DEEP BLUE

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

SESSION 11

A Temple for God

Shout triumphantly to the LORD, all the earth!
(Psalm 100:1)

Read the Bible Story Together: Follow the Suggested Motions

Based on
1 Kings 6:1-38;
8:1-66

King Solomon built a temple where all the people would be reminded that God was with them. *(We're building Solomon's Temple, Temple. We're building Solomon's Temple.)*

King Solomon wanted the temple to be beautiful for God. So, he got the best stone workers and the best woodworkers in the land. *(We're building Solomon's Temple, Temple. We're building Solomon's Temple.)*

King Solomon got the best workers to cover the inside of the temple with gold. It was so bright, it hurt your eyes! *(We're building Solomon's Temple, Temple. We're building Solomon's Temple.)*

After seven years, the temple was done. It was so beautiful. They brought the special chest and placed it in the temple. *(We're building Solomon's Temple, Temple. We're building Solomon's Temple.)*

King Solomon knelt in prayer and asked God to care for all the people: "May God be blessed! God has cared for us. We will live the way God wants us to." *(We're building Solomon's Temple, Temple. We're building Solomon's Temple.)*

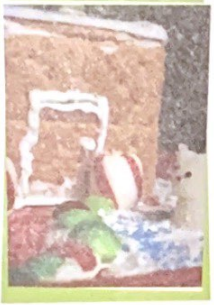
© 2020 Cokesbury

DEEP BLUE

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

SESSION 11

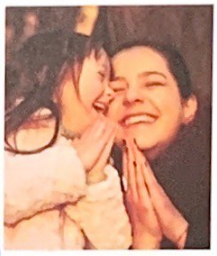
Faith Family Activities



Mealtime

Be Together: Use graham crackers and icing to make a graham cracker church or temple.

Wonder Together: How do you think the people of Israel felt when they finally had a permanent place to worship?



Worship Time

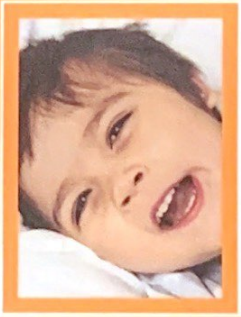
Be Together: Share stories about your faith journey with your children. Talk about growing up in the church. If you didn't grow up in the church, talk about how you came to church.

Pray Together: Thank you for church. Amen.

Family Time

Be Together: LEGO night! Build a temple or church out of LEGOs. Add a Bible, candles, cross, and other items that remind you of church.

Wonder Together: What would you add to your sanctuary?



Bedtime

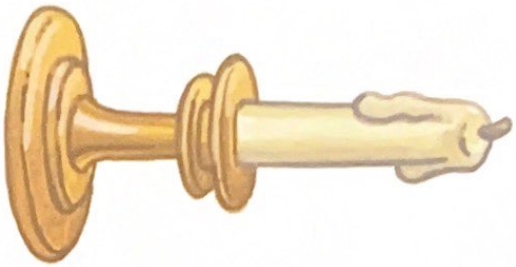
Be Together: Read the story, "A Temple for God," on the back of this sheet and do the suggested motions.

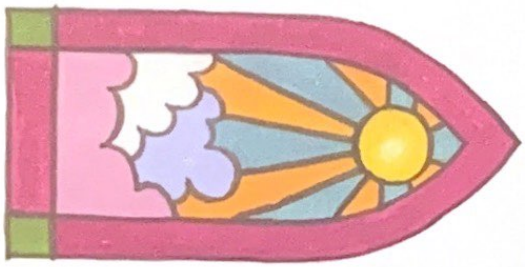
Pray Together: What is one thing you want to give praise for today?

© 2020 Cokesbury

Worship Space Sort

Punch out the eight cards below. Sort the cards into two stacks: My Worship Space (items you might find in your worship space today) and Temple Worship Space (items you would find in worship spaces in biblical times).





DEEP BLUE

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

SESSION 11

Based on
1 Kings 6:1-38;
8:1-66

A Temple for God

Shout triumphantly to the LORD, all the earth!
(Psalm 100:1)

Reading Together

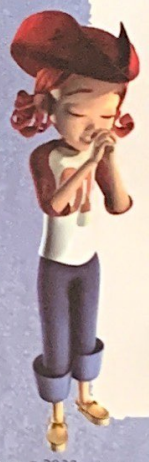
Can you read the words in **BLUE**?

King Solomon, David's son, wanted to build a permanent place where **God's** people could **worship**. So **Solomon** had the people build the **temple**. The **temple** was very big, and took seven years to build. The **temple** reminded the people that **God** was there with them. Everything inside was covered in **gold** and beautiful decorations.

Once the **temple** was finished, **Solomon** gathered everyone together. Some of the people brought everything that had been in the **Tabernacle** and placed those items in the **temple**, including **the Lord's chest**.

Solomon told everyone gathered there how they should show that they loved **God** and one another. He **prayed** and asked **God** to bless the people.

Solomon promised **God** that they would all live how **God** wanted them to live.



Written by: Emily La Branche Delikat; Summer 2020; Vol. 5, Session 11; Cokesbury © 2020

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

SESSION 11

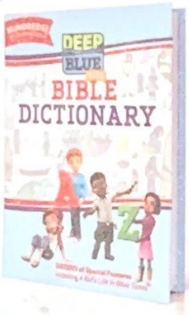
Family Faith Activities

Play Time

Be Together: Build a fort together out of cardboard boxes. What other tools and materials could make building something easier?

Meal Time

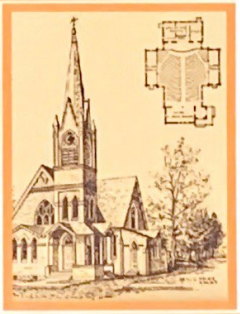
Be Together & Wonder Together: Try playing the quiet game at dinner. See who can stay quiet the longest. Do you think it was easy or hard for the workers who built the temple to work quietly?



Look It Up

Wonder Together: Look at the pictures of the Tabernacle and temple on pp. 254-255 of the *Deep Blue Kids Bible Dictionary*.

How were the Tabernacle and the temple the same? How were they different?



History Time

Be Together & Wonder Together: Have you ever walked into an unfamiliar church and thought: *This looks just like our own church!* Check out this video *www.tinyurl.com/sanctuaryplans* to learn why it seems so familiar.

Written by: Emily La Branche Delikat, Summer 2020, Vol. 5, Session 11. Cokesbury © 2020

1 Bible Story Retelling: *A Temple for God (1 Kings 6:1-38; 8:1-66)*

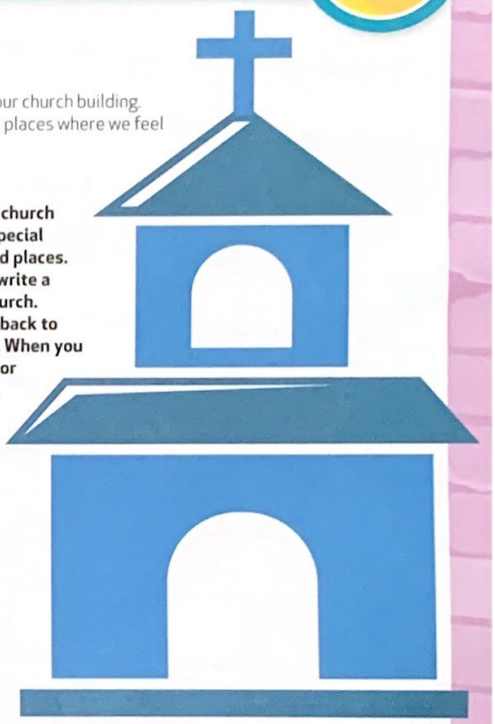
Reader 1: About 480 years after the Israelites left Egypt where they had been slaves, King Solomon began building a house for God.
All: Thanks be to God!
Reader 2: God spoke to Solomon about the temple the Israelites were building. God said, "If you follow my laws and keep my commands faithfully, I will live among you. I will keep the promise I made to your father, David, and I will not abandon my people.
All: Thanks be to God!
Reader 3: The Israelites worked for seven years to build God's house. Solomon wanted the site of the temple to be silent, so all of the work with tools was done somewhere else and the pieces brought to the sight and set quietly into place. It was a magnificent building with carvings and gold.
All: Thanks be to God!
Reader 4: After the temple was finished, Solomon gathered all of the people together. The priests moved God's sacred chest, containing the Ten Commandments, into the temple. Solomon said to God, "I have built you a glorious house, a place where you can live forever."
All: Thanks be to God!
Reader 5: Solomon stood before the altar, praying and dedicating the temple. In his prayer, Solomon remembered some of the things God had done in the past. God delivered the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt. God chose Solomon's father, David, to be king of Israel. When David wanted to build a house for God, God promised David that his son would build the temple.
All: Thanks be to God!
Reader 6: Solomon knew God was bigger than the temple, greater, in fact, than any building. Solomon knew the temple was a reminder of God's promise to live among God's people. The temple was a place for God's people to gather together and worship God.
All: Thanks be to God!
Reader 7: After Solomon dedicated the temple, he blessed all the people who were gathered there. He reminded the people that God had been faithful to them. He reminded the people to keep God's commandments and to be faithful to God.
All: Thanks be to God!

2 Spiritual Practice: *A Prayer for the Church*

Take time to bless your church building. Churches are special places where we feel God's presence.

This week...

- **Look around your church building. Notice special things, people, and places.**
- **During the week, write a prayer for your church.**
- **Bring your prayer back to church next week. When you are at church, say or share your prayer.**



3

Life Connection: *Church Architecture*

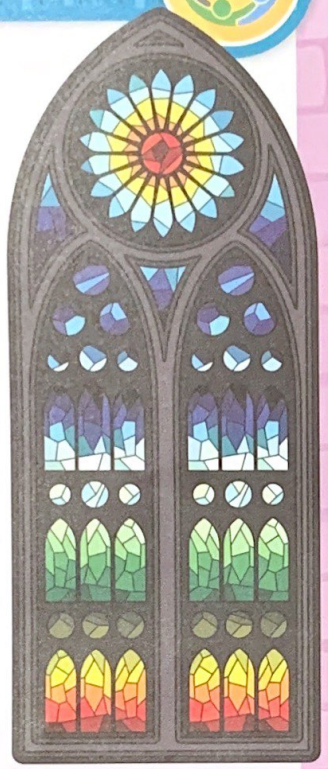
People have been building places of worship from the very beginning of time. Many people study the history of building churches.

Here are a few things we know about some church buildings:

1. Steeples were built to point people to look up toward the heavens. They also were often the highest point in the cities and towns so people could easily find the church by locating the steeple.

2. Church bells are usually hung inside steeples. The bells ring to tell people when it is time for church. Bells were also rung as a warning sign of a fire or if enemies were coming.

3. Stained-glass windows are created with colored glass made with metallic. Stained-glass windows became popular during the 12th century. They were thought to create heavenly light and to symbolize God's presence or spirit. The glass sometimes tells Bible stories and helps people know the Bible, even if they cannot read.



4

Family Faith Activity: *Altar for God*

We have been talking about how the Israelites made a special building for God. In this place was God's Spirit and God's presence.

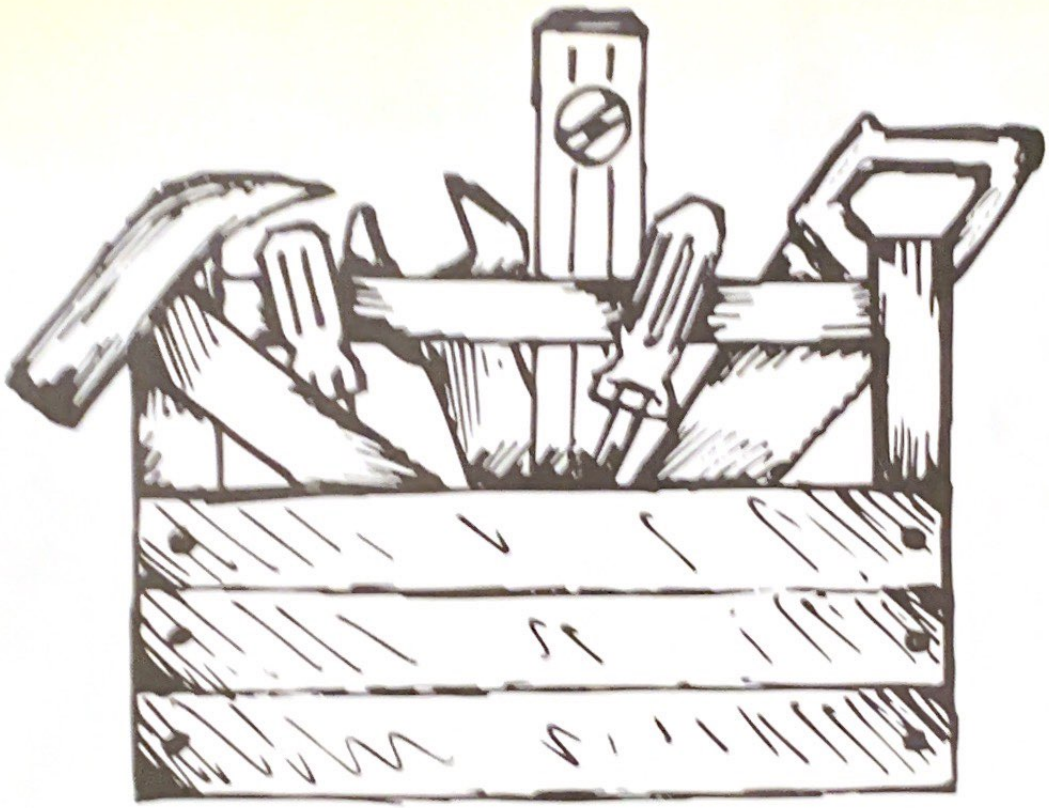
I wonder...
- **Where do you feel God's presence?**
- **Do you know about a special building?**

As a family, place a candle on your altar table. Light the candle and ask God to be with you.

Build a Temple

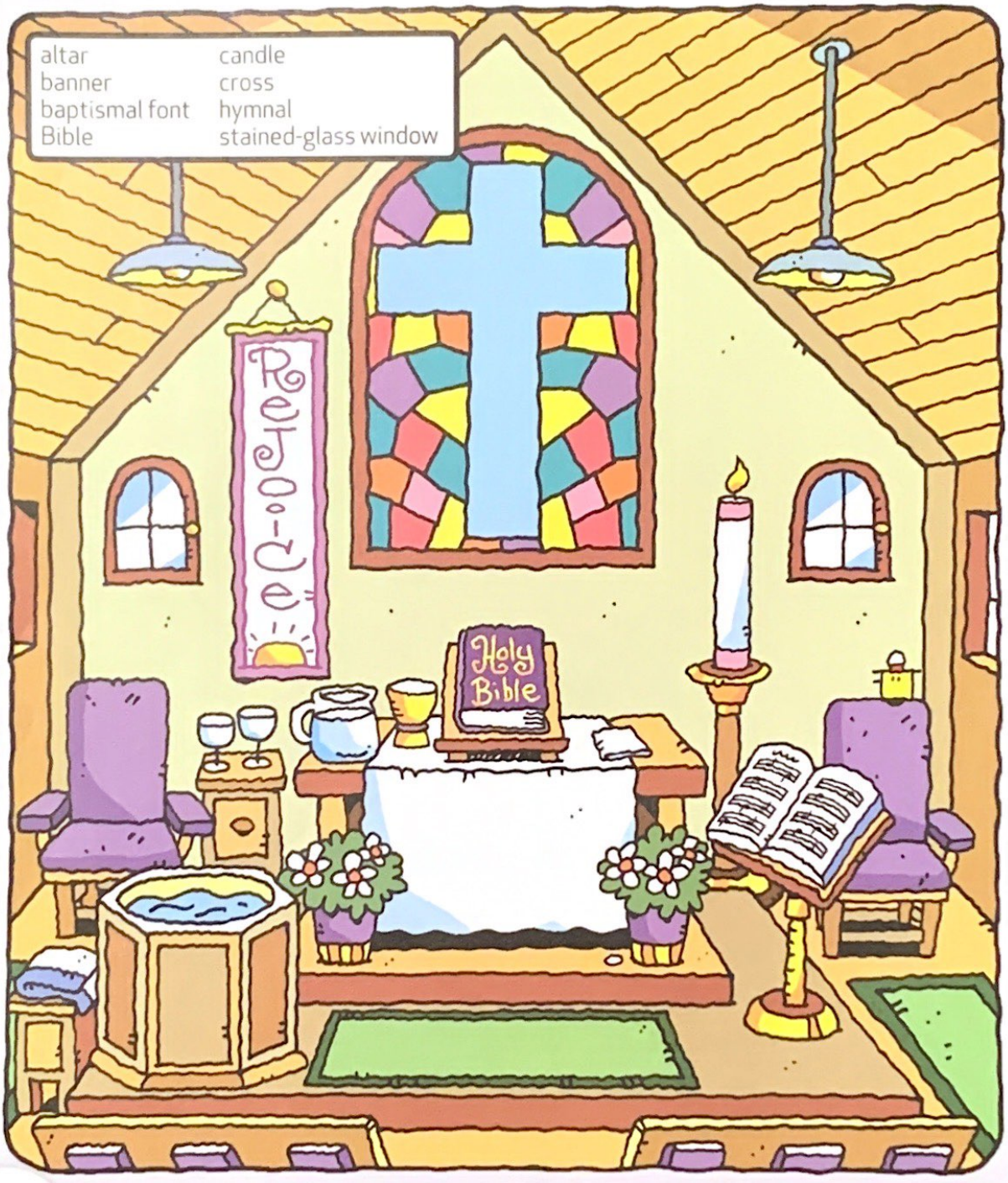
Bible Verse: Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth! Psalm 100:1

In today's Bible story, the people built a temple for God. If you built a temple, what would it look like? What would you put inside? Where would it be located? Write or draw about it.



Symbols

Bible Verse: Shout triumphantly to the LORD, all the earth! Psalm 100:1

Locate and circle eight symbols found in the church. Check your answers in the word bank.

altar	candle
banner	cross
baptismal font	hymnal
Bible	stained-glass window