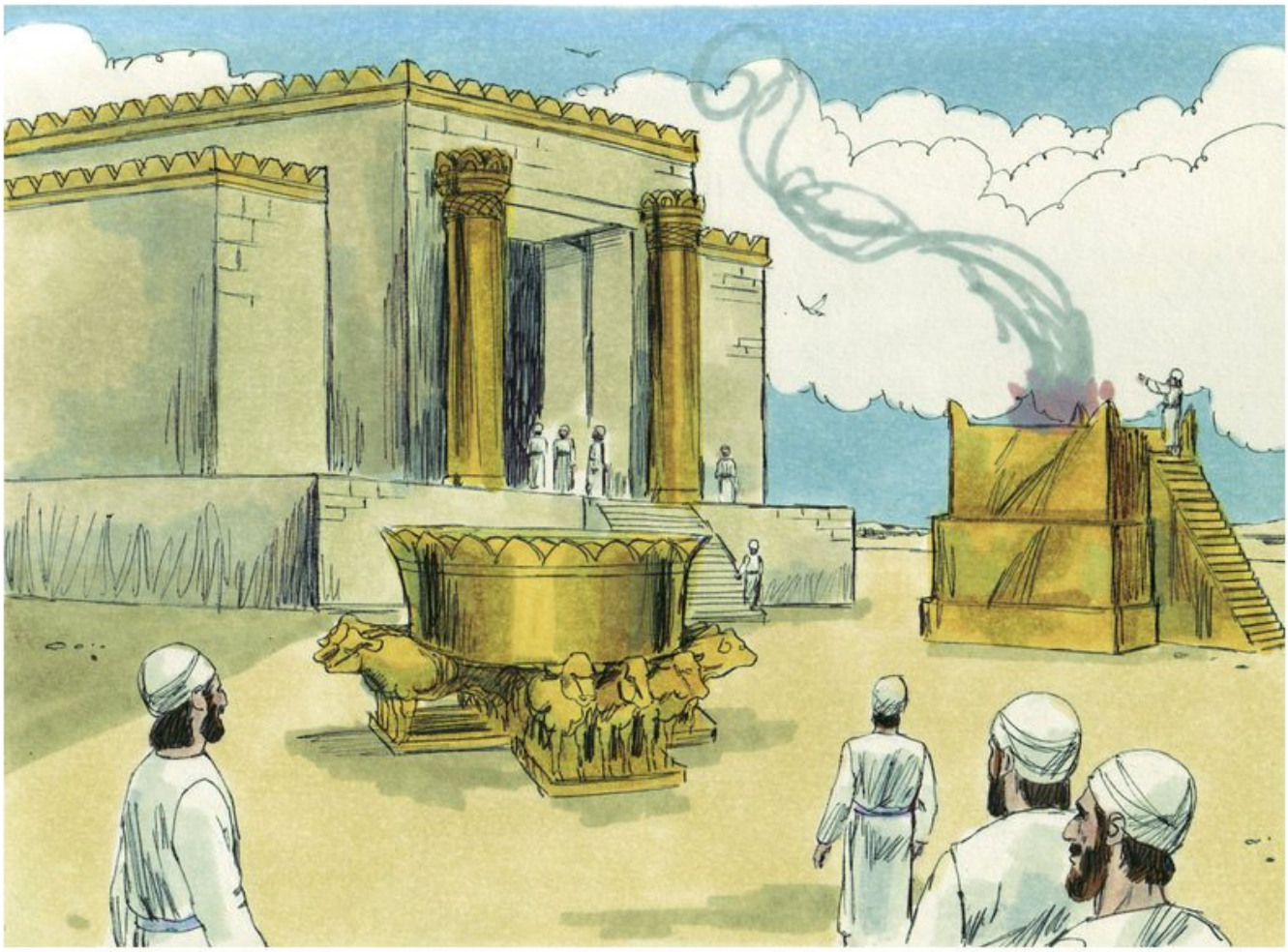
GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

A Temple for Worship

1 Kings 6:1-38;8:1-61



YOUR BIBLE READING

We honor God in worship and with faithful hearts.

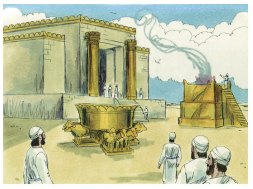
Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Building a Place of Worship

1 Kings 6:1-38;8:1-61



King Solomon began building a temple in Jerusalem to honor God's name. It was a large undertaking that continued for years. The account describes carefully prepared stone, wooden beams, rooms, doors, and a special inner sanctuary. Stones were shaped at the quarry before being brought to the building. The sound of iron tools was not heard inside the house while those prepared stones were being fitted together.

Cedar covered the interior walls, and wooden boards covered the floor. The builders carved patterns of buds, open flowers, palm trees, and cherubim. Gold covered the inner sanctuary and other parts of the temple. The beauty came through skilled work with particular materials. The description invites us to notice care and craftsmanship, not simply to imagine an empty building that appeared all at once.

The inner sanctuary was prepared for the ark of God's covenant. Two large carved cherubim stood there with outstretched wings. Their wings reached toward the walls and toward one another. These were crafted figures within the sanctuary, not living creatures being kept in a room. The ark, the sanctuary, and its furnishings all belonged to Israel's worship and to the remembering of God's covenant with the people.

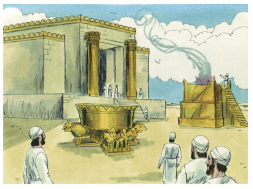
During the building, God's word came to Solomon about something more important than decoration. The king was to follow God's commands and walk faithfully in his ways. God's promise concerned living among his people, not merely having an impressive building. When the temple was completed, its beauty stood within that larger calling. The people were being invited into faithful life with the God whom the building was meant to honor. Its splendor was meant to serve that relationship, rather than replace it.

Remember: God is greater than every building, and he hears prayer.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

A Prayer Larger Than the Temple

1 Kings 6:1-38;8:1-61



Solomon gathered Israel's leaders and people for the temple's dedication. Priests carried the ark into the inner sanctuary beneath the carved cherubim's wings. Inside the ark were the stone tablets placed there by Moses. They reminded Israel of the covenant God had made with them. When the priests came out, a cloud filled the temple, and God's glory filled the house so that they could not continue their service.

Before the assembled people, Solomon thanked God for keeping the promise made to David. David had wanted to build a house for God's name, but his son had been given that work. Now Solomon stood with the finished temple before him. He praised God for bringing the promise to completion. Yet he did not imagine that wood, stone, and gold could make a container large enough for God.

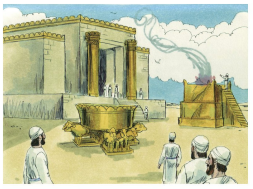
Solomon prayed that even the highest heavens could not contain God, much less the house he had built. Still, he asked God to hear the people's prayers. He prayed about forgiveness, wrongdoing, danger, and times of need. The building would be a place toward which Israel could turn in worship. The God who heard them remained greater than the building, and he knew what was within every person's heart.

The prayer also reached beyond Israel. Solomon asked God to hear foreigners who would come from distant countries because they had heard of God's greatness. He wanted all peoples to know God's name. At the end, he blessed the assembly and called them to wholehearted faithfulness. The dedication joined a beautiful place, thankful worship, and a way of life. Its purpose was honor for God and hearts ready to follow him.

Pause and think: How could your group make a place of worship more welcoming to someone who is new?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Beauty, Welcome, and the Heart



A carefully made place can help people gather, listen, and give thanks. Flowers on a table, a song practiced with care, or a room made welcoming can all express attention and love. Solomon's temple used the skills and materials of its time. Its beauty mattered, but God also called for obedience. A decorated room could never do the work of a faithful heart.

Solomon knew that God was greater than the temple. You can pray in a place of worship, beside your bed, or while sharing a worry with someone you trust. This is a reflection for our lives, rather than a new scene in the temple story. A building can help us gather, but God's care is not limited by its walls or the cost of its furnishings.

Notice, too, the prayer for people from other countries. The celebration was not meant to make strangers feel unimportant. Think about someone who is new to your group or speaks a different language at home. Offering a clear welcome, explaining what is happening, and making room beside you are practical ways to honor that person. Worship and kindness can meet in an open, hospitable heart.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

We honor the God who is greater than every building through worship and faithful hearts.

How could your group make a place of worship more welcoming to someone who is new?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did the priests carry into the temple?

2. Did Solomon think the temple could contain all of God?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Solomon prayed for Israel and for foreigners who would worship.
- ☐ Solomon built the temple.
- ☐ The priests brought in the ark, and a cloud filled the temple.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw flower and palm-tree patterns like the temple carvings.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

God is greater than every building, and he hears prayer.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Kings 8:27-30

A thoughtful conversation

Cherubim here are carved figures, not pets or small winged babies. Keep Solomon's distinction clear: the temple honors God, but God is not confined inside it.

Activity answers

1. The ark of the covenant.
2. No. He knew that even the highest heavens could not contain God.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us honor you with our words and the way we live. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on 1 Kings 6:1-38;8:1-61. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 11_1Ki_06_01_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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