

LOWER ELEM Flight Plan

October 4th



Lesson	Solomon Built the Temple
Bible Passage	1 Kings 6-8
Story Point	God led His people to build a temple where He would dwell with them.
Key Passage	"The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9
Big Picture Q & A	How did God plan to fix what sin broke? God planned to send the Messiah to save sinners.



Welcome Home



leader bible study

When David was king, he wanted to build a temple for God, but God did not allow him to. “When your time comes and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up after you your descendant ... and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever” (2 Sam. 7:12-13). God said King David’s son would build the temple.

King Solomon began to gather materials to build the temple. He ordered cedar and cypress timbers from Lebanon. He gathered 30,000 men from all of Israel as laborers to excavate stone and prepare the timbers for the temple’s construction. The temple was impressive. The entire interior was cedar. King Solomon had everything covered with gold. In all, it took seven years for the temple to be completed. Inside the temple was furniture and accessories. (See 1 Kings 7:48-50.)

The time came to dedicate the temple. All of the Israelites gathered in Jerusalem. The priests brought the ark of the Lord to the most holy place, and a cloud filled the house of the Lord. God’s glory filled the temple. Solomon prayed and praised God for keeping His covenant with David. He recognized that God is not confined to a temple. “Even heaven, the highest heaven, cannot contain you, much less this temple I have built” (1 Kings 8:27). Solomon’s prayer and speech was followed by a great offering to God.

The temple was where God met with His people, and it gave God’s people a more permanent place to worship Him. The people could go there to make sacrifices and worship God. Jesus changed everything when He died for our sins on the cross. By taking our sin upon Himself, Jesus made the way for sinners to come to God. Today, when we trust in Jesus, He is with us wherever we go. We can look to Him for forgiveness and help.



Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

October Focus: A Nation Divided



OCT 4th: Solomon Built the Temple 1 Kings 6-8

Story point: God led His people to build a temple where He would dwell with them.



OCT 11th: The Kingdom Divided 1 Kings 11-12

Story Point: God divided Israel into two Kingdoms because Solomon sinned.



OCT 18th: Israel and Judah Taken Captive 2 Kings 17 & 2 Chronicles 36

Story Point: Israel ignored God’s prophets and was captured. Judah didn’t listen to God’s warning.



OCT 25th: The Captives Came Home

Ezra 1-3

Story Point: God kept His promise to bring His People home.



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co-Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co-pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?
- How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?
- What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?
- In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPQ and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story (Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45



10 min Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Open in Prayer

Hook

Prompt kids to describe where they live. Ask who lives with them. All over the world, different people live in very different ways. Houses can be made from bricks, wood, and even mud and grass! Today we will learn about the temple, which was sort of like a house for God.

Big Picture Question

As we get into our story, we need to set up a big picture question. This question will help us focus on a specific lesson we can learn from the various stories we will study over the next few weeks. ***How did God plan to fix what sin broke?*** *These next few weeks we will see how sin breaks apart the Nation of Israel—the nation God built up from Abraham's one son and talk through the answer: God planned to send the Messiah to save sinners.*

Key Passage

Show the key passage poster. Lead the boys and girls to read together **2 Peter 3:9**. At times, it may feel like the whole world is only getting worse and worse. Israel may have wondered; when will the Messiah come? We may wonder, when will Jesus come back? Our key passage is a beautiful reminder that God is faithful. He isn't wasting time, He is patiently waiting so more people have opportunities to turn from sin and trust in Jesus!

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

Solomon's story shows how God prepared him to lead Israel and eventually build the temple. Solomon was born to David and Bathsheba, and from the beginning God showed special favor toward him. After David died, Solomon became king and began his reign with a sincere desire to follow God. One night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and Solomon asked for wisdom to lead God's people well. As Solomon ruled, people from many nations came to hear his wise judgments, and Israel experienced peace and stability. Today we will hear about a project Solomon completed through God's guidance. **Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.**



15 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 6-8. Read from the Bible or use the story example to help you tell the story. Wrap up with the insights below.

Do you remember when we learned about God's covenant with David? David wanted to build a temple for God. God told David that he would not build a temple, but that his son would. Now we learned about God keeping that promise! God knew exactly when the temple would be constructed because God knows everything. God led His people to build a temple where He would dwell with them. Do you think God needs a temple to live in? No, of course not. He reminded David that He didn't need a temple, but He helped His people build it to show them His desire to be with them. The temple was a place they could gather to worship God and learn about Him. It was a place where they could offer sacrifices to cover their sin. So why don't we have a temple today? Well, the truth is, we kind of do! The Bible teaches us that Christians' bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit! Jesus came to fulfill the law. He is the perfect sacrifice for sin. He died so that we do not have to offer rams, goats, or other sacrifices to cover sin. When we put faith in Jesus—trusting that His sacrifice was enough to cover our sin—the Holy Spirit lives in us, filling us with God's power. In a way, that means that every believer is a temple! We don't need a physical building to be our temple because Jesus is with us wherever we go, day and night. If you are a Christian, nothing can separate you from God.



The temple was a place where God was with His people. The people could go there to make sacrifices and worship God. Today, when we trust in Jesus, He is with us wherever we go. We can look to Him for forgiveness and help. We no longer need a place to offer sacrifices, because Jesus' death was enough to cover our sin forever.

Age Appropriate Story

STORY POINT: GOD LED HIS PEOPLE TO BUILD A TEMPLE WHERE HE WOULD DWELL WITH THEM.

Solomon began to build a temple for the Lord. Solomon ordered thousands of workers to help build the temple. They laid a foundation and built the outside of the temple. God blessed the temple and promised Solomon, "If you obey My commands, I will keep the promise I made to David. I will live among the Israelites, and I will not abandon My people."

The temple was built in seven years. It was beautiful! Solomon hired men to make bronze furnishings for the temple. When the temple was complete, Solomon moved the ark of God to the new temple. Solomon gathered the leaders of Israel. As the priests moved the ark to the most holy place in the temple, King Solomon and the leaders sacrificed sheep and cattle to the Lord.

When the priests came out of the temple, a cloud filled the temple. God's glory was in the cloud. Solomon spoke to the Israelites: "God promised David that his son would build a temple. God kept His promise!"

Solomon prayed. He thought about the future. Solomon knew Israel would sin and make God angry again; so he asked for forgiveness for God to hear their prayers. When Solomon had finished praying, he encouraged the Israelites to love and obey God. The people returned to their homes, joyful because God was good to them.

Christ Connection: The temple was a place where God was with His people. The people could go there to make sacrifices and worship God. Today, when we trust in Jesus, He is with us wherever we go. We can look to Him for forgiveness and help.



Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help them find 1 Kings 6–8. Explain how to find passages in the Bible using the table of contents, large chapter numbers, and small verse numbers. Review which division 1 Kings is in (Old Testament History). Lead the group to discuss:

What movement-based activity can I use?



1. **What did God promise to do if Solomon obeyed Him?** (*dwelt among the Israelites, not abandon them; 1 Kings 6:13*)
2. **How long did it take Solomon and the workers to finish the temple?** (*seven years, 1 Kings 6:38*)
3. **What did Solomon ask God to do when Israel sinned?** (*hear their prayers, forgive them, and restore them when they repent; 1 Kings 8:33-34*)
4. **Does God need a house or a place to live?** Guide the kids to see that God did not need a temple. Help kids understand that the temple was a symbol of God's choice to dwell with Israel. Remind them that God does not need anything from people. (See Acts 17:24-25.) God is everywhere, but He showed His presence in a special way to the Israelites through the temple.
5. **How does God dwell with Christians today?** Discuss the role of the Holy Spirit. Remind kids that all who trust in Jesus have the Holy Spirit living inside them. He guides Christians to love and obey Jesus. Christians gather together to worship God and learn about Him, but Jesus is with us everywhere.
6. **If Jesus is already with us, why is His return important?** Discuss the difference between Jesus' presence with us now and His physical return to rule as King of kings. When Jesus returns, He will fix everything sin has broken. Jesus' return will signal the full coming of God's kingdom.

God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

- HOLY - WITH US

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today's story.



15 min Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Ongoing Object Lesson for the Temple

Not necessary, but could be a powerful way to make the connections of the lessons this month: Have the children work together to build a temple out of sugar cubes. Keep this temple for the next few weeks and incorporate it into future lessons as you find helpful:

Oct 4th: Solomon Built the Temple

Give each child a cotton ball and have them stretch it out without breaking it. Have them add their cotton to the temple to show how God's glory filled the temple when it was dedicated.

Have the kids draw on little pieces of paper, or cover very small objects with gold paper. Tuck these treasures in the temple.

Oct 11th: The Kingdom Divided

When the kingdom split, the temple in Jerusalem was part of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Ask the kids to consider where the Northern Kingdom would go to worship.

Oct 18th: Israel & Judah Taken Captive

Take the treasures out of the temple then destroy it by knocking it down, pouring hot water over it, etc.

Oct 25th: The Captives Come Home

Have the kids rebuild the temple, but do not provide as many or as nice of resources. Highlight how rebuilding was a bittersweet thing for the people of Israel.

Gold

With gold wrapping paper, tissue paper, etc. have the children wrap small boxes in the beautiful paper- enjoy the bright colors and make things look super special!

Solomon wanted the temple of the Lord to be special and magnificent for God, so he wrapped everything inside the temple with gold! God filled the beautiful inside of the temple with a cloud to show He was with His people!

Work Together

Invite kids to form a circle. Place a hula hoop over one kid's arm and instruct everyone to join hands. Kids must work together to pass the hula hoop around the circle without letting go of one another's hands. You may choose to track the time takes to pass the hula hoop around the circle. If time allows, challenge kids to beat their previous time. If you have a big group, form teams to race against each other. Discuss how working together made accomplishing this task easier, and compare it to how God's people built Him a temple by working together.

Creating a Temple for God

Using marshmallows and a little bit of water, have the children all "build" their own temple for the Lord. They can start with a square shape to build on (we can print a square on a paper for them). Then, have each child take a cotton ball and see how big they can make it without ripping it apart to be the "cloud" that God filled the temple with because He was with His people!



5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide*.**

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space— a neighbor's house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus' light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window—Grab a dry erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (Pre-K & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

You're ready for Sunday!



