

Lesson #3-7

God's Promise to David

2 Samuel 7:1-17

PK-2nd

Key Verse:

Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

2 Samuel 7:16

The Point:

Even when we have the best intentions in mind, God always does greater things for us than we can do for God.

Making Connections:

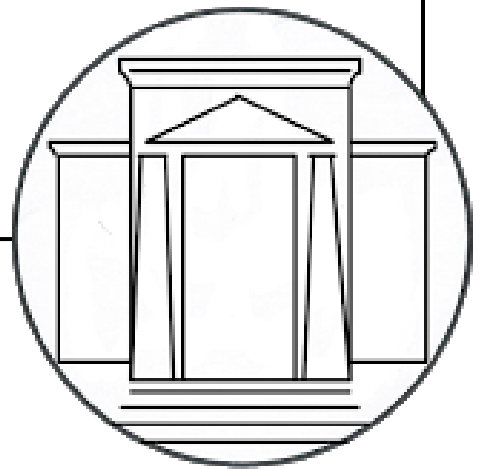
Promises Made, Promises Broken

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Bible Citations

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



Activities a la Carte

Activities

Supplies

Story Centers (PK-K)

15 min.

Construction

Building projects.

- † Tool toys
- † Construction truck toys

Doll House

Arrange the furniture.

- † Doll house
- † Doll house furniture

Blocks

Build a house or church.

- † Blocks

Into the Story (1st-2nd)

My Room

What is your room like?

10 min.

- † Optional: furniture store flyer or magazine with pictures of bedrooms

Bible Nuts and Bolts (1st-2nd)

Bible Citations

Practice working with citations.

15 min.

- † Bibles
- † White board and markers
- † Paper
- † Pens or pencils

Learning the Story (PK-2nd)

God's Promise to David

Follow the plans—or not.

15 min.

- † Bibles

Activities a la Carte

Living the Story (PK-2nd)

A House of Worship

Worship and praise God.

10 min. † None

Singing the Story (PK-2nd)

Building Up the Temple

5 min. † None

Additional Activities

Building Brick Temples (PK-2nd)

Build temples out of building blocks.

15 min. † Blocks

Building a Temple (1st-2nd)

Solve a puzzle to build a temple.

15 min. † Activity Sheet #3-7.A

God's Promise (PK-2nd)

Use carbon paper to make descendants of David.

15 min. † Carbon paper
† White paper
† Pens or pencils

Sending the Story (PK-2nd)

5 min. † None



Background for Teachers

Story Connections

Hannah kept her promise to God and dedicated her son Samuel to the Lord's service. As a prophet, Samuel followed God's leading. When the Israelites demanded a king—practically denying God's promise to be their God (and King)—Samuel warned them of what this could mean. Then, he anointed Saul. After Saul broke his promise and disobeyed God through an unlawful sacrifice, Samuel anointed David as king. Today we will hear the promise that God made to King David.

Story Summary:

God's Promise to David

When the Israelites were traveling for many years, they carried a tabernacle tent with them. They set it up and took it down over and over. Now that they were in one place they were still using the tent to honor God. King David was concerned that he lived in a nice house of wood, but that the people continued to use a tent where God's Spirit could dwell. David wanted to make something nicer; a real house and more permanent place to glorify God. God sent a message to David through the prophet Nathan: the tent is fine. A house of wood is not necessary for God to be present or to be glorified. Instead, God promised to make a house (dynasty) for David, a permanent place (position) for him and his future generations to live, through which God would be glorified. This promise reminds us of the promise to Abram, and is fulfilled when we see that Jesus is a part of David's family tree. God also said that David's son would build a temple for God someday, which is what King Solomon did years later.

The Point

Even when we have the best intentions, God always does greater things for us than we can do for God. In Isaiah 55:9, we read that God's ways are higher than ours. God knows the big picture and the best thing to do. God knows that we can bless others with the blessings we are given, and God can be glorified through what God does for us. We can never out-give God, no matter how hard we try.

Bible Nuts and Bolts:

Bible Citations

Imagine what it would be like to try to find something in the Bible if Scripture was not labeled with book chapters and verse numbers. We would have to read every page to find what we need each time we need it. This would be time consuming and frustrating. When the Scripture was first written, it consisted of text without verse numbers. The chapters and verses were added later to help us locate particular passages. Modern scholars do not always agree on where the verse numbers are placed, but overall Bible citations are useful to anyone who studies or reads the Bible.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

Worship is any way that we show God our love. This might be singing, giving, praying, dancing, or some other creative form. We read in the Psalms that David danced unto God. Some congregations practice liturgical dance as part of the worship service. Dance freely as a way to worship. Dance for the Lord today.



Lesson Plan



Story Centers (PK-K; 15 minutes)

Story Centers are mini-activities designed specifically for preschool and kindergarten students. Depending on the size of your class, you can set these up as centers for in-class rotations or do them as a whole class one after another. In most preschool and kindergarten classes, these centers along with a snack, the “Learning the Story” activity, and the “Living the Story” activity will fill the education time, but feel free to choose any activity you think would be fun and appropriate for your class.

Construction

Set out building tool toys or construction related toy trucks for the children to prepare to build houses.

Doll House

Set out doll houses for the children to arrange furniture.

Blocks

Set out blocks for the children to build a church.



Into the Story (PK-2nd; 10 minutes)

My Room

Children talk about their bedrooms.

You will need:

- † Optional: furniture store flyer or magazine with pictures of bedrooms

Before class:

1. Optional: if you are using the pictures, open the flyers or magazines to bedroom pictures and spread them out on the table.

During class:

1. Optional: allow time for the children to look at the pictures of bedrooms.
2. **Most houses have at least one bedroom. Raise your hand if you have your very own bedroom. Raise your hand if you share a room with your brother. Raise your hand if you share a room with your sister. Raise both hands if you share a room with your brothers and sisters or other family members. Sometimes we use a room as a bedroom at night, and we use that same room for other things during the day.**
3. **It is nice to have a place to live, a place where we can put our things, a place where we feel like we belong, a place to stay. A bedroom is your place even if you share it with others and even if it is also used for other things.**
4. **What kinds of things are in your bedroom?** *[Bed, pillow, closet, dresser, and toys are likely answers.]*
5. **What color are the walls in your room? What color are the curtains or blinds? Is there a carpet? Are there windows? Is anything hanging on the door?** *[Answers will vary.]*
6. **What kinds of things do you do in your bedroom?** *[Sleep, play, sit in time out, get dressed.]*
7. **When we meet, this is our room. When you leave here, you may go home in your family's car. When you go to school, you have a classroom. When you are at home, you have a bedroom. It is nice to have a place to be—here and at home.**

Bible Nuts and Bolts (1st-2nd; 15 minutes)

Bible Citations

Practice finding verses and writing citations.

You will need:

- † Bibles
- † White board and markers
- † Paper
- † Pens or pencils

During class:

1. **Can anyone tell me how to get to the bathroom from where we are?** *[Answers will vary.]* Thank you for those directions.
2. **When we tell a guest where to find the bathroom in our house, we might say it is the first door at the top of the stairs. When we tell a guest where to find a mug, we might say it is in the top cabinet on the first shelf. When people travel somewhere they have never been, they often need directions so they know how to get there. Those directions might have more steps to them than the directions to the bathroom or to find a mug. Sometimes we need those directions to use each time we travel to the same faraway place.**
3. Distribute Bibles.
4. **The Bible is a big book with a lot of verses in it. If we want to find a certain verse, we need travel directions to follow, too.**
5. **Open your Bibles to the table of contents.** Offer assistance as needed.
6. **Write this on your paper.** Write 2 Samuel on the whiteboard.
7. **Can you find 2 Samuel in the table of contents in your Bible?** Offer assistance as needed. What page number is it on? *[This may be different from Bible to Bible, and the children may need help locating and reading the number.]*
8. **Find that page by matching the number in the table of contents with the number at the top or bottom of a page in the Bible.** Offer assistance as needed.
9. **We found the book of the Bible, 2 Samuel, but have not found a specific verse.**
10. **Write the number seven next to 2 Samuel on the board (2 Samuel 7). The seven identifies the chapter in the book of the Bible. Write the seven on your paper, too.**

11. **Can you find chapter seven in 2 Samuel?** Offer assistance as needed and turn pages and count the chapter numbers aloud as you go along.
12. **We found the book of the Bible, 2 Samuel, and we found the chapter, seven, but we have not found a specific verse.**
13. Write a colon followed by 16 on the board (2 Samuel 7:16). **We separate the chapter number from the verse with these two dots called a colon. Write the colon and the 16 on your paper, too.**
14. **Look in chapter seven of 2 Samuel for verse sixteen.**
15. Point to the parts of the citation on the whiteboard as you say, **the directions that we need to find a verse in the Bible include the name of the book of the Bible, the number of the chapter, a colon, and the number of the verse. This is called the Bible citation. Bible citations help us find our way through the Bible. It is how we talk about and find Bible verses each time we need to find them.**

Learning the Story (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

God's Promise to David

Follow the plans—or not.

You will need:

- † Building blocks

During class:

1. **We are going to think of something to do, make a plan to do it, and then do what we planned.**
2. **We have some building blocks. First** (hold up one finger), **let us think of something to do. Should we build a flower, a bowl of soup, or a house?** *[A house]*
Let us build a house.
3. **Second** (hold up two fingers), **who will make the bottom, who will make the sides, and who will put on the roof?** *[Decide this as a class].* **How many blocks will we use?** *[Decide and count out the blocks].*
4. Pretend to answer your cell phone. **What? No house building today? Oh, okay. I understand. The children will be disappointed, but I am sure there is a good reason we will not build today.**
5. **How does it feel to have our plans stopped before we build the house?** *[Answers will vary.]*
6. **We are going to hear a story about King David and what happened when he made plans to build a house for God.**
7. **King David had a nice big house made of wood. He liked living in his house. He felt bad that the Israelites worshipped God in a tent while he lived in a nice house. The Israelites believed that God met with them in the tent and that God's spirit or glory was in the tent. One day David thought of something to do. He would build a house for God. He set out to plan the steps.**

Then God sent a message to David through a prophet named Nathan. God said not to build a house. A tent for God is fine. God can be anywhere, and people will see God's glory through the things God does. Instead of David building a house for God, God wanted to build a kingdom for David and for all of the family members that came after David.

That is right! David wanted to make a special place for God, but God had bigger plans for David. God knew David loved God with all his heart. God promised to bless David and his family and his kingdom forever. Through that kingdom God would also be glorified forever because one of David's family members many, many, many years later was Jesus, God's son.

8. **First** (hold up one finger), **what did David think of to do?** [*Build a house for God.*] **Second**, **what happened when David was going to plan how to do it?** [*He was told not to.*] **Third**, **David did not get to do his plan, but God had a much better plan.**
9. Optional: if there is time, allow the children time to build a house with the blocks, carrying out their plan. End by saying a simple prayer like, **“God, yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.”**

Living the Story (PK-2nd; 10 minutes)

Praise

A house of worship.

You will need:

† Nothing

During class:

1. **David learned that God did not need to have a big fancy house. We can worship God anywhere because God's spirit is all around us. We are going to come out of the house and worship God today.**
2. Help the children get into two lines, facing each other. **Lift your arms up and join hands, palm to palm, with the person facing you. We are making the shape of a roof, or the letter A.** Assist as needed.
3. **Each time I say something to you, one child at the end of the line will go through our house (under the arms) and come out the other side. When you come out of the house, raise your arms and say, "Our praises flow up to God." Each time another child comes out of the house, that child will join the others who already came out, and they will all raise their hands and say, "Our praises flow up to God."**
4. Go through one dry run by going through the house yourself, coming out, raising your hands and saying, "Our praises flow up to God."
5. **Are we ready for our time of worship to God? At the end, we will all be worshipping together and our praises will flow up to God.**
6. Use the following script:
 - **You cannot fit in a house** (first child goes through the house, comes out, raises arms and says, "Our praises flow up to God.")
 - **You are more than we know** (second child goes through the house, comes out, joins the first, raises arms and they say, "Our praises flow up to God.")
 - **You're a big, big God.** (third child goes through the house, comes out, joins the other two, raises arms, and they say, "Our praises flow up to God.")
 - **Our praises flow.** (next child goes through the house, comes out, joins the other two, raises arms, and they say, "Our praises flow up to God.")
 - Continue those four lines until all have come through the house and worship God together.
7. **I am glad that we have this place to come together to worship God. I am glad that we can worship God where we live, too. We can worship God in or out of a house.**

Singing the Story (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

"Building up the Temple"

Note: If you are not familiar with this children's song, this reference plays the song and shows the motions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceY0VBq5iHs>

Note: Be sure to include the verse, "I am the temple, you are the temple, we are the temple of the Lord..."



Additional Activities

Building Brick Temples (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

Build temples out of building blocks.

You will need:

† Blocks

During class:

1. Give the children blocks to work with, and ask them to design a temple that they think would be nice for God.
2. When the temples are made, ask them to share their temples. **Tell us about the temple you made.**
3. **David wanted to make a temple for God. Instead, God had special plans for David. Keep a willing heart to be ready to do and experience all that God has planned for you.**



Building a Temple (1st to 2nd; 10 minutes)

A game where puzzle pieces of the temple are won and put into place as questions are answered.

You will need:

† Activity Sheet #3-7.A

Before class:

1. Print a copy of the Activity Sheet #3-7.A for each child.
2. Cut out the pieces of the hearts, grouping them by shapes.

During class:

1. This is a competition to see whose temple is built first. When all the pieces are won and assembled, the children will find that the temple is not going to be a building but rather a heart (of one who loves God like David did).
2. **We are going to play a game to build a temple. The game works like this: I will ask a question. Those who get the answer right will receive a piece of the temple. Each time you answer correctly, you will receive another shape. Then you will put the shapes together to make a temple.** (The shapes are numbered, to help make sure children will not get more than one of each shape. After finishing the questions, if necessary ask the questions a second time, adding hints for those who missed the correct answers the first time around.)
3. **I will read the question. Then you will close your eyes, listen to me read the question again, and raise your hand when you hear the correct answer.**
 - What was the name of the King in today's story—Solomon, Henry, or David? *[David]*
 - What did David want to do—build a house for God, build a house for himself, or build a new community center? *[Build a house for God.]*
 - What did the people use as a place to worship God, a place to believe that God's presence visited them—a cave, a tent, or a huge temple? *[A tent]*
 - What did God want to do for David—build a kingdom that would last forever, build a boat, or build a temple? *[Build a kingdom that would last forever]*
 - What did David learn about God—God has bigger and better plans than we do, he did not know how to build a house, or his son would have to live in a tent? *[God has bigger and better plans than we do.]*
4. When the children have won all of the shapes, the children will put the shapes together and find that the temple is really a heart.
5. **The temple where God's love stays is in the heart of those who love God like David did.**

God's Promise (PK to 2nd; 15 minutes)

Use carbon paper to make descendants of David.

You will need:

- † Activity Sheet #3-7.B
- † Paper
- † Carbon paper
- † Pens or pencils

During class:

1. Do not tell the children what the outcome of this activity will be.
2. **We are going to trace a picture of King David.**
3. Show the children how to place a piece of carbon paper (carbon side down) between the Activity Sheet (on top) and the blank piece of paper beneath. Insert another carbon paper (carbon side down) between the bottom paper and one more blank sheet of paper.
4. **Press down hard and trace the picture of David.**
5. When the tracing is done, show the children that they have two more copies of the picture. **We thought we were tracing one picture, but we now have more than we thought. That was a nice surprise.**
6. **We learned today that God not only loved and took care of David, but God promised to take care of David's family, his sons and their sons, forever. David's kingdom would be known forever. The blessing went on and on.**



Sending the Story (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

- **What did David want to do for God?** *[Make a house.]*
- **What did God say God would do for David?** *[Make a house, a future, a kingdom]*

Prayer

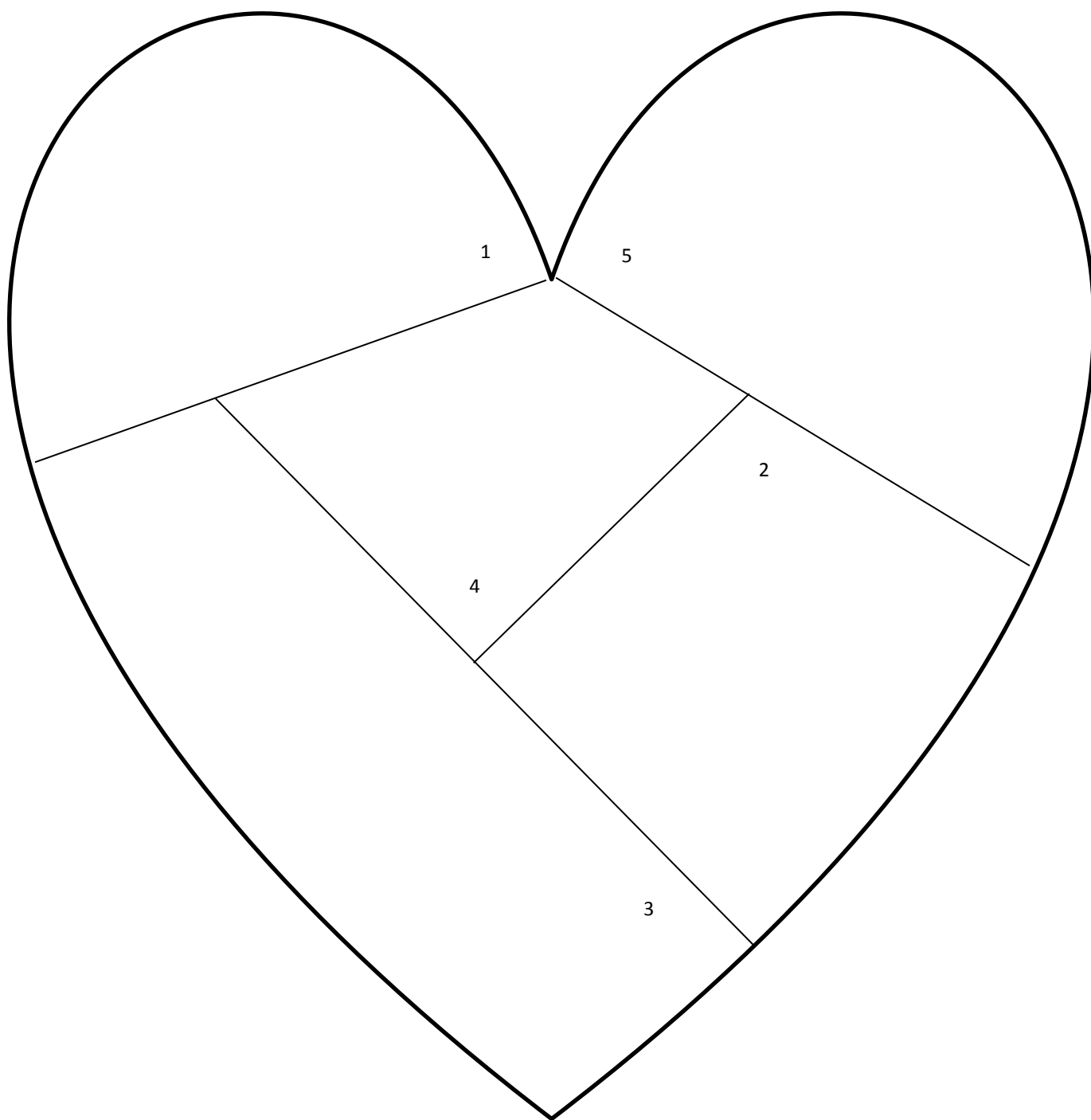
Before ending class, make a point to come together to pray. Use the following or say your own prayer.

Prayer – pray on knees to our God and king.

**On my knees I look to you.
I thank you God for all you do.
As I pray with bended knee,
I know that you are here with me.
Thank you God.
Amen.**

Building a Temple

Solve a puzzle to build a temple.



Building a Temple

Carbon paper of David's descendants blessed by God.



From <https://openclipart.org/detail/244605/king-icon>



PK-2nd

The Story @ Home

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2016-2017)

Lesson #3-7
2 Samuel 7:1-17

*The
Point*

Even when we have the best intentions, God always does greater things for us than we can do for God. Today's story is important because we see that God knows the big picture and the best thing to do. We need to seek God's direction for what we should do.

Story Summary:

God's Promise to David

When the Israelites were traveling for many years, they carried a tabernacle tent with them. They set it up and took it down over and over. Now that they were in one place they were still using the tent to honor God. King David was concerned that he lived in a nice house of wood, but that the people continued to use a tent where God's Spirit could dwell. David wanted to make something nicer; a real house and more

permanent place to glorify God. God sent a message to David through the prophet Nathan: the tent is fine. A house of wood is not necessary for God to be present or to be glorified. Instead, God promised to make a house (dynasty) for David, a permanent place (position) for him and his future generations to live, through which God would be glorified. This promise reminds us of the promise to Abram, and is fulfilled when we see that Jesus is a part of David's family tree. God also said that David's son would build a temple for God someday, which is what King Solomon did years later.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

Worship is any way that we show God our love. This might be singing, giving, praying, dancing, or some other creative form. We read in the Psalms that David danced unto God. Join hands as a family and dance for the Lord. Release hands and dance individually. End the worship by joining hands and dancing together again.

Last Week/Next Week

Last week, we were introduced to Samuel, the son who Hannah promised to dedicate to God. This week Samuel is used by God to anoint David as king. Next week we hear that David's descendants break their promise to God and worship other gods.

Bible Nuts and Bolts: Bible Citations

Imagine what it would be like to try to find something in the Bible if Scripture was not labeled with book chapters and verse numbers (Example: 2 Samuel 7:16). We would have to read every page to find what we need each time we need it. This would be time consuming and frustrating. When the Scripture was first written, it consisted of text without verse numbers. The chapters and verses were added later to help us locate particular passages. Modern scholars do not always agree on where the verse numbers are placed, but overall Bible citations are useful to anyone who studies or reads the Bible.

Family Discussions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. Help your children to imagine what it would have been like to be the people contained in the stories. What is God's message to them—and to us?

- ✚ What is your favorite verse in today's reading?
- ✚ What kind of house would you build for God?
- ✚ In what other place besides a church can we worship God?

Family Devotions

Pick a time each day to gather together and read the following excerpts that share stories from a variety of geographical locations. It would be a great opportunity to find a map in the back of a Bible to further explore the world during biblical times. Engage in a few activities that help you better understand God's message of love to people living in those places as well as where you live today.

Sunday—Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17 —God's Promise to David

God made a promise that David's kingdom would last forever. Unwind a skein of yarn and roll it into a ball. It may feel like it takes forever to do, but it is a short time compared to forever. Or suck on a piece of candy without chewing it. It may last longer, but not forever.

Monday—Read 2 Samuel 12:1-13 —Nathan Condemns David's Sin

Nathan told David a story about a rich man who took what belonged to a poor man. He did this to make David admit his own sin. Tell stories about things each family member has done, but use different names. Can you guess who the stories were about? (Use positive stories.)

Tuesday—Read 1 Kings 1:32-40 —Solomon Becomes King

When King David sent Nathan and Zadok the priest to anoint David's son Solomon as king, the people rejoiced. As each family member shares something they feel good about having done, the rest of the family will clap.

Wednesday—Read 1 Kings 3:3-14 —Solomon Prays for Wisdom

Rather than asking for things for himself, Solomon asked God for wisdom and understanding. Pray as a family and ask God to show you how you can serve God better by understanding and serving others.

Thursday—Read 1 Kings 6:1; 8:14-21 —Solomon Builds the Temple

Just as God promised, David's son Solomon built God's temple. It was big and beautiful. Use a deck of cards, building blocks, or cushions and pillows to build a structure. Arrange some jewelry around it. Take a photo of the family with the structure.

Friday—Read 1 Kings 12:1-15 —The Northern Tribes Secede

After Solomon's death, his son Rehoboam reigned. Rehoboam rejected the advice of the elders. Parents will share a time when they were young and rejected the advice of their parents and tell of the lessons that they learned from that.

Saturday—Read 1 Kings 12:16-24 —Two Kingdoms

The ten tribes of Israel revolted against the king. Join hands tightly in a circle. Choose two family members to unclasp hands and break the circle, each one taking a group in a different direction.