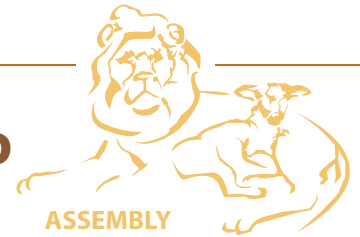


# SOLOMON AND THE TEMPLE OF GOD

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: I CHRONICLES 28-29



*Summarize the story and then go on to read 1 Chronicles 29:1-19 about David's example in giving and how the people gave generously to make the temple. The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### MAKING PLANS

**Supplies:**

make a two-dimensional  
plan of a temple from  
toothpicks glued to a  
piece of construction  
paper

To help the children understand what plans are, show them the plan of the temple. Give the children the plan and ask them to build a temple from toothpicks according to the plan.

This should be made simple: a rectangle with a roof is sufficient. Point out how all the projects look alike. Plans help us to make the exact copy of what the writer of the plans intended. Without plans each person would make what he or she wants, they would all be different.

The Bible is God's plan for us as to how we should live. It is important that we just don't do what we want but follow God's word.

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### GIVING BY EXAMPLE

**Supplies:**

bring in a single digit  
combination lock

One of the best ways to teach is by example. It is much easier for a student if there is an example to follow. King David demonstrated sacrificial giving by giving from his own monies. Read 1 Chronicles 29:1-6. When the people saw David's generosity they wanted to follow him.

Ask the children if they know what the lock is. Give it to one of the children who has never opened a combination lock and tell them to open it. They will likely not be able to open it. Then you can show them how it works. Turn each dial slowly until the correct digit lines up with the indicator. When the combination is entered, open the lock. Give them a second try and see if they can open the lock. Chances are by watching you they will now be able to open the lock.

Ask the children the following questions:

How did David's example in giving help teach the people how to give?

Elicit that David gave willingly and generously and he showed the people that God is worthy of the best we have to give.

• How should David's example teach us?

Elicit that God is worthy of our best and we also should give willingly and generously to God's purposes.



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### Where Is Jesus?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

Solomon was commissioned by God to build the temple. The temple would be the place where God's presence would dwell. All of worship would revolve around the temple. This temple was only a shadow of another temple, our hearts. Paul draws the connection in the following scripture:

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.  
(1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

The Temple of Solomon would be filled with the presence of God. Now, as believers, we are also filled with the Spirit of Christ.

Solomon was chosen by God to build the temple because he was a man of peace, see 1 Chronicles 22:9-10. David was not permitted to build God's house because he was a man of war. One day the king would come to fulfill the promise of a king who would reign on the throne of Solomon forever. This king, Jesus, would build God a house – the church. Of the increase of His peace there would be no end, see Isaiah 9:7. God chose Solomon, a man of peace, to point forward to the Prince of Peace, see Isaiah 9:6.

