big bowl, carts for water, and other things—for the temple. Then the priests set the ark in its place. When the priests left the special place, God’s glory filled the temple. Solomon said, “I made this temple for You, God. You can stay here forever.” Solomon prayed, “God, no one is like You. You kept all Your promises. You are bigger than anything! Hear us when we pray; forgive us when we sin.”



LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to 1 Kings 6. Show the Bible Story Poster as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

“Obey the LORD, and do what’s right,
Do what’s right, do what’s right.
Obey the LORD, and do what’s right.
That’s what God says to do.”

SAY “ Our key passage phrase says, ‘Obey the LORD and do what’s right.’ God loves us, and He sent Jesus to be with His people and save them from their sin. ”

2 PAINT A TEMPLE

Provide large foam blocks, painting smocks, metallic colored washable paint, and construction paper. Assist babies in dipping the bottom of the block in the paint and pressing the block onto the paper. Continue pressing blocks and making a brick wall pattern. Write Solomon made a special house for God called the temple on the paper. Read the gospel gems as babies paint. Provide baby wipes for easy cleanup.

SAY “ King Solomon wanted to build a special house for God called the temple. God met with His people in the temple, but God wants to be with us now wherever we are. God loves us, and He sent Jesus to be with people and save them from their sin. ”

3 BUILD THE TEMPLE

Cut various shapes from foam sheets (triangles, squares, rectangles, diamonds, and so forth). Fill a container with a small amount of water, and place it within the babies’ reach. Sit babies in leaders’ laps, and demonstrate how to dip each shape in the water and place the shapes on a window; table; or flat, smooth surface to build their “temples.” For more mobile babies, allow them to stand with assistance and stick the shapes to build their temples. Read the gospel gems aloud as the babies build.

SAY “ Who built a special house for God? Yes! Solomon built a special place for God called the temple. God hears us when we pray and forgives us when we tell Him we are sorry for our sins. ”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card. Repeat the Christ Connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible Story Poster as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 6. Show the Bible Story Poster as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card, and guide toddlers to say it with you. Pray for the toddlers.

2 PAINT WITH BLOCKS

Provide large plastic building blocks, painting smocks, metallic colored washable paint, and construction paper. Assist toddlers in dipping the bottom of the block in the paint and pressing it onto the paper. Continue pressing blocks and making a brick wall pattern. Write on the paper God met with His people in the temple. Review the story. Use baby wipes to cleanup.

SAY “What was the special house Solomon built for God? Yes, the temple! God met with His people in the temple, but God wants to be with us now wherever we are.”

3 NAME PLACES GOD IS WITH US

Gather toddlers in a circle. Pass the Bible Story Poster around the circle for the toddlers to see. Occasionally direct toddlers to pause, and say “God is with ____ (toddler's name holding the picture).” Continue until each toddler has had a turn. Point to specific items in the picture (temple, the people, Solomon, and so forth) as you retell the Bible story.

SAY “Is God with us now? Yes! God wants to be with us now wherever we are. God loves us, and sent Jesus to be with people.”

4 EXPLORE A SENSORY BOX

Provide a box and various items found in the temple (medium- to large-size stones, smooth wood, gold and bronze colored items, and soft fabrics, like silk or velvet, and so forth). Hold the box in your lap. Call on toddlers to come up, one at a time, and pull out one item to explore. Allow all toddlers to explore, and recall how the items was used in the temple. Replace the item, and continue for all items. Ensure all toddlers have a turn. Use this time as a way to review the Bible story.

SAY “Many special things were made for the temple to make it a special place for God. No one is as special and powerful as God. God wants to be with us now, wherever we are.”

5 BUILD A TEMPLE

Tape clear contact plastic to the wall with the sticky side facing out. Provide craft sticks, paper squares, fabric squares, and foam shapes for toddlers to stick to the paper and build a “temple.” Allow toddlers to take turns building the temple as you retell the Bible story.

SAY “Where did God meet His people in our Bible story? Yes! God met with His people in the temple! But God wants to be with us now wherever we are.”

SOLOMON BUILT THE TEMPLE

1 KINGS 6 – 8

CHRIST CONNECTION: God loves us, and He sent Jesus to be with people and save them from their sin.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Obey the LORD and do what is right. Proverbs 3:7

1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: BUILD A HOUSE WITH PLAY DOUGH

Draw a simple house shape on paper, and slide it in a sheet protector (one per toddler). Tape the “houses” to the table in front of each toddler. Provide an assortment of play dough. Encourage toddlers to fill in the house shape with play dough. Retell the story.

SAY “What was the special house King Solomon built for God? Yes, the temple! God met with His people in the temple, but God wants to be with us now wherever we are.”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

“Obey the LORD, and do what’s right,
Do what’s right, do what’s right.
Obey the LORD, and do what’s right.
That’s what God says to do.”

SAY “Our key passage phrase says, ‘Obey the LORD and do what’s right.’ God loves us, and He sent Jesus to be with His people and save them from their sin.”

3 PRAY LIKE SOLOMON

Gather toddlers in a circle. Retell the Bible story. Ask the toddlers to help you remember how Solomon prayed. Invite toddlers to take turns praying with you. Repeat with each toddler: “God, no one is like You. You keep all Your promises. You are bigger than anything! Hear us when we pray; forgive us when we sin.” Pause between phrases for toddlers to repeat.

SAY “God met with His people in the temple, but where can we be with God now? Yes, anywhere! God wants to be with us now wherever we are. God loves us and sent Jesus for us.”

4 DECORATE THE TEMPLE

Set up the room like Solomon’s temple using tables, chairs, or cardboard boxes. Provide assorted fabrics and other items used to decorate the temple. Allow toddlers to play out going to the temple. Retell the Bible story. Pray with the toddlers, reminding them how Solomon prayed to God after the temple was built.

SAY “Where did God meet with His people in our Bible story? That’s right—the temple! God wants to be with us now wherever we are. God loves us, and He sent Jesus to be with people and save them from their sin.”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church’s security procedures. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card to reinforce today’s Bible story, Christ Connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.