

READ IT

This week's Bible story is
**Solomon Builds
the Temple**

from 1 Kings 6.

Holy places bring us into God's presence.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Solomon
- Temple
- Ark of the Covenant
- Ten Commandments

Solomon's temple was built around 960 BC. The Ark of the Covenant was shorter than a person. The wings of two angels on the Ark touched the walls of the golden room.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 136-139

Spark Bible pages 371-372

Family Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for all the special places in our lives that encourage us to worship you. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1** What and where is the most beautiful church you have ever seen?
- 2** Where do you go to feel close to God?
- 3** What is your favorite part of your worship space?
- 4** What kinds of materials would you use to build a holy place for God?



Eye Spark

When you see a church, say, "God bless the builders of that holy place."



Ear Spark

Count how many different kinds of building sounds you hear this week.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Create a special holy place in your home where you can go to celebrate being in God's presence: an empty corner, a table, or nightstand. Place a Bible, candle, and maybe a piece of sacred art there. Encourage each other to go there to pray.

For younger kids

Ask at church if there is something simple your family could do to help care for your church, inside or out.

For older kids

Use a software drawing program to design a temple you would enjoy building or worshipping in. What kind of materials would you use? How big will it be? What special features might it have?

TRY IT

Art

Make a “holy place” in your home where anyone can go and sit to pray, read their Bible, or meditate. Choose a special chair or cushion, perhaps adding a candle, small plant, or a devotional book along with a Bible. Decorating a small cross as a family could be a nice addition to this quiet space.

Bible Skills and Games

Before building the temple, Solomon had to have a plan. As a family, design your own temple for God. What would you build it out of? How would you decorate the inside? What are some challenges to building your temple? Are they the same as or different than the challenges Solomon might have faced? Search online to learn more about construction during Bible times.

Computer Lab

Think about projects you can build together that will bring your family closer to each other, to your community, and to God. Consider looking up the local Habitat for Humanity chapter online to learn about volunteer opportunities where you can literally build houses for God’s people.

Cooking

King Solomon made a special room for God inside the temple. He covered everything inside the room with gold. Make a pot of cheese fondue. Have everyone choose one kind of food to use for dipping. Serve the fondue for a family snack. How can you thank God for the gifts God has given you?

Creative Drama

Gather pillows, cushions, boxes, and blankets from around your home. Build a temple for God. Make it large enough for people to fit inside. What do you need to make it sturdy? What can you add to honor God? Have someone play the part of King Solomon and supervise the building. When the temple is finished, go inside and worship God!

Music

Visit a construction site. Talk about what has to happen to keep the building strong. What happens to the building if there are no directions on how to build it? Promise each other to build good family faith together from the bottom up with God’s directions. Sing “Whistle While You Work” to celebrate building your lives on God’s foundation.

Science

Your home is a holy place and your family makes it unique. Ask a friend to take a picture of your family standing together outside your home. Decorate a picture frame. Use a marker to have everyone print their unique fingerprints on the frame. Hang the photo in your entryway where you will be reminded of God in your home.

Video

Find a video of a building being constructed or repaired. Then, use Legos™ or blocks to build a family Tower of Honor. Throughout the week, when members of the family have received honor or respect from another family member, add a block to the tower. See how high you can make it in just one week.