

Solomon's Temple: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: God's ways are above our ways.

SuperVerse: "Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, My thoughts and My ways are higher than yours." Isaiah 55:9 (CEV)

Bible Story: 1 Kings 1, 5–8; 1 Chronicles 22,28; 2 Chronicles 2–7:1–11

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today we start a new Superbook adventure about how King Solomon built the Temple. Solomon is famous for his wisdom. He is also known for building a magnificent structure to honor God.

- Chris is excited that his team will compete in a championship using the robot he designed—until he learns that he can't go.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to meet young Solomon, who will soon become Israel's king. His father, King David, has designed and gathered materials for the Temple. David isn't allowed by God to build it, so he gives Solomon instructions on how to do it. Chris learns that being part of God's plan is best of all.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Build-It Relay (15 minutes)

Objective: Play a game to construct a building.

- Solomon built the Temple according to God's building plan. He may not have understood why God chose certain designs and materials, yet he chose to obey and not take any shortcuts!

Game Instructions:

- You will work in pairs of two to build a temple according to a blueprint. When it's your turn, take the blocks from your team's storage pile to your table to build a temple. You may need to make more than one trip! Then follow the blueprint carefully to build your structure.

Teaching: The Sky Is not the Limit (15 minutes)

Objective: Compare God's ways to ours.

- God is high above the heavens, and He sees the whole picture. He created the entire universe and knows how everything works. He is working everything for our good and according to His master plan. He alone understands what is best in every situation. He is always faithful and good.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)

- As we walk in obedience to God, our Temple will grow more and more like Christ. That is what this Discipleship Challenge is about. In each lesson, we will learn about some items or furnishings of Solomon's Temple and compare them to what God does in our own Temples.

SuperVerse: Superbook Correction (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- God's thoughts and ways are far above ours. He is filled with love and wisdom. He is faithful, and all He does and His plans for us are good.
- As children cover their eyes, use the list to change one word of the SuperVerse on the board to alter the meaning of the verse, then have the children look at the board and raise their hands to tell you what word should be fixed. Write in the correct word, then repeat the process.

Prayer: Thoughtful Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- The Holy Spirit can speak to us in various ways: through God's Word in the Bible, in dreams, visions, or simply by speaking to our hearts. The important thing is to give God the opportunity to speak to us each day; to listen and follow His leading.
- Let's close our eyes and ask the Holy Spirit to forgive us for thoughts that are negative, unclean, harmful, or selfish. Allow children time to pray. Then, focus on thoughts that please God; whatever is true, pure, right, holy, friendly, proper, and are worthwhile and worthy of praise.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Game: Play a game about thoughts and ways. | Grades 1–6 | 15 min

Action Game: Play a game to have more of God's thoughts. | Grades 1–6 | 10 min

Maze Activity: Find the correct path so Solomon can be anointed king. | Grades 1–3 | 10 min

Bible Study: Look deeper into God's thoughts and ways. | Grades 4–6 | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Temple Blueprint Pattern
- Two tables
- Jenga-style blocks, small wood blocks, or dominoes; thirty blocks per team
- A container to carry the blocks
- Optional: painter's tape or masking tape
- Two leaders or volunteers
- For larger classes, add more blocks and tables

Teaching Materials Needed:

- World Map Pattern
 - Scissors
 - Table or chair
 - Balloon filled with helium, tied with a long string or ribbon
 - Balloon filled with air and tied closed
 - Heavy book, rock or object to tether the helium balloon on the floor
 - Permanent marker
 - Bible or the Superbook Bible App
- Discipleship Challenge materials:
- God's Temple Page
 - Children's scissors
 - Glue sticks
 - Cardstock, one sheet per child plus extras
 - Pencils

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App
- Whiteboard or chalkboard, marker, or chalk
- Eraser

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App