

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **February 13, 2022** Family Theme | **Seeking God's Presence** Study Text | **1 Kings 8:1-61**

Objective: Help children understand that God wants us to draw close to Him and worship Him. We can seek His presence and walk closely with Him.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set around 966 BC when Solomon dedicated the Temple he had built for the Lord and brought the ark of the covenant into the Temple. The text notes that this event is 480 years after the Exodus from Egypt.

Bible Basics: Memorize the names and order of books fifteen through seventeen of the Old Testament (Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther) this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: 1 Kings 8:1-61

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that believers have God's presence with them by the Holy Spirit. We can draw close to Him and worship Him.



Key Truth: God Is Pleased When We Humbly and Obediently Seek and Worship Him (1 Kings 8:1-11)

King Solomon had completed the Temple at Jerusalem as a place for God to manifest His presence among His people. He gathered the leaders of Israel in Jerusalem and gave a memorable speech to commemorate the occasion. Countless sacrifices were offered as the people worshiped the Lord. The priests then carried the ark to its place inside the Most Holy Place in the Temple. The ark represented the ruling presence of God. When the priests came out of the Holy Place, God manifested His awesome presence and glory in the form of a cloud that filled the Temple.



Key Truth: God Is Always True to His Word (1 Kings 8:12-21)

The Temple had been completed, and now it was time for Solomon to remind the people of God's faithfulness to His promises. The vision for the Temple had been birthed in his father's heart and the resources had been acquired by his father's hands. But, as God had promised, the realization of the dream had been passed down to Solomon. Solomon praised God for being faithful to His promises. He indicated that God Himself had accomplished it by His own hand. This was one of many promises of God that Solomon recognized as being fulfilled. God is always true to His Word. Gathering at the completed Temple on this occasion was a result of God's fulfilling His word and using Solomon as a means to an end. Solomon had been faithful to carry out the task of building this Temple in which the Lord's name would dwell.



Key Truth: God Forgives and Helps When His People Repent and Walk With Him (1 Kings 8:22-61)

From Solomon's speech to the people, he moved to the altar to offer a prayer of consecration and dedication of the Temple. He opened with words of praise and adoration, thanking God for His goodness through-

out history and asking God to bring about what He had promised. Solomon asked God to turn His attention to His people to answer their prayers and forgive them when they called out to Him. Emphasis was placed on the Temple as a place where forgiveness, direction, mercy, and compassion would be offered and extended to all who would seek it, regardless of their nationality or sin.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What does it mean to seek God's presence?
- How does a person draw near to God and seek His presence?
- What can hinder us from experiencing God's presence?
- What should we do when we have sinned against God? How will He respond when we do this?
- How should we respond to the fact that God always keeps His promises?
- What could you do this week to draw near to God and seek His presence in your life?
- **For Elementary:** What does it mean to seek God's presence?
- **For Elementary:** What can hinder us from experiencing God's presence?
- **For Elementary:** What should we do when we have sinned against God? How will He respond when we do this?

Everyday Extras

Does God live at church? Many children think that He does. We often refer to the church as God's house, and it should be a place of reverence. Talk together about using good manners at church so that we do not distract and disturb others. But God's dwelling place on earth is not at the church building. Instead, it is in the hearts of believers. Take on a family project for showing your care for the church building where you worship. Volunteer to paint a room, clean out a closet, or trim the shrubs. Offer to polish wood or clean baseboards. You could wash sheets for the nursery or replace worn out kitchen towels. Help your children feel some ownership for their house of worship and learn to willingly offer their service.

Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned Solomon used the wisdom God gave him to help others. Solomon knew his wisdom came from God and only God knows everything. Solomon wrote much of his wisdom in the book of Proverbs. I can read in the Bible about the wisdom God gave Solomon and learn to use God's wisdom to help me in my life. **God Helps Me Make Good Choices.**