

Upper Elementary

Solomon

All scripture quotations are taken from the World English Bible, 2020.

Checklist

- Brave, strong, obedient printouts
- 3 rubber bands or ribbons
- small box to represent the ark of the covenant (e.g. shoebox painted gold or covered in gold wrapping paper with two gold paper towel rolls taped to the sides)
- blindfold
- white tissue paper
- heart-shaped box (like for chocolates) OR cardboard box with heart print-out on it

Topic:	Solomon
Prep:	Print out papers that say "brave, strong, obedient." Roll each one up with a rubber band or ribbon.
	Get a heart-shaped chocolate box and remove all chocolates and clean it, OR get a shoebox and draw a heart on it or print out the heart picture to tape on it.
	Prepare a box to represent the Ark of the Covenant. This can be a shoebox painted gold or covered in gold wrapping paper with two gold paper towel rolls taped to the sides.
Intro:	Divide children into three teams and have them run a relay race (or, if in a small space, have them do the "small space relay race from the teaching slides). Give each team a different rolled up paper. At the end, open the papers to read what they say. These were the three main pieces of advice David passed on to his son Solomon before he died. Solomon was about to become the next king, and David was passing the baton to him, just like in a relay race.



OBEYDIENT

BRAVE

STRONG

Picture of Tabernacle

David had been on the run from Saul for many years before he became king. He never had a place to call home until this time. When the Israelites were traveling in the wilderness, they put the stone tablets with the ten commandments in a special box that God had designed, called the ark of the covenant. Wherever they camped this box was where God's Spirit would rest in their presence. David wanted to build a proper temple to house the ark of the covenant.



1

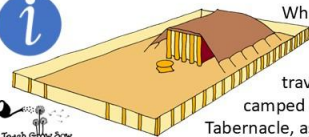
1 Kings 2:1-4

Now the days of David came near that he should die; and he commanded Solomon his son, saying, "I am going the way of all the earth. You be strong therefore, and show yourself a man; and keep the instruction of Yahweh your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to that which is written in the law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn yourself. Then Yahweh may establish His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your children are careful of their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail you,' He said, 'a man on the throne of Israel.'



1 Kings 2:1-4

Now the days of David came near that he should die; and he commanded Solomon his son, saying, "I am going the way of all the earth. You be strong therefore, and show yourself a man; and keep the instruction of Yahweh your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to that which is written in the law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn yourself. Then Yahweh may establish His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your children are careful of their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail you,' He said, 'a man on the throne of Israel.'



While the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years, they lived in tents. The Ark of the Covenant traveled with them. When they camped somewhere, it would stay in the Tabernacle, as a temporary home.

Have you ever seen a cartoon where a person rubs a magic lamp and a genie pops out to give him three wishes? What do people normally wish for? What would you wish for? Solomon had a real-life encounter with God, rather than an imaginary one with a pretend genie. Do you think he had had time to decide what he would wish for before this happened? Would you know what to ask for right away if it had happened to you?

1 Kings
3:5-9

In Gibeon, Yahweh appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask for what I should give you." Solomon said, "You have shown to Your servant David my father great loving kindness, because he walked before you in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with you. You have kept for him this great loving kindness, that you have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today. Now, Yahweh my God, You have made Your servant king instead of David my father. I am just a little child. I don't know how to go out or come in. Your servant is among Your people which You have chosen, a great people, that can't be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"



In cartoons most people wish for:

I would wish for:



1 Kings 3:5-9

In Gibeon, Yahweh appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask for what I should give you." Solomon said, "You have shown to Your servant David my father great loving kindness, because he walked before you in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with you. You have kept for him this great loving kindness, that you have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today. Now, Yahweh my God, You have made Your servant king instead of David my father. I am just a little child. I don't know how to go out or come in. Your servant is among Your people which You have chosen, a great people, that can't be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

Solomon remembers how well his father had lead Israel. He realizes he is very young and doesn't know how to be a leader yet. Have you ever met a know-it-all? Some people cannot admit that there is anything they don't know. They want to sound smarter than everyone else. Can you learn anything in school if you think you already know everything? Can you learn lessons about life from your parents if you think you already know more than them? Why is it important to realize we don't know everything and need to have guidance from God and others?

1 Kings 3:10-15

This request pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have you asked for riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, behold, I have done according to your word. Behold, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, and after you none will arise like you. I have also given you that which you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you for all your days. If you will walk in My ways to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." Solomon awoke; and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of Yahweh's covenant, and offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Notice that Solomon didn't ask for knowledge. You can go to school and read lots of books to gain knowledge. But wisdom is from God. I might know that it's bad to eat candy for breakfast. But wisdom helps me choose the good over the bad. God was very pleased with Solomon's answer. He wants to bless those who love and serve Him. Jesus later said that if we seek God's kingdom and righteousness first, all the other things we need would be added on on top of that.

1 Kings 3:10-15

This request pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have you asked for riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, behold, I have done according to your word. Behold, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, and after you none will arise like you. I have also given you that which you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you for all your days. If you will walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." Solomon awoke; and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of Yahweh's covenant, and offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.



Knowledge (noun)
 1. Knowing facts
 2. Familiar with
 3. Learned
 4. Study



Wisdom (noun)
 1. Knowledge of what is right and wrong and being able to judge between them
 2. The ability to make good decisions

1 Kings
8:1-2, 10-
11

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel with all the heads of the tribes, the princes of the fathers' households of the children of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of Yahweh's covenant out of David's city, which is Zion. All the men of Israel assembled themselves to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month... It came to pass, when the priests had come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled Yahweh's house, so that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud; for Yahweh's glory filled Yahweh's house.



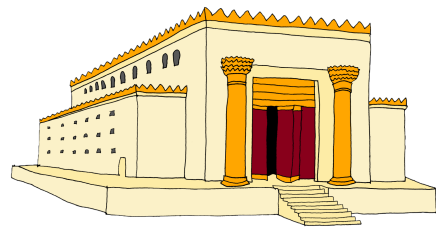
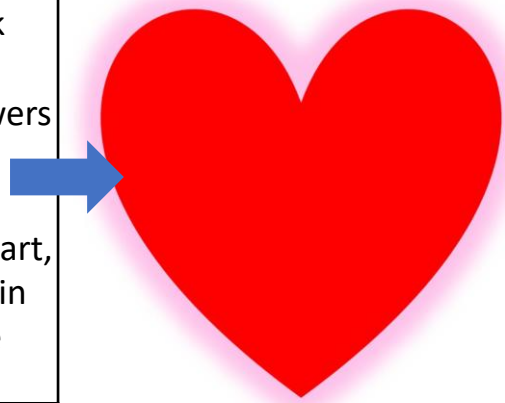
1 Kings 8:1-2, 10-11
Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel with all the heads of the tribes, the princes of the fathers' households of the children of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of Yahweh's covenant out of David's city, which is Zion. All the men of Israel assembled themselves to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month... It came to pass, when the priests had come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled Yahweh's house, so that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud; for Yahweh's glory filled Yahweh's house.



God made an agreement (covenant) with the Israelites to take care of them as long as they were faithful to Him. The Ark of the Covenant was the symbol of this agreement. It was a box covered in gold. It had two cherubim figures on top. Inside were the original Ten Commandments and Aaron's rod.

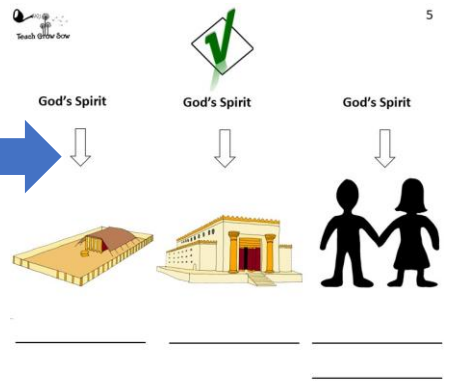


Ark and tissue paper	(Show children the model ark.) This box was called the ark of the covenant--very different looking from the one Noah sailed in. The priests would offer sacrifices to God and He would show them that He accepted their sacrifices and forgave the people from their sins by sending His Holy Spirit down on the ark. (Lift up tissue paper and let it slowly float down onto ark). When the ark was brought into the new temple, God's Spirit was so bright everyone had to leave or they would go blind.
Tissue paper and heart	God continued to have His Spirit be present in the temple through the Old Testament times. But when Jesus died on the cross, the curtain hiding the ark from the people was ripped in two. God's Spirit wasn't hidden anymore. Later, when Jesus' followers were gathered together, God sent His Spirit into them. God's Spirit lives in the hearts of His followers. When a person asks Jesus into their heart, they are filled with God's Spirit (put tissue paper in heart box). The Bible explains that our bodies are temples for the Holy Spirit.
Picture of Temple	When Solomon was building the temple, he had lots of rules about how to build it in a way that showed respect for it as a very special place. The blocks used in the construction were cut and polished at the rock quarry so that no building noise was heard at the sight of the temple. The workers respected the things of God and wanted to do an excellent job. Solomon only used the best materials. If our bodies are the places where God's Spirit lives today, what are some ways we can respect His holy temple? (not putting bad things in our bodies, using our bodies to serve God, not doing things that are wrong with our bodies)



Review God's Spirit came down on the Tabernacle, then the Temple, and now He is in the hearts of believers.

Closing: Have one child wear a blindfold with the other children circle around them. Other children have cards listing actions. Students call out, "Do this!" "This is a good idea!" "You should do this thing!" etc. Child in the center must choose five cards. After taking the blindfold off, the child reads the actions to do and the group discusses if they were good ideas or not. About half of them should be bad ideas. It's impossible to make good decisions without anything to guide you. Reenact without the blindfold. Each card has a red X or green checkmark revealing if it is a good or bad idea. This time the child will be able to choose only the good ideas. When we ask God for wisdom, He will help us make good decisions and ignore the bad ones, no matter how much other people try to convince us to do them.



Solomon asked for:	Solomon got:	The Temple was built by:
Wisdom <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saul <input type="checkbox"/>
Riches <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	David <input type="checkbox"/>
Power <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Solomon <input type="checkbox"/>
Long Life <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



Pull your sister's hair. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do the dishes without being asked. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sneak a cookie when no one is looking. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clean up your room. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Copy your friend's answers to the test. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do your homework. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kick the neighbor's baseball under the porch so he can't find it. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Write cards for people in a nursing home. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brag to everyone when you get a good grade or score. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comfort someone who is feeling upset. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Watch whatever shows you want when your parents aren't around. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Listen carefully when others are telling you how they feel. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pretend to be sick when you don't want to go to school. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Have a good attitude in class even when you're really tired. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

STRONG

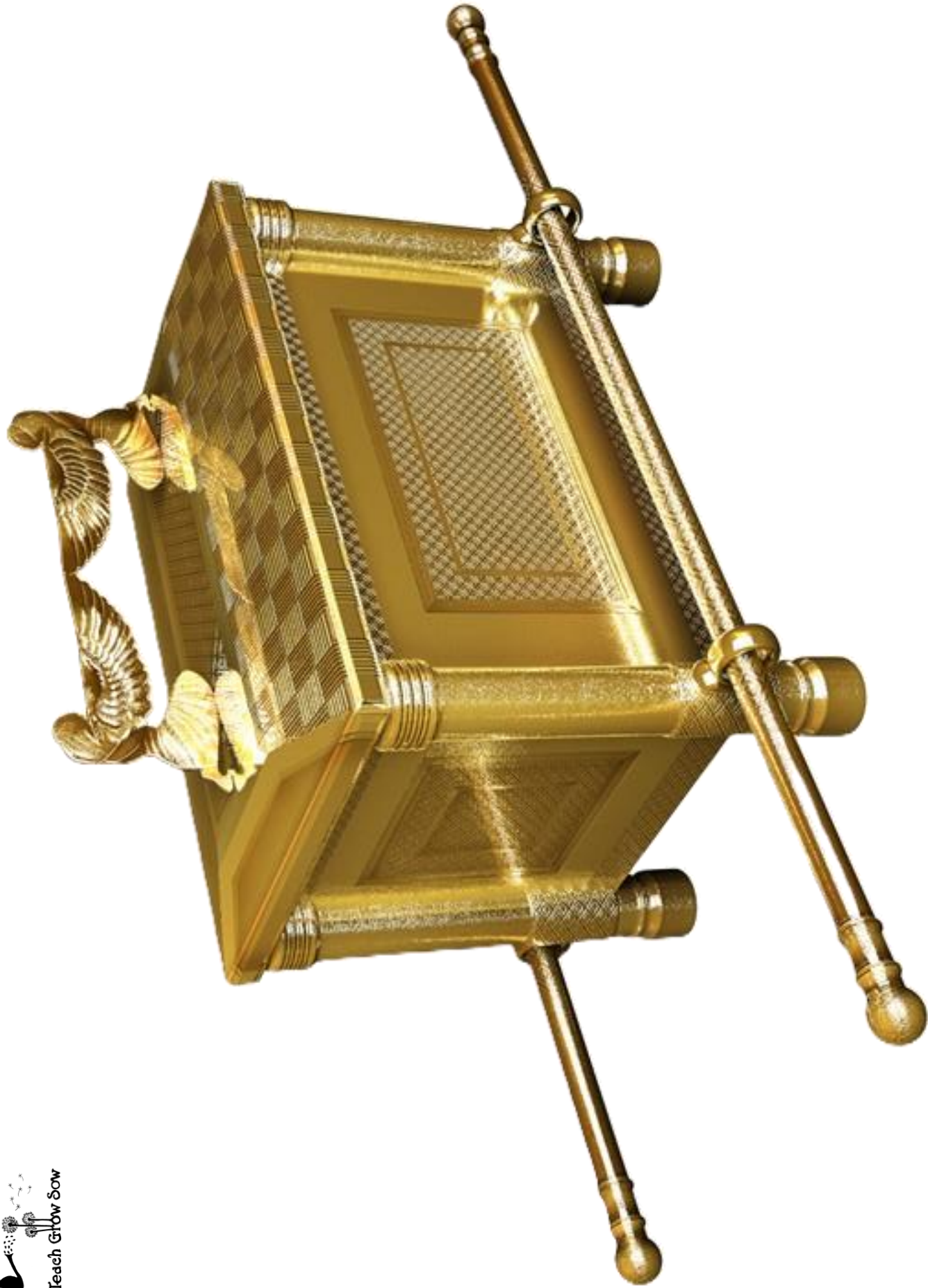
BRAVE

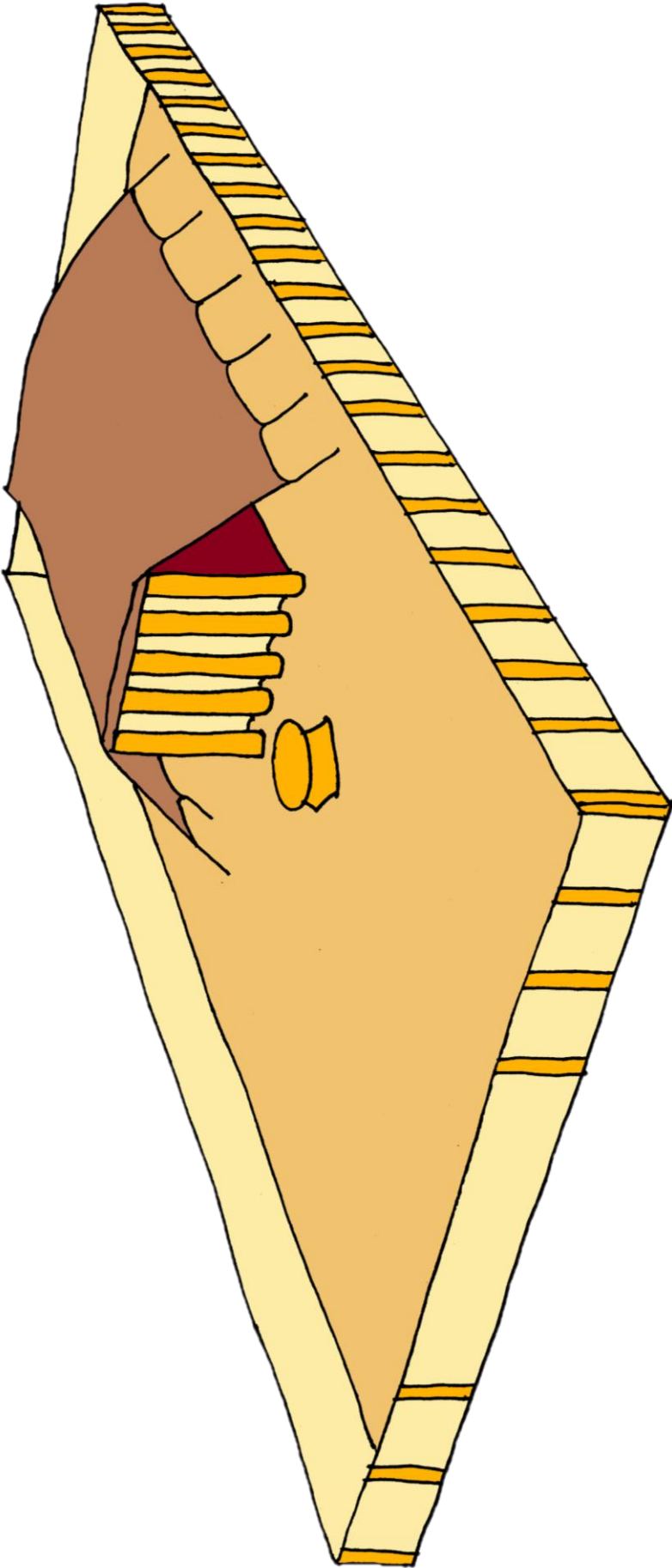


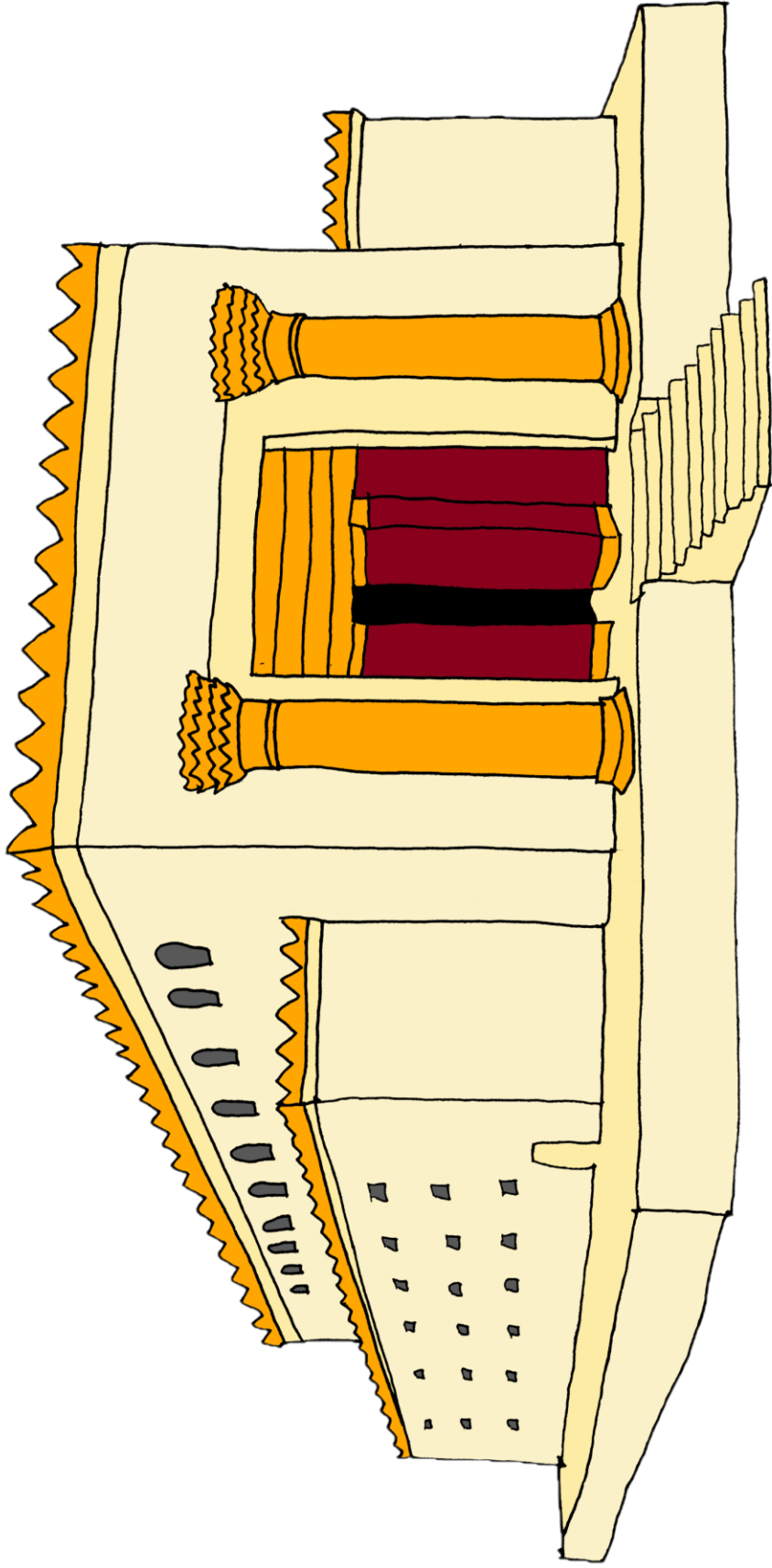
OBEDIENCE

<p>Pull your sister's hair.</p> 	<p>Do the dishes without being asked.</p> 
<p>Sneak a cookie when no one is looking.</p> 	<p>Clean up your room.</p> 
<p>Copy your friend's answers to the test.</p> 	<p>Do your homework.</p> 
<p>Kick the neighbor's baseball under the porch so he can't find it.</p> 	<p>Write cards for people in a nursing home.</p> 
<p>Brag to everyone when you get a good grade or score.</p> 	<p>Comfort someone who is feeling upset.</p> 
<p>Watch whatever shows you want when your parents aren't around.</p> 	<p>Listen carefully when others are telling you how they feel.</p> 
<p>Pretend to be sick when you don't want to go to school.</p> 	<p>Have a good attitude in class even when you're really tired.</p> 





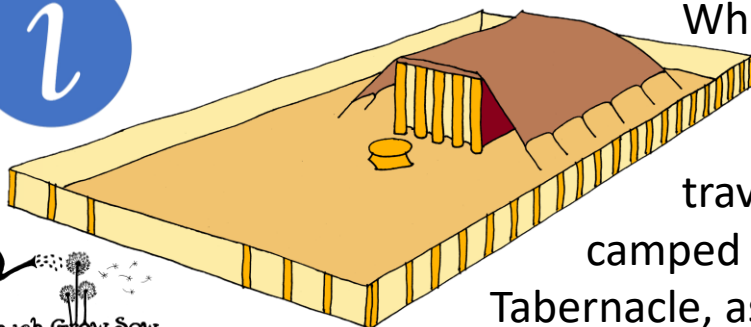
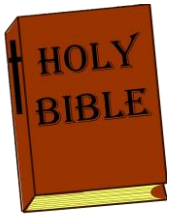






1 Kings 2:1-4

Now the days of David came near that he should die; and he commanded Solomon his son, saying, "I am going the way of all the earth. You be strong therefore, and show yourself a man; and keep the instruction of Yahweh your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to that which is written in the law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn yourself. Then Yahweh may establish His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your children are careful of their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail you,' He said, 'a man on the throne of Israel.'



While the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years, they lived in tents. The Ark of the Covenant traveled with them. When they camped somewhere, it would stay in the Tabernacle, as a temporary home.

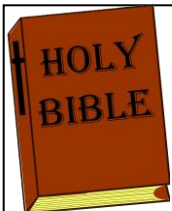
In cartoons most people wish for:

I would wish for:

1 Kings 3:5-9

In Gibeon, Yahweh appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, **“Ask for what I should give you.”** Solomon said, “You have shown to Your servant David my father great loving kindness, because he walked before you in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with you. You have kept for him this great loving kindness, that you have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today. Now, Yahweh my God, You have made Your servant king instead of David my father. I am just a little child. I don’t know how to go out or come in. Your servant is among Your people which You have chosen, a great people, that can’t be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”

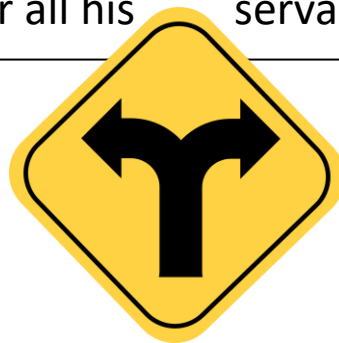
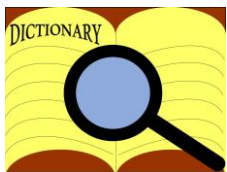
HOLY
BIBLE



1 Kings 3:10-15

3

This request pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. God said to him, “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have you asked for riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, behold, I have done according to your word. Behold, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, and after you none will arise like you. I have also given you that which you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you for all your days. If you will walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” Solomon awoke; and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of Yahweh’s covenant, and offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.



Knowledge (noun)

1. Knowing facts
2. Being familiar with an area of study

Wisdom (noun)

1. Knowledge of what is right and wrong and being able to judge between them
2. The ability to make good decisions

1 Kings 8:1-2, 10-11

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel with all the heads of the tribes, the princes of the fathers' households of the children of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of Yahweh's covenant out of David's city, which is Zion. All the men of Israel assembled themselves to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month... It came to pass, when the priests had come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled Yahweh's house, so that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud; for Yahweh's glory filled Yahweh's house.

i

God made an agreement (covenant) with the Israelites to take care of them as long as they were faithful to Him. The Ark of the Covenant was the symbol of this agreement. It was a box covered in gold. It had two cherubim figures on top. Inside were the original Ten Commandments and Aaron's rod.





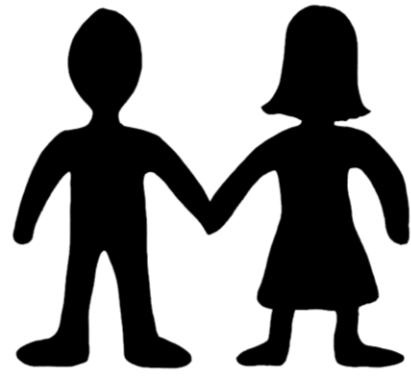
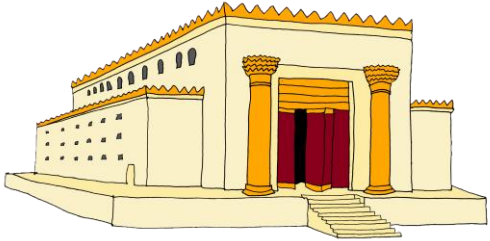
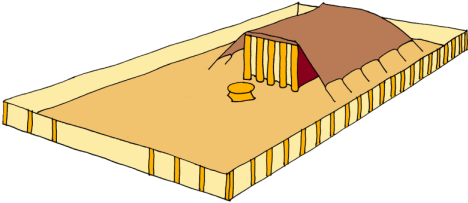
God's Spirit



God's Spirit



God's Spirit



Solomon asked for:

Solomon got:

Wisdom

Riches

Power

Long Life

The Temple was built by:

Saul

David

Solomon

Solomon



Name: _____

Solomon, Wisdom, Power, Wealth, Holy Spirit, Temple,
Sukkot, Covenant

pelnte _____

tskouk _____

swoimd _____

tocnevna _____

hwealt _____

moloons _____

shpoiyrtil _____

ropew _____