

A Tent for God – Bible Story

9a

“Make a worship tent for me,” said God. “Make it just the way I tell you to.”

Make a special box, God’s Chest. Make it from wood. Cover the inside and outside of the box with gold. Put gold rings on the side. Then put poles into the rings. You can use the poles to carry the box. Inside the box, place the stone charts with my words on them. Make a gold cover for the chest. Make two gold beings with wings. Put one on each end of the cover. They should face each other. Their wings should go up over the cover.

Make a gold table with poles to carry it. Make gold plates and dishes, jugs and bowls.

Make a gold lamp stand with six branches. Make seven gold lamps for it. Bring olive oil to burn in the lamps. Keep the lamps lit all night long.

Make the worship tent out of cloth. Hang blue, purple, and red cloth around the tent for walls. Hang up sheets made from goat hair. Put a

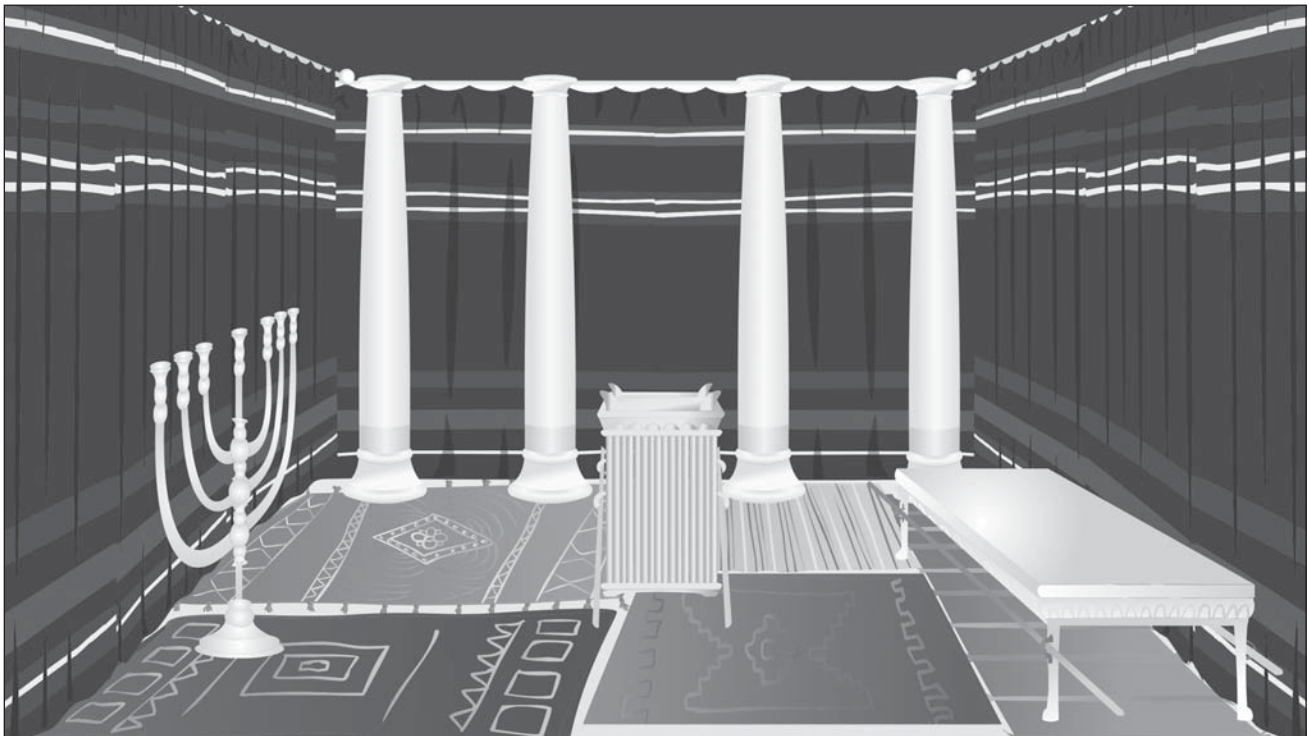
cover made of ram skins over the tent. On top of this, put a cover of goatskins. Make a frame with silver bases. The tent can hang over the frame. Blue, purple, and red cloth will hang inside the tent as a curtain to separate a room at the end of the tent. This room will be called the Most Holy Place. That’s where God’s Chest will go.

Build an altar for the worship tent. Make it square.

Make a special outfit for Aaron, the high priest.

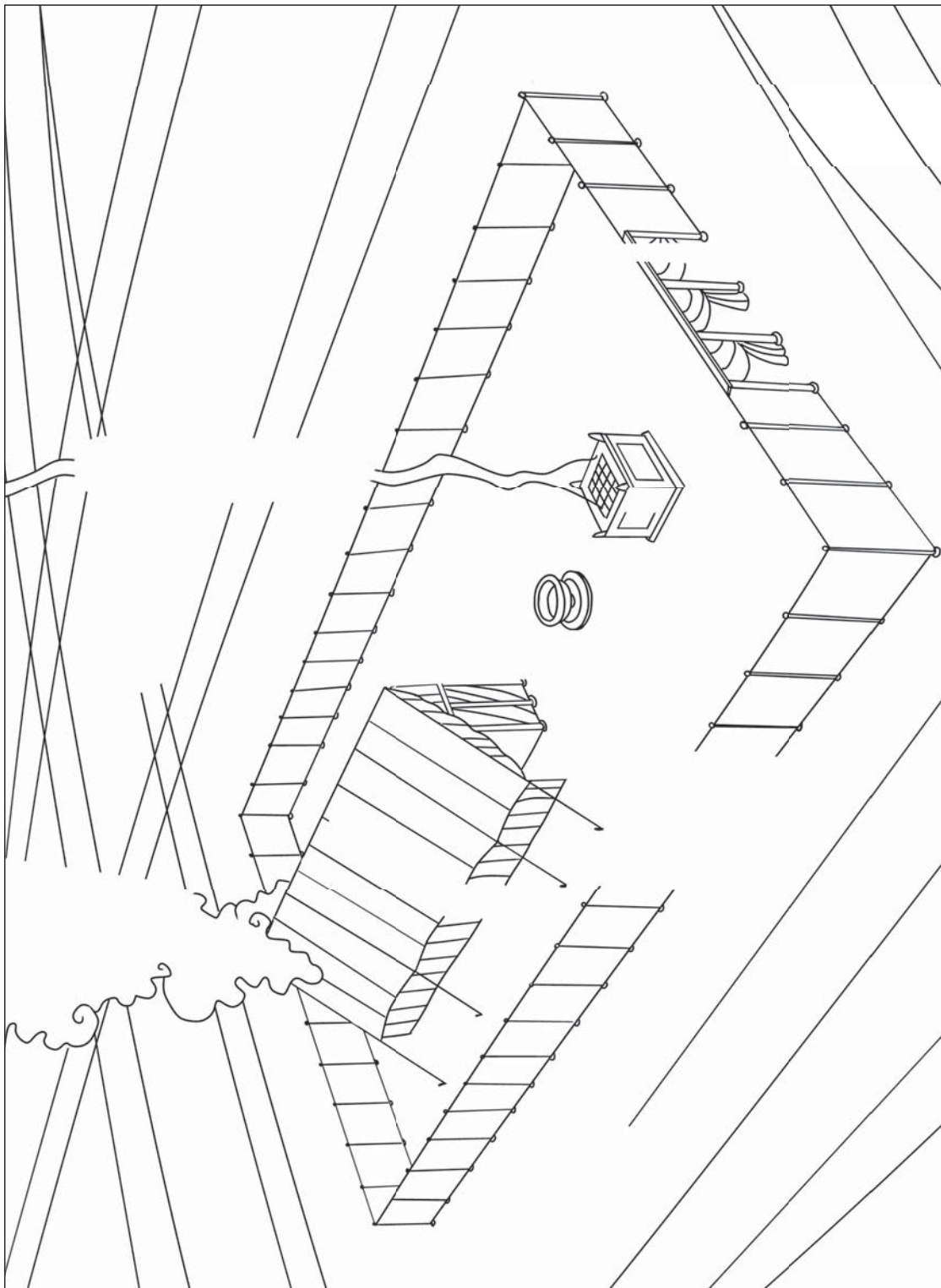
When the people were finished making the Tabernacle, they set it up just the way God had told them. They put everything they had made just like God told them inside the Tabernacle. Then the cloud came down on the worship tent, and God’s greatness filled it.

(Based on Exodus 25:1-31:15; 35:4-40:38)



9b Complete the Picture - Puzzle (Preschool)

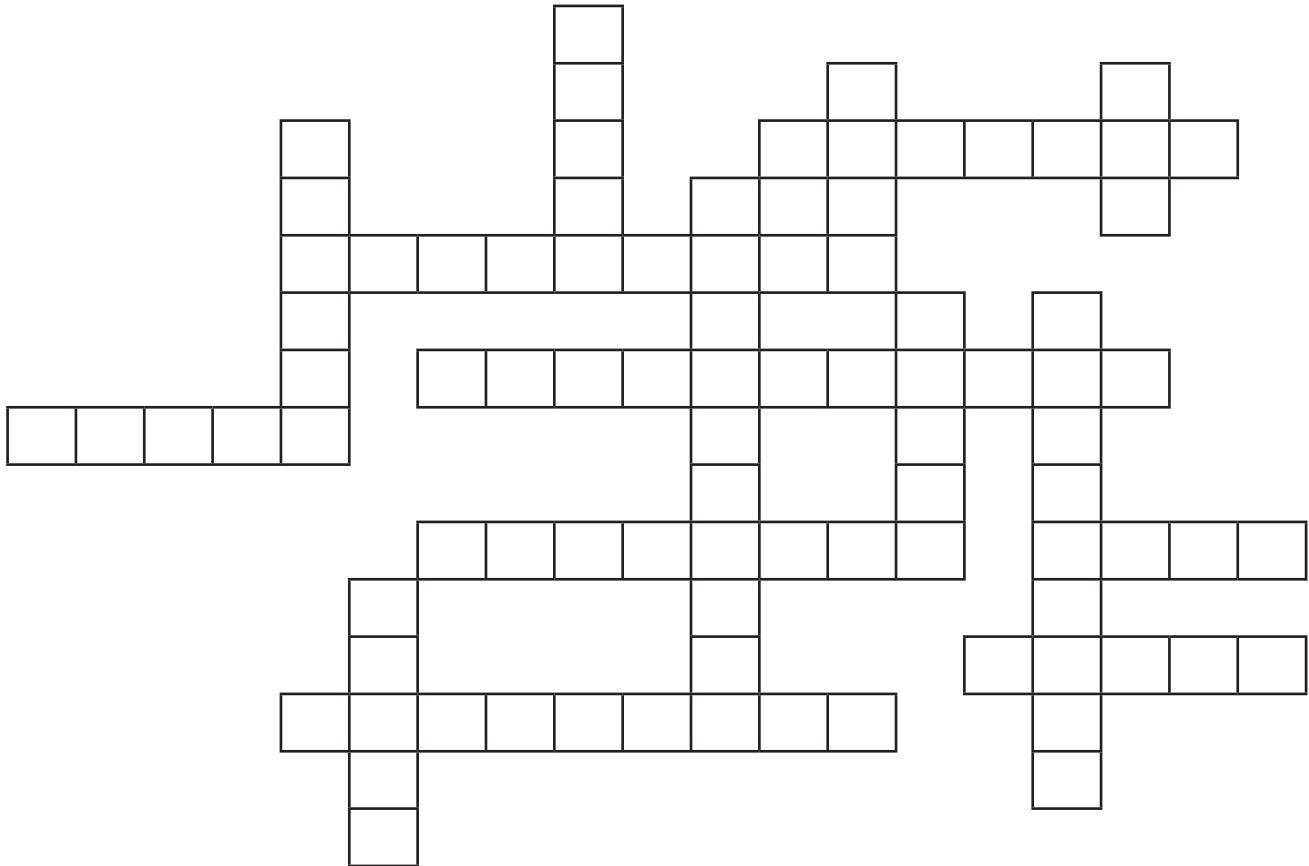
The Tabernacle was the Israelites' church in the desert. God told them exactly how to build it. Finish drawing their church in your picture and color it.



Fill in Words – Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

9c

All of the words in the puzzle are from the Bible story found in Exodus chapters 25–31 and 35. Place the words in the puzzle using the number of letters as the clue. Tip: Start with the words with the most letters.



3 Letters

oil

4 Letters

tent

gold

5 Letters

table

cloth

frame

altar

gifts

6 Letters

silver

7 Letters

worship

8 Letters

portable

9 Letters

god's chest

lampstand

courtyard

10 Letters

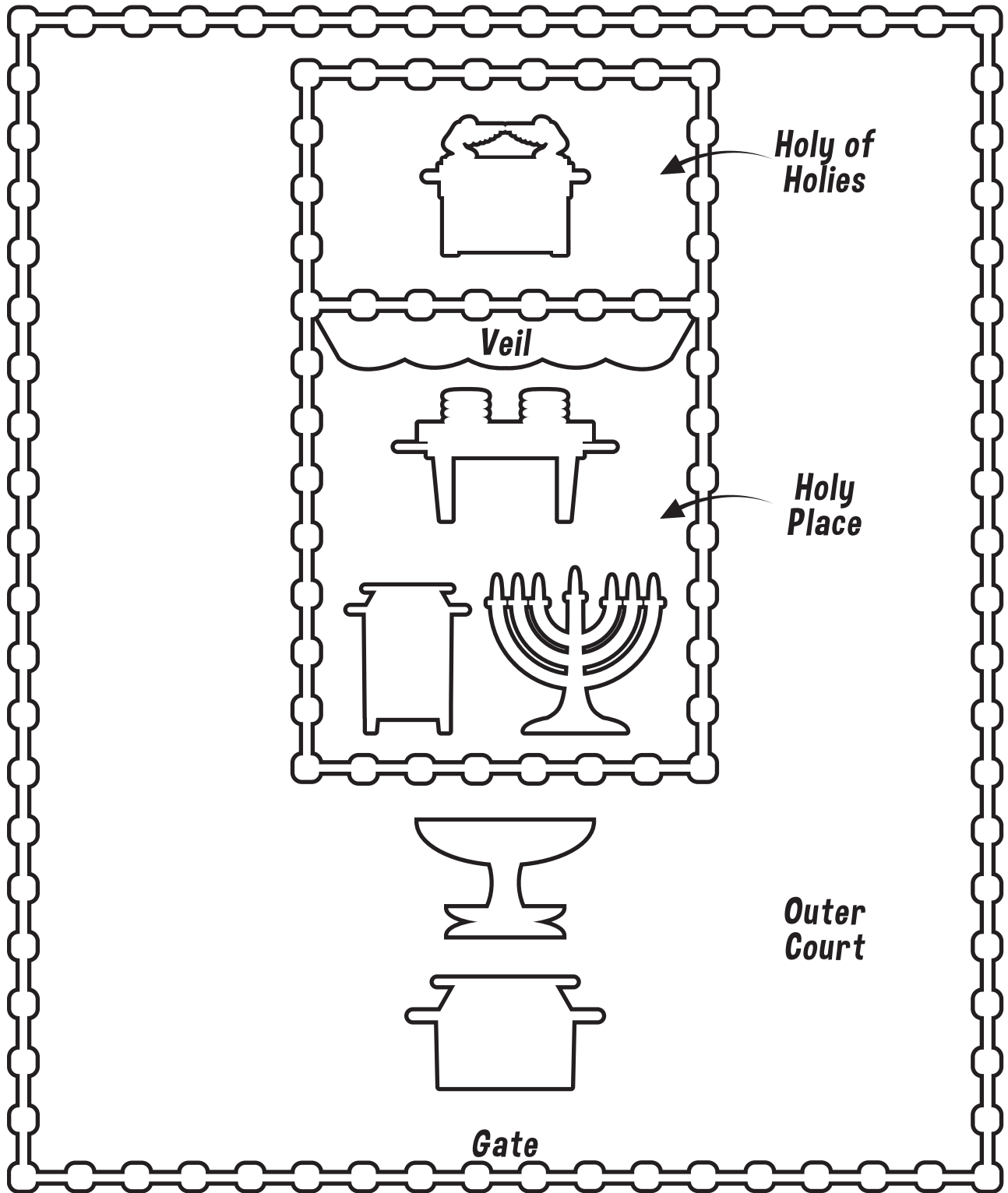
tabernacle

11 Letters

house for god

9d Matching - Puzzle (Older Elementary)

Some of the special objects in the Tabernacle are labeled for you. Label these objects: Laver of water, Altar for sacrifices, Candlestick, Table of Shewbread, Altar of Incense, and Ark of the Covenant.



Joyful, Joyful – Song

9e

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee:
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

I've got the joy, I've got the joy, I've got the
joy,
I've got the joy, I've got the joy, I've got the
joy,
I've got the joy, I've got the joy, I've got the
joy, joy inside of me.
I've got the joy, I've got the joy, I've got the
joy, joy inside of me.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
binding all within its span.

Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

Joy, joy, joy, joy inside of me!
Joy, joy, joy, joy inside of me!



WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907, st. 3, alt. 1989
MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824;
arr. Matt Huesmann
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9f High Priest Paper Doll - Craft



A Tent for God

Exodus 25:1-31:15; 35:4-40:38

God told Moses to have the Israelites build a special place of worship, a church, to use in the desert. Everyone contributed materials and gifts such as gold and silver for the tent. This was a big project, because God gave them detailed directions for every part. Everyone had a special job to do, and they all followed God’s directions exactly. The place of worship was called the Tabernacle. It was put together like a tent to make it easy to take down when they were traveling and put up when they stayed in one place for a while.

Verse of the Month

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

What Do You Think?

How long do you think it took the Israelites to finish the Tabernacle?

Why do you think it was so important to God and the Israelites to have a place to worship when they were traveling through the desert?

Family Activity

Talk about when and how your church building was built.

Think about a big project you as a family can do. Write down the details and different jobs. Plan a time to accomplish this project.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for our place of worship. Help us discover new ways to worship you; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

