

For All People

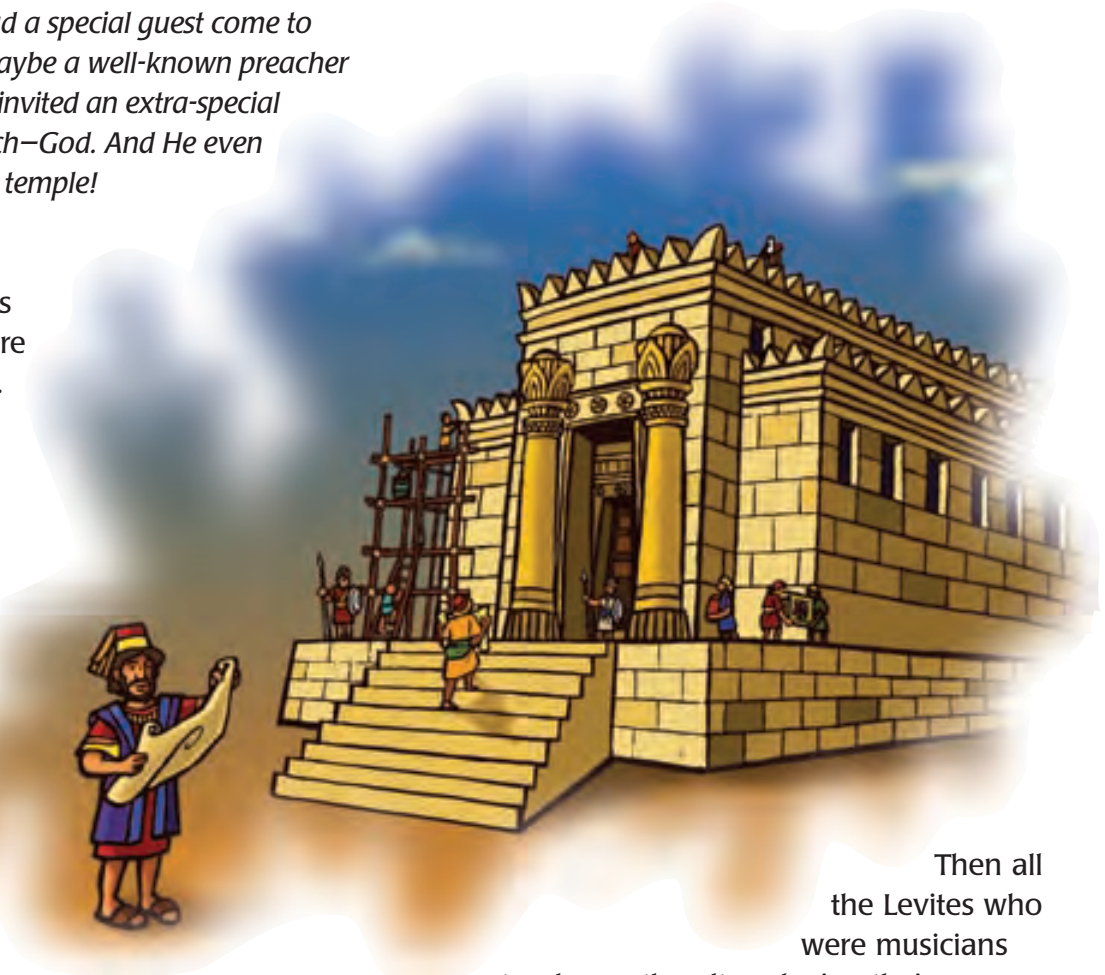
1 Kings 8:1-9:3; *Prophets and Kings*, pp. 37-50

Have you ever had a special guest come to your church? Maybe a well-known preacher or singer? The Israelites invited an extra-special guest to their new church—God. And He even promised to live in their temple!

Solomon's eyes sparkled. It was finished! All the furniture was in the right place. Every detail was complete. It was time now to dedicate the temple to the Lord.

Solomon called the leaders of all the tribes and families of Israel to come to Jerusalem. The first part of the dedication involved bringing the ark to its new home in the temple. Everyone watched as the priests took the ark from Obed-Edom's house, where it had been stored for three months. They carried it slowly, with great respect and joy, to the temple. King Solomon and the people sacrificed sheep and oxen along the way. In their joy, they sacrificed so many sheep and oxen to the Lord that no one could keep count!

The priests carried the ark containing the law of God into the Most Holy Place of the temple. They set it carefully beneath the wings of the two great carved, gold-covered angels.



Then all the Levites who were musicians stood near the altar playing their instruments—cymbals, and harps, and lyres. One hundred and twenty priests playing trumpets joined them. The musicians sang and played loudly and powerfully together. They praised and thanked the Lord. “He is so good!” they sang. “His faithful love endures forever!”

And at that moment, the most amazing thing happened! A great cloud filled the temple! The cloud held the glorious presence of the Lord! The priests could not continue their work. They had to leave the temple because of God's glory!

The Message

I worship God with my worldwide church family.

Memory Verse

"All nations will come and worship before you"

(Revelation 15:4, NIV).

Solomon saw the cloud and his heart swelled with thankfulness. The temple was finished, and the Lord had moved in! He turned around and looked at all the Israelites standing before him. "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!" he shouted.

Then Solomon knelt down. He lifted his hands toward heaven in front of all the people. He began to pray. "Oh, Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like You in all of heaven or earth! You keep Your promises and show unfailing love to all who obey You. May You watch over this temple both day and night. May You always hear the prayers I make toward this place.

"If Your people are ever defeated by their enemies because they have sinned against You, and if they turn to You and call on Your name and pray to You here in this temple, then hear from heaven and forgive their sins. Forgive Your people who have sinned against You. For they are Your people—Your special possession whom You brought out of Egypt."

When Solomon finished praying, he stood up and shouted a blessing over all the people of Israel. "May the Lord our God be with us as He was with our ancestors! May He give us the desire to obey

His commands! May people all over the earth know that the Lord is God!" Then the king and all the children of Israel offered sacrifices to the Lord.

Solomon and the Israelites celebrated together for 14 days. No one would ever forget it! They would tell it over and over again. And finally someone would write down the story so people could read it forever.



S A B B A T H

DO Take a walk or ride with your family to a nearby church. How is it like your church? How is it different?

READ Read your Bible lesson story together. Then teach the memory verse to your family.

DO Put together a nature puzzle with your family. Talk about how Solomon's temple was put together like a puzzle.

S U N D A Y

READ Read 1 Kings 8:1-21 for family worship today. Why was the ark so important? Where did the cloud come from? What did it mean? How do we know that God is with us today? Thank God for His presence.

DO Do the motions and say your memory verse.

DO Start adding furniture to the diorama of Solomon's temple you started last week. See 1 Kings 7:48, 49 for help.

M O N D A Y

READ For worship, read together Solomon's prayer in 1 Kings 8:22-53. Name five things Solomon asked of God. Does God do those things for us today? Read 1 Kings 9:3 to discover God's response to Solomon's prayer.

THINK For what do you need to ask forgiveness today? What blessings does your family need from God? Pray silent prayers, then have an adult pray for all of the family.

DO Have you added an ark, golden altar, lamp stands, and a table to your temple diorama? (See 1 Kings 7:48, 49.)

T U E S D A Y

READ Read 1 Kings 8:54-61 for worship today. What message did Solomon have for the people? Read verse 57 again. Is this something you want in your house? What condition did Solomon mention in verse 61? Does this apply to us?

DO Say the memory verse together. Think of people you might invite to God's house of worship and make a plan to do so. Pray for them today.

DO Continue working on your diorama.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ Describe the dedication. How long did the feast last? What and how many sacrifices did Solomon offer on the big altar? Was the big altar big enough? What happened?

DO Add an altar to your diorama to represent the place where Solomon offered sacrifices. Make a cloud to fill the temple.

DO The Israelites feasted for 14 days. List 14 of your family's favorite foods. Could that be your family's menu for the next two weeks?

THURSDAY

READ For family worship, read 1 Kings 8:54-61 again. Think about God's house today. What do we do instead of sacrificing animals? What offering will you take on Sabbath?

SING Find "O Worship the Lord" (*The SDA Hymnal*, No. 6) and read all the verses together. What gold, incense, and other offerings do we bring to God today? Sing the hymn together.

DO Say your memory verse together, then thank God for your church.



It took seven years to build the temple.

FRIDAY

For All People

PUZZLE

Directions: The materials for the temple were created somewhere else and moved to the temple site. Just as there was a plan for building the temple, so God had a plan for the dedication of the new temple. Number the pictures in the order in which the people walked to the new temple.



DO Act out the dedication of the temple for family worship. Pray a real dedication prayer. Dedicate yourself and your family to God.

DO Read 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 together. What does the Bible say we are? Ask an adult to explain that.

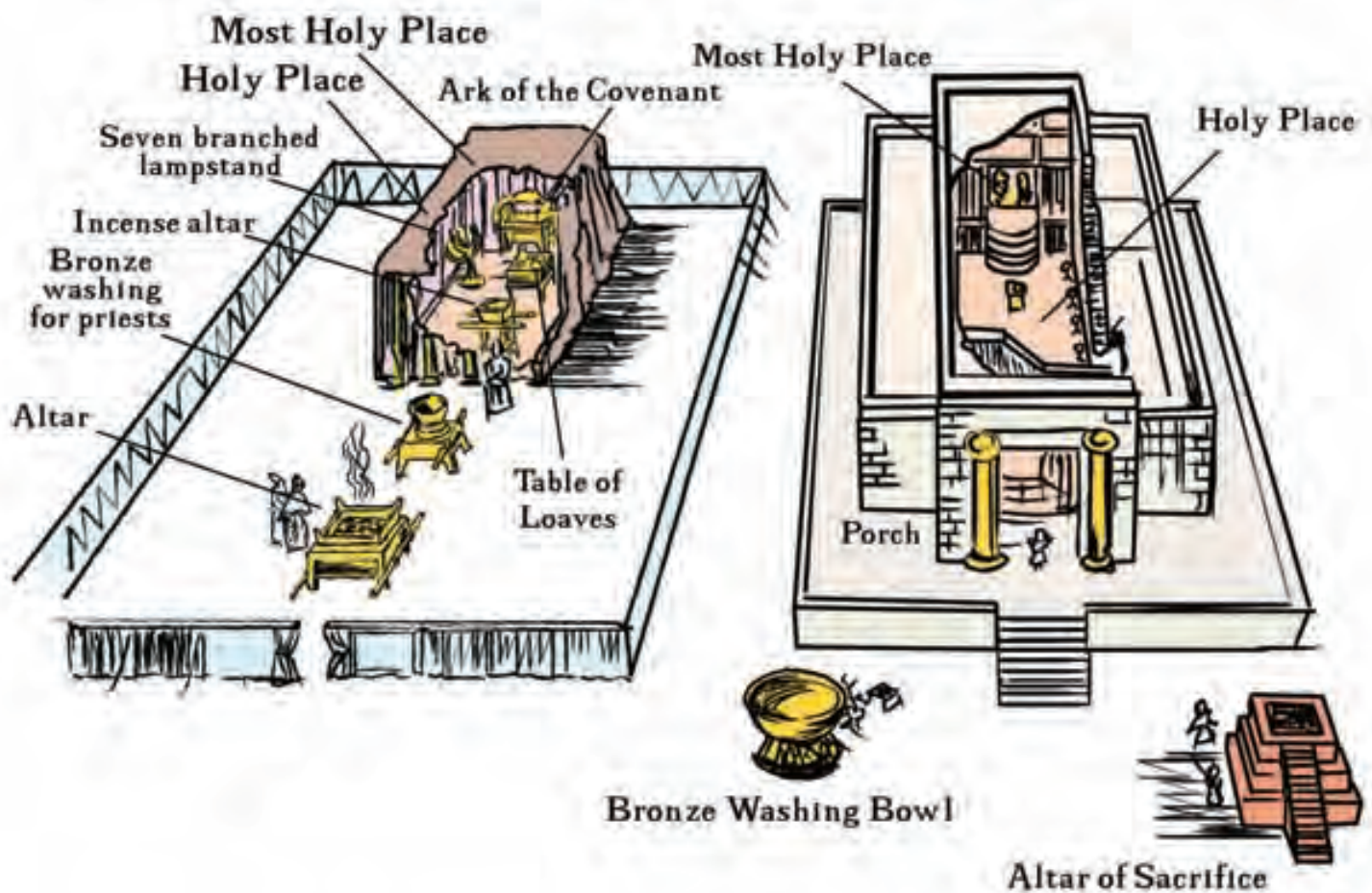
DO Say your memory verse together, then sing a praise song.

God's

The lessons have helped you learn about two places of worship—the sanctuary that the Israelites carried with them in the wilderness and the temple that Solomon built with many beautiful and precious materials.

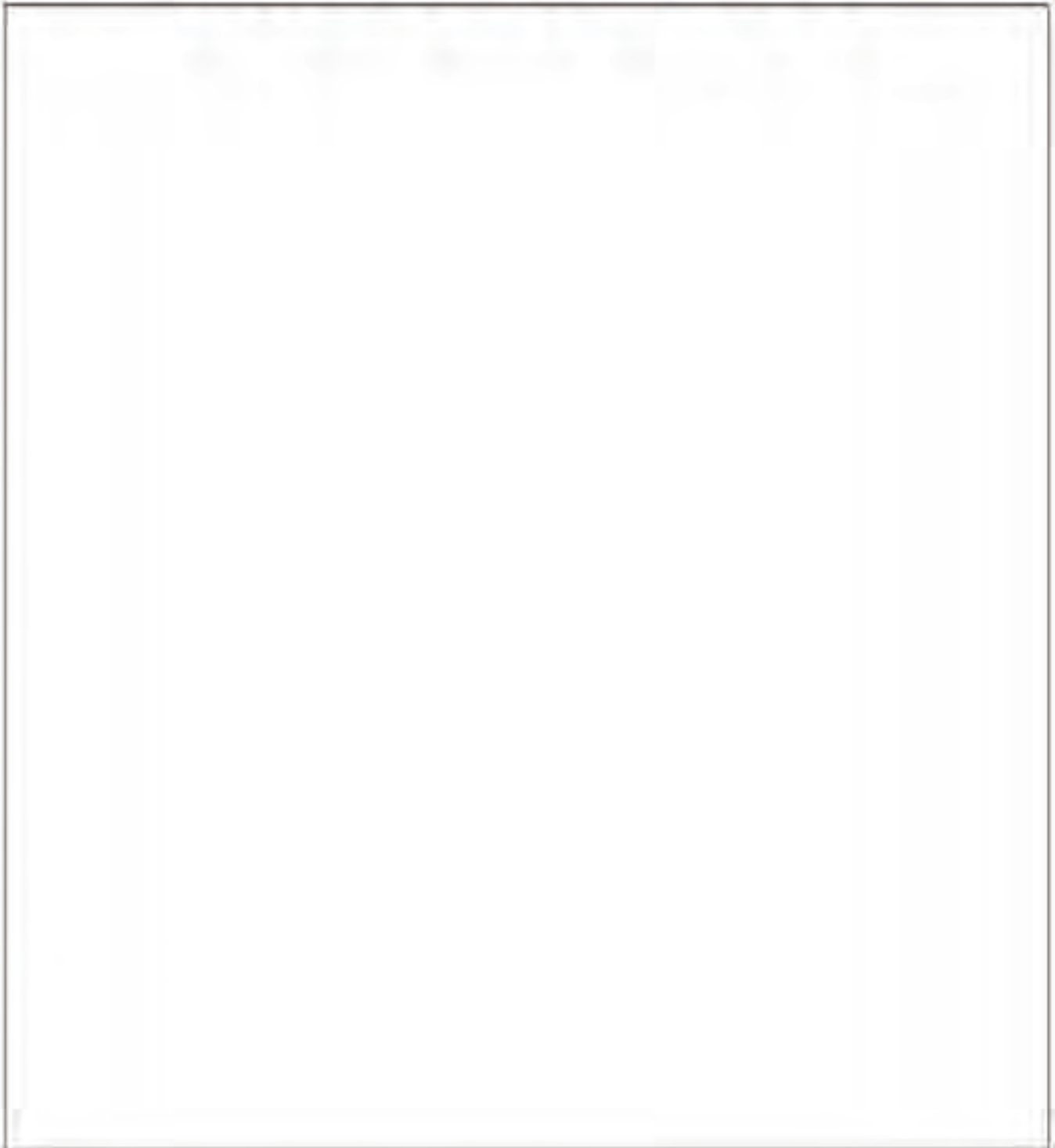
Sanctuary

Temple



HOUSE

Draw the place where you worship God.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a drawing of a place of worship.