

A Temple for God – Bible Story

11a

King David wanted to build a permanent temple in Jerusalem to be the worship center for the Israelites, but God chose to give that responsibility to Solomon, David's son. Solomon's temple was the first temple the Israelites built for God. It reminded the Israelites that God was the special head of Israel.

The temple was patterned after the tabernacle, and divided into three important areas: the Most Holy Place, the Holy Place, and the outer courtyard. The inside of the temple, the Holy Place, was made from cedar wood and covered in gold. It held a small gold altar, a gold table, and ten gold lamps on stands. The courtyard had a huge bowl for the priests to wash in before they offered sacrifices on a big metal altar shaped like a box, also in the courtyard.

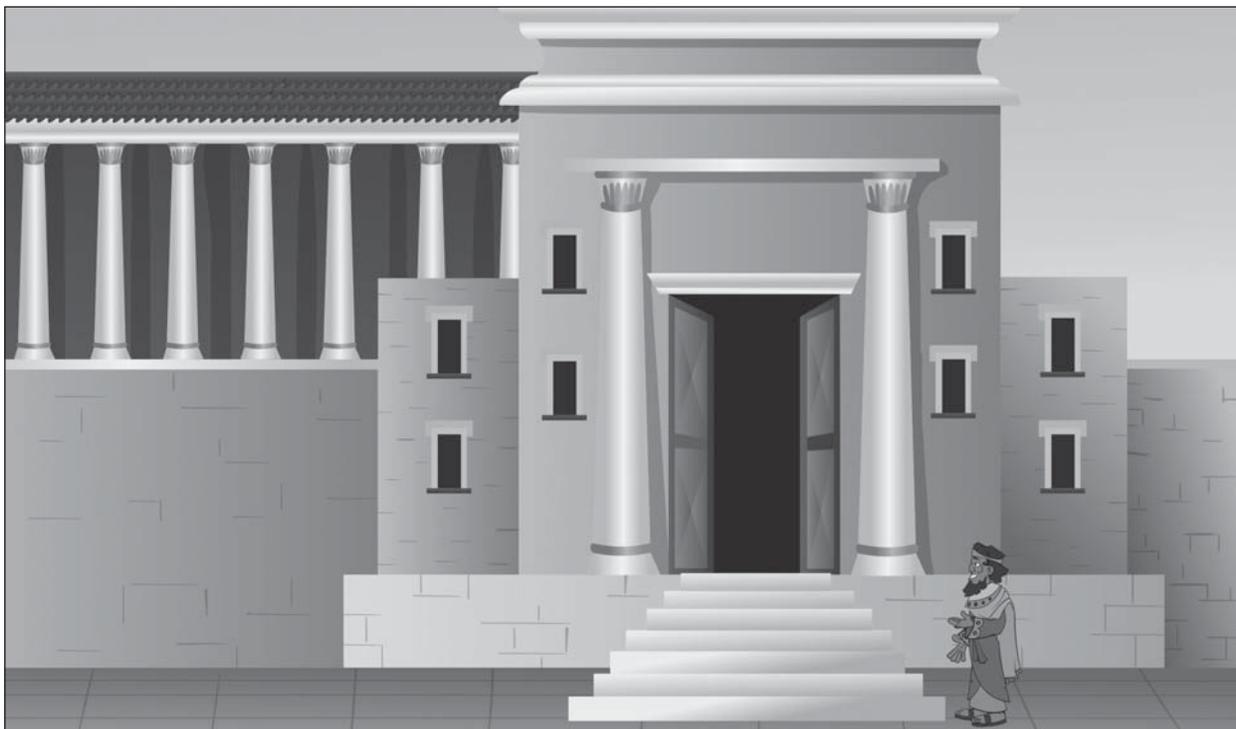
King Solomon made sure all the work was done well. It took seven years to build the temple. When it was finished, Solomon called for the

priests to bring God's Chest to the temple and place it in the Most Holy Place. Some of the priests sang, "God is good. His love lasts forever." Others played horns, cymbals, harps, and lyres.

Then a cloud filled the temple. God's greatness filled the house of worship. Solomon bowed down and called out to God, "There is no God like you." Then he prayed for God's people.

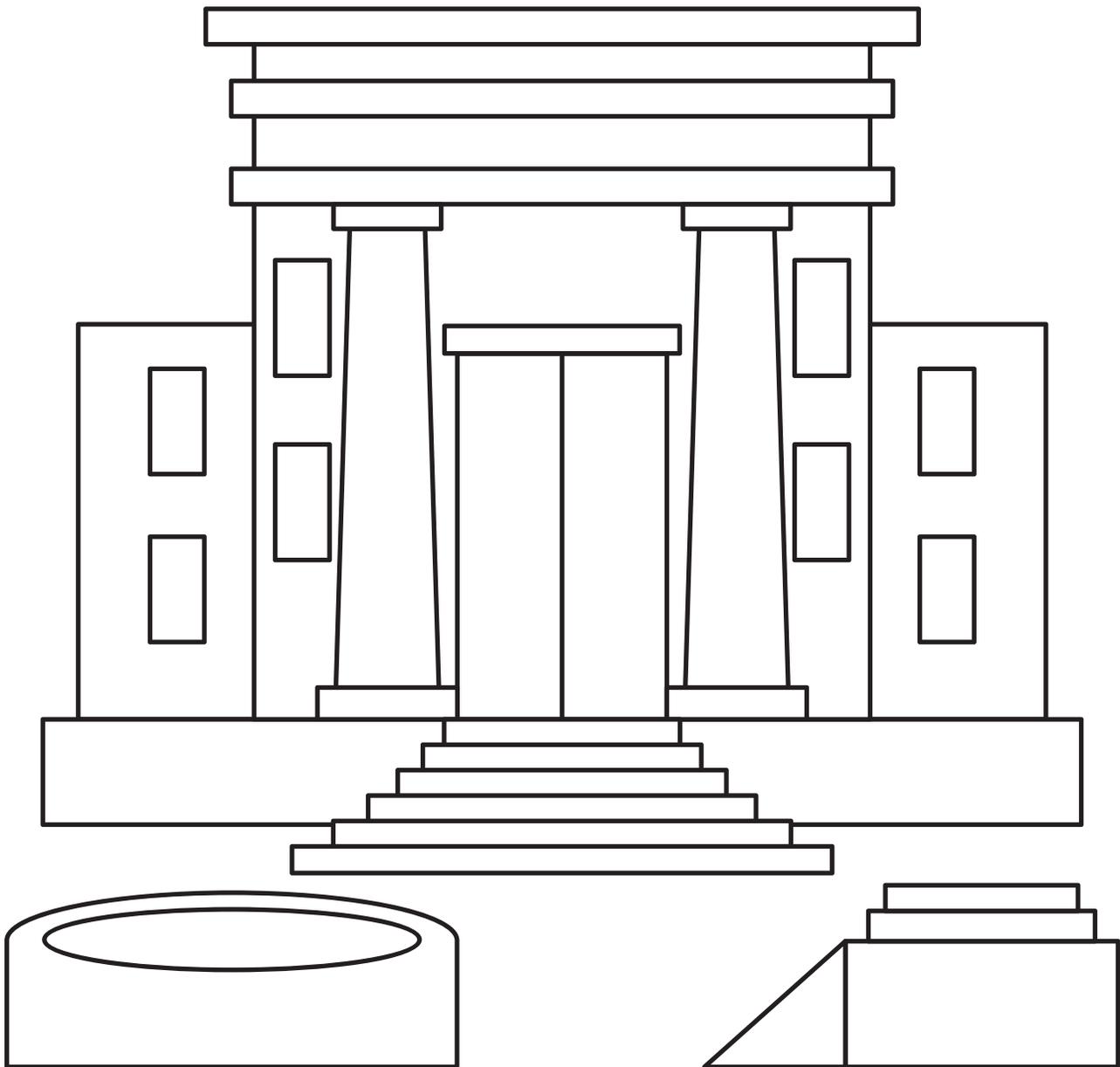
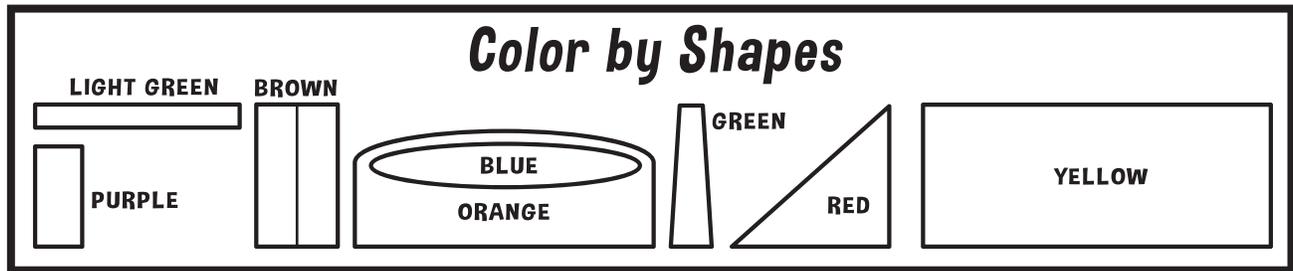
Fire from heaven came down on the altar in the courtyard and burned the animals placed there for offerings. The people bowed down with their faces to the ground in awe of what God had done for them. They thanked God like the priests had done by calling out, "God is good. His love lasts forever." They worshipped God for seven days. Then the people went home happy.

(Based on i Kings 6:1-38; 8:1-66)



11b Color by Shapes – Puzzle (Preschool)

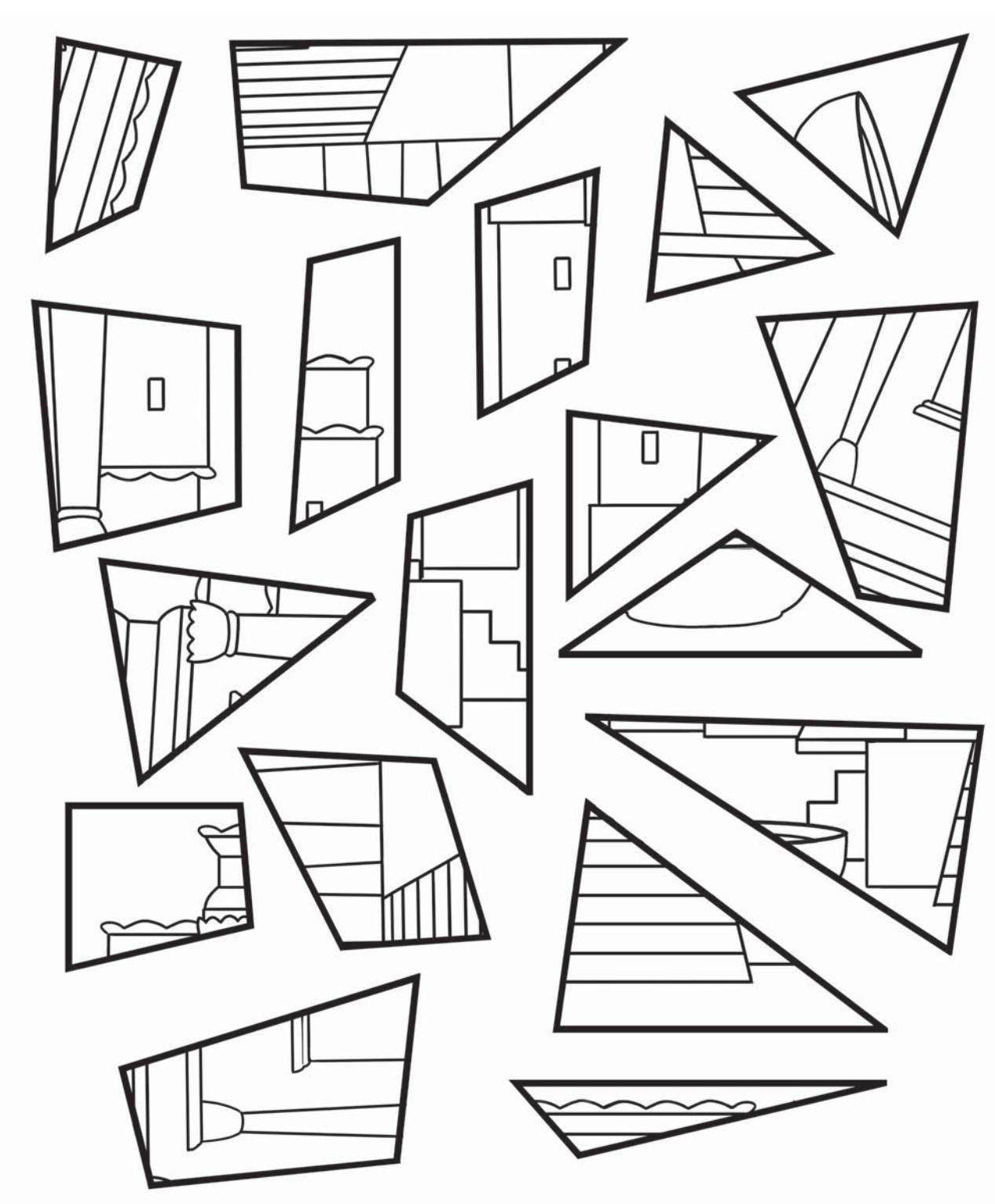
King Solomon built a temple in Jerusalem . It was like the Tabernacle in many ways, but it was much larger. Use the color code to color the picture of the temple.



Put the Pieces in Order- Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

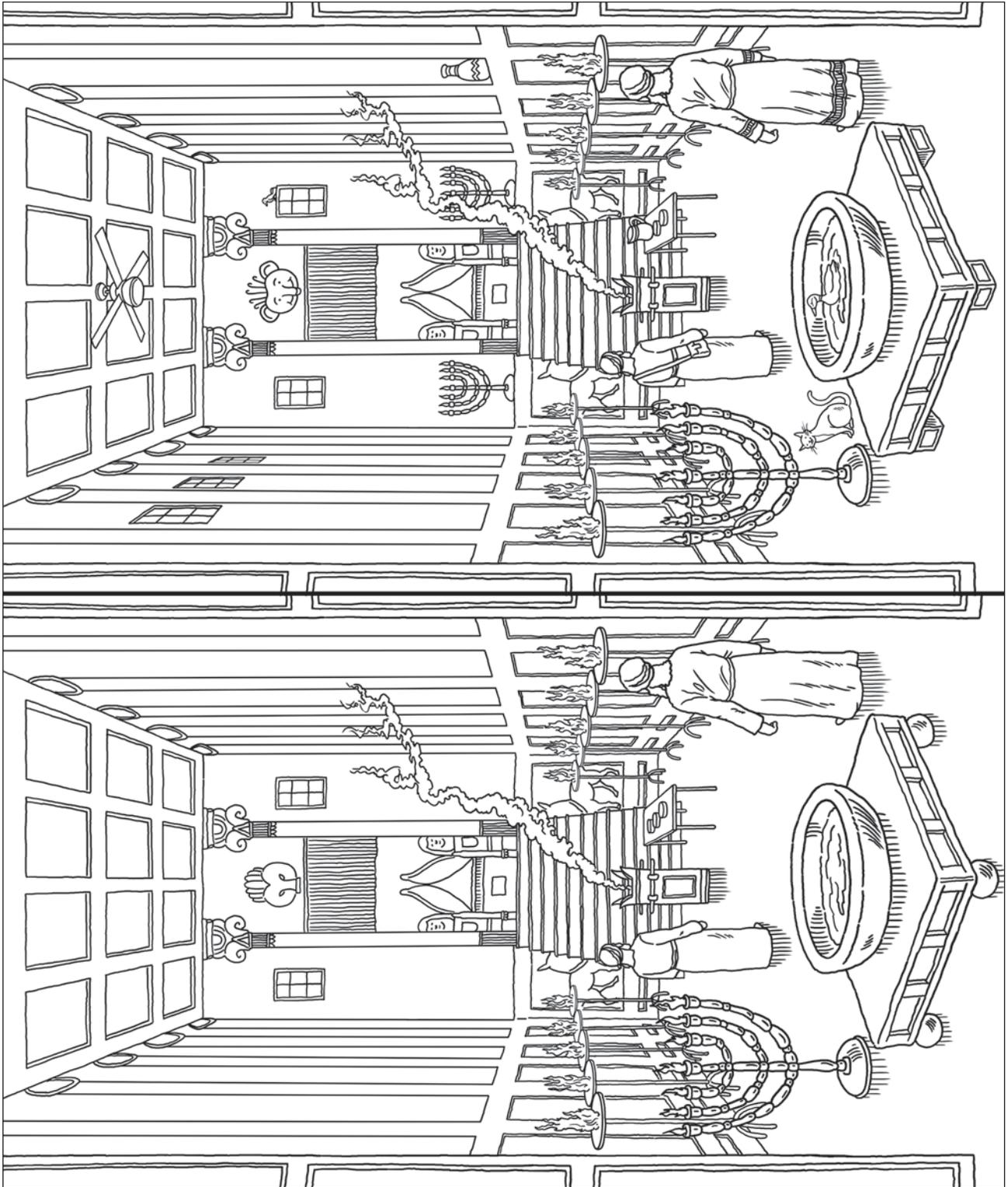
11c

The picture of Solomon's temple has been separated into pieces and mixed up. Cut out the pieces and put them together correctly.



11d Find the Differences – Puzzle (Older Elementary)

Solomon's temple was the most elegant place of worship for the Israelites. Look for 12 differences in the two pictures of the temple.



Build a Temple – Snack

11e

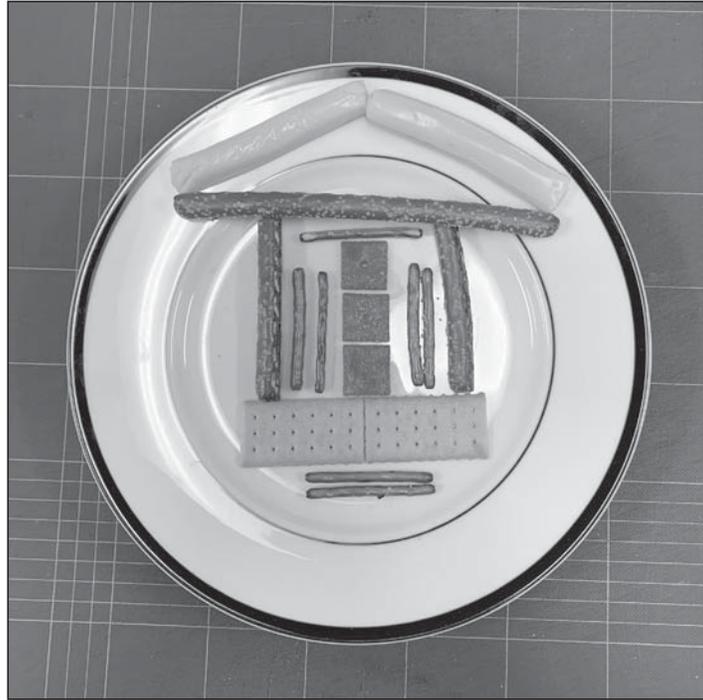
Ingredients

string cheese

pretzel sticks

crackers

(variety of shapes and sizes)



Directions

- Set out the ingredients.
- Choose the pieces you think you will use.
- Get creative and build your own version of the temple.

11f The Temple and the Tabernacle – Activity

The temple Solomon built was similar to the Tabernacle in many ways.

Look at the posters of the Temple and the Tabernacle. How are they alike?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

How are they different?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Solomon's Temple was 90' long by 30' wide. The Tabernacle was 45' long and 15' wide.

On a separate piece of paper, draw two boxes using these measurements to see the difference in the size.

Use the scale: 1 inch = 10 feet



A Temple for God

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

The Israelites were finally settled in the land God had promised them. Now they wanted a permanent place to worship God. Solomon took on the task of building the temple. It was to be the center of their religious lives. Solomon wanted the temple to be the most beautiful place ever built. His father, David, had designed the plans for the temple, but God didn't allow him to build it. He passed it on to Solomon when Solomon became king. Only the best materials were used. It took seven years to finish, and it was as beautiful as Solomon expected. The people gathered and remembered all the wonderful things God had done for them.

Verse of the Month

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

What Do You Think?

How do you think the Israelites felt when the temple was finished after working on it for seven years?

What would a church you designed look like?

Family Activity

Talk about why you go to church to worship.

Can you worship as a family at home? Plan a dedication service to celebrate your home as a worship area.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for our special place of worship, and help us worship you in our hearts all the time; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.