

WEEK 3 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

God is worthy of
our worship.

BIBLE

Solomon Builds the Temple:
2 Chronicles 5:1–14

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Whether it's a building, a monument, or something else, the things construction crews build can leave us in awe. This week, we'll hear the story of when Solomon built the temple and people began to worship and give thanks to God. This story reminds us that while we can build awe-inspiring buildings, God is so much bigger than them, and **God is worthy of our worship.**

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Construction Hunt

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the session, gather small wood blocks, play gold coins, plastic jewels, and smooth rocks. You can also use the images from the [printable](#) provided. Put these treasures around the room for the kids to discover. Have the kids take turns bringing the treasure, one piece at a time, to a table in the middle of the room. You can even make two teams and have them race to find all of the treasure.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead of hiding the items around the room, lay out the different materials in the middle of a circle and hold onto each of the matching items. Hold up one of the items, and have toddlers point out its matching pair in the circle.
- You get to go on a treasure hunt to find some of the things in our Bible story today. Solomon used these kinds of things to build the temple. Let's help build the temple!
- In our Bible story today, we will hear about how King Solomon brought all of the things he needed, like gold and silver treasure, into the temple.

ACTIVITY | Scarf Celebration

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prior to the session, gather thin scarves or bandanas. Play upbeat [music](#) and dance with the kids. Show them how to wave their scarf up high, swirl it around, and make it wiggle.
- We are going to wave our scarves while we have a dance party! I love to celebrate and dance with you.
- Our Bible story today is about how King Solomon and the people were so excited that they had music and celebrated, too. They had just built a temple because God was worthy of a place of worship.
- **What does worthy mean?** Something or someone is worthy when they are super duper awesome! We say that God is worthy because God is the best! God made everything and loves everyone. God is worthy of our love and worship!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | 2 Chronicles 5:1–14 (Solomon Builds the Temple)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below! Additionally, have a sound bite of [construction noise](#) playing in the background and decorate your space with items like caution tape, construction signs, and blueprints. As you tell the Bible story, there will be fun directions for the kids to follow. Hold your Bible in your lap as you tell the Bible story.
- **Does anyone remember what amazing gift God gave to Solomon?** Yes, God made Solomon very wise. Solomon wanted to show his love for God. One way he did this was by building a temple where everyone could come and worship God.
- Solomon began to build the temple for God. He had lots of people help him! And only the best things were used to build the temple. God is worthy of our best!
 - They cut cedar logs and stone blocks. **Pretend to saw back and forth with me. Do we have enough wood?**
 - Then the inside was covered in gold! **Pretend to hammer the gold onto the walls with me. Did we make it so fancy?**
 - Then they needed fancy gold and silver bowls, spoons, and candle holders. They even added jewels everywhere. **Everyone say, "So fancy!" with me in your fanciest voice.**
- **How long do you think all of this construction took?** It took seven years! Count to seven with me on your fingers. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven! Wow!
- Then they brought the ark of God! The ark was a special box that helped people know God was with them. Inside the ark, there were special things that helped the people remember what God had done. They put the ark in a very special place in the temple.
 - **Everyone put your hands together and say, "Thank you, God!"**
 - Finally, the temple was all done, the people decided to celebrate with songs and instruments like trumpets and cymbals.
 - **Pretend to blow your horn with me. Doot, doo-doo!**
- King Solomon had all the people help build such a big, important temple for God. It was the first time there was a real building where people could worship God.
- Solomon knew that God should have the very best. God is worthy of the very best!

BIG IDEA | God is worthy of our worship.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the session, put the poster of the Big Idea (available in the Graphics folder) at the bottom of a sheet pan and cover the poster with dried black beans. Let the kids use toy construction vehicles to push the beans off the "road" to see the poster underneath.
- Our Big Idea today is **God is worthy of our worship.**
 - **God** (point both hands to the sky)
 - **is worthy** (pretend to give someone a gift with both hands)
 - **of our worship** (wave your hands high in the air side to side slowly)

VIDEO | *Under Construction*, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | March Of The Ark

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prior to the session, use empty wrapping paper tubes secured to the sides of a medium-

sized box to create a pretend ark of the covenant. Guide the kids to march around the room or hallway holding the poles. Be sure each kid gets a turn to carry the ark while the rest of the class marches around behind.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** If possible, offer the toddlers a ride in your arms as you carry them around the classroom. You can also wheel them around in a wagon or push around more lightweight items. You can invite other leaders to help you. Connect this activity to how the people in the Bible carried a special ark around.

- This is one special box! We are pretending that it is the ark of God. The ark was a special box that the people carried into the temple.
- The people used to travel with the ark from place to place to remember God was with them. Now there was a temple where they could all gather to worship. They worked together to build a beautiful temple to honor God.
- **God is worthy of our worship.**

PRAYER

- God, you are worthy of our worship! Help us to give you our very best worship. We love you and want to worship you forever! Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Ribbon Cutting Snack

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place a ribbon around the box that holds whatever today's snack is. Invite a volunteer leader to cut the ribbon and pass out the snacks.
- Solomon and his people built a temple for God. It's kind of like how we come to church to worship God together.
- After construction on a building is finished, a lot of times, they do a ribbon cutting ceremony. They cut a giant ribbon with giant scissors because this building is like a gift to the neighborhood.
- Before we eat our snacks today, let's thank God for the snack and the church where we can meet together for worship! **God is worthy of our worship.**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prior to the session, use printables from the Construction Hunt activity to make a matching game. Sit in a circle together. Give each kid one of the pictures. Hold up a picture and ask who has the match. Ask the person with the match to answer a Bible story question.
- **Can you name one thing that was used to build God's temple?** Wood, stones, treasure.
- **Did King Solomon use the best things to build the temple?** Yes.
- **What was that special box called that they carried in on poles?** The ark of God or ark of the covenant.
- **What did they do when the temple was all done being built?** They sang songs and had a celebration.
- **Who is worthy of our worship?** God.

ACTIVITY | My Worship Place Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this craft, gather small boxes, takeout boxes, or empty (and clean) milk cartons for the kids to decorate as a church. Provide scraps of construction paper, metallic and glitter stickers, and foam shapes they can attach. Help them make crosses out of pipecleaners to attach to the top. See a worked example [here](#).
- You get to make your own place of worship today.
- **Why did Solomon build a temple for God?** Because **God is worthy of our worship!**
- I love getting to worship with you. It's so special when we meet and learn about God together!

MEMORY VERSE | James 1:5 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- **"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."**

PLAY TIME**ACTIVITY | Coloring Page**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Sounds Of Celebration

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Let kids explore instruments like a xylophone, toy drum, keyboard, tambourine, and child-sized guitar. You can also provide noisy books and other sound toys to play with.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Remember to provide a place for each toddler's personal belongings. Be sure to label their cups and bags to help the other volunteers in the classroom.

ACTIVITY | Construction Zone

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill a kiddie pool with playground sand or shredded tan paper and bury small or toy items like plastic cones, construction vehicles, construction hats, shovels, and buckets. Feel free to save this for later weeks.