

We have been learning about the dark ages when Satan tried to destroy the Bible and almost succeeded. The few copies of the Bible that still remained were written in Latin, a language only taught to university students. Without the Bible, people couldn't tell right from wrong and were easily deceived.

At this time the Pope was calling people to join monasteries as a sign of their love for God and when they joined, they were not allowed to leave. The monasteries were given the rights to hear confessions of sins and forgive sins; they did not work but were supported by the payments and taxes.

Even the Apostle Paul had a trade and of course God is the only one who can forgive sins, but without access to the Bible, many were led astray. What was Paul's trade? Read 2 Thessalonians 3:8; Acts 18:3



John Wycliffe was born in the fourteenth century in England and he was a keen student, studying both the laws of the land and religious studies at Oxford University. Here he had access to a Bible and began a through study of it.

In the Bible he found the real Jesus and the truths about God's plan of salvation.

Some educated people had tried to reform the monasteries, but they had failed. Now John Wycliffe began to write tracts – booklets, showing what was wrong with the monasteries and saying the entire

system was false and should be stopped and that the Pope did not have the power to forgive sins, nor the right to demand taxes from the people.

He also wrote about the teachings of Jesus and people, even some priests began to doubt what was taught by the priests and to believe the truths of the Bible.

A New House for God

Sabbath

It had been King David's dream to build a permanent temple for the Lord, but God had told him that his son Solomon would build it instead. But before his death David started collecting materials and making preparations for the building. David gave Solomon many instructions; he said, "The temple to be built for the Lord must be magnificent; it must be glorious and famous and bring honour to the Lord's name. Follow the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, and build the sanctuary of the Lord God so that you can bring the Ark of the Covenant and the holy vessels from the tabernacle into the Temple."

David ordered the leaders of Israel to help Solomon with the project, and he opened up his own treasure houses and gave gold and silver. And others did likewise, donating gold, silver, bronze, iron and precious stones. The people were glad and gave freely for the Lord.

Have you ever had the chance to take part in designing, choosing or building something special? It could be something as simple as new clothes or a special toy, a new bedroom design or a new church.

What was it? _____

How did you feel? _____

How long did it take? _____

What was your part? _____

Did you feel when it was done? _____

Year 2, Quarter 1, Week 6, Level: "Pre/Teens"

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Picture of Solomon's Temple By Israel Truths CC BY 4.0

Refer: 1 Kings 6-9; 1 Chronicles 22:2-19; 28:11-21; 29:1-9; 2Chron 2:1-10; 5^{NLT}; Prophets and Kings p35-50; The Bible Story vol4 p137-151, The Great Controversy chapter 5

Sunday

Now Solomon ordered the men of Israel to help with the building of the temple. He sent 10,000 men at a time to Lebanon to help cut trees for it, they worked for one month, then returned home for two months before returning to work again. He sent 80,000 to the quarries to cut and prepare the stone, and 70,000 to help carry.

But no tools were used at the temple site; all the stones were cut perfectly at the quarry before they were brought to the temple so that the building site was quiet!

The Holy and Most Holy places in the new temple were a copy of the original designed by God. These were surrounded by various courtyards, rooms and verandas.

The inside walls were lined with cedar and carved with pictures of angels, palm trees and flowers. The walls of the inner sanctuary itself were lined with gold. The doors were carved in the same way.

It took seven years to complete the temple and then they placed the Ark of the Lord in its place, and the light of God filled the temple. With the people of Israel watching, the king prayed a prayer of dedication for the temple, also asking God's patience and blessing for all the people.



After that Solomon also built himself a grand palace which took thirteen years to complete. You can read a description of it in 1 Kings 7 which also has a description of the interior furnishings of the temple.

Friday

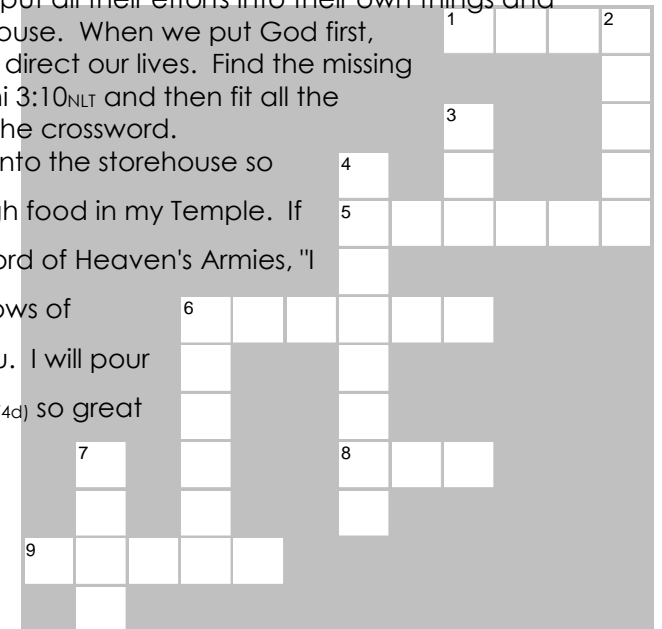
We know from what the Bible says that the real church is the Christian people and not the building. But at the same time, we like our church building to look nice because it is one way to show our love and respect for God.

Haggai 1:2-4^{NLT} was written to the Jews who had returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.

'These people say the time has ___ (8a) ___ (3d) come to rebuild the ___ (2d) of the ___ (7d). Then the Lord sent this message through the prophet Haggai. "Why are you living in luxurious ___ (6a) while my house lies in ruins?" ...You have planted ___ (1a) but harvest ___ (5a). You eat but are not satisfied. You ___ (9a) but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but cannot keep warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!"

He goes on to say that the reason they were not doing well was because they had put all their efforts into their own things and neglected God's house. When we put God first, He will bless us and direct our lives. Find the missing words from Malachi 3:10^{NLT} and then fit all the missing words into the crossword.

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of ___ (6d) for you. I will pour out a ___ (4d) so great you won't have enough room to take it in!"



Thursday

The church building might be a house of God, but it is not the only house of God.

Where else does 1 Corinthians 3:16 say that God lives?

Some people say that that means that you are God, but that is the first sin that Lucifer committed so definitely not what it means. Read what Lucifer said in Isaiah 14:14.

The last part that talks about God's Spirit is the clue. God wants to use your life; He wants to take care of you and be your best friend; He wants you to be aware that He is with you all the time and He want you to use you for His work.

Ephesians 2:20-22 is another verse that talks about God living in people. Write it in your own words.

When the Bible talks about the church it is not talking about the building but rather the people who make up the church.

People do not choose a church because they want to see a beautiful building. People usually choose a church because they feel loved by the people in the church; because those people help them feel that God loves them.

Monday

Why did God have Moses build the original Sanctuary? Exodus 25:8_{NLT}
"Have the people of Israel build me a holy _____ (2d) so I can live _____ (6a) _____ (5a)."

Does that mean that God wasn't with people before then? Of course not! - Think of Abraham and Noah. The problem was that the people had forgotten God; they didn't know who He was or what He was like anymore. So God created the Sanctuary and the Sanctuary services to teach the people about Himself and about sin and salvation.

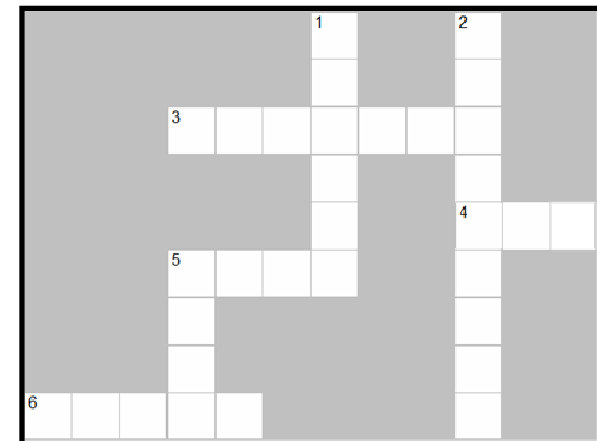
The original Sanctuary was made like a tent; designed to be packed up and moved from place to place but now the Israelites were in the Promised Land it did not need to be moved. It was also 500 years old! - Have you ever heard of a tent that lasted 500 years?

And so Solomon took seven years and built a grand temple for the Lord.

Do you know why we don't have temple anymore?














The Sanctuary services all pointed forward to Jesus sacrifice on the cross; what happened when Jesus died to show that the sacrifices were finished? Matthew 27:51_{NLT}













"At that moment the _____ (3a) in the sanctuary of the Temple was _____ (5d) in two, from _____ (4a) to _____ (1d)."



Tuesday

How did the people feel about giving things for the temple?

												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



What was the temple like?

Find the underlined words from Sabbath and Sunday.

T E M P L E O F T P H E L O R
D M A G N I F I C E N T S S A
N C T L U A R Y H R I R S C H
U F L O W E R S R F C E H T E
M P L R E O F T H E E A L O R
D E S I G N E D D C S S S A N
C T U O A R Y H I T S U C H U
R P C U H T E G M L P R L E O
F R T S H E H O L Y L E O R D
S E S A N C T L U A R Y H I S
C C H U R C H D T F A M O U S
E I M P L E O F T H N E L O R
H O N O U R D S S A G N C T U
A U R Y H I S C T R E E S H U
R S I L V E R C H T L E M P L
E O F T H E L O R D S S S A N

Wednesday

Does God still live with us even though we don't have the temple anymore? Of course He does.

What did Jesus say at the end of Matthew 28:20?

"I am ____ you ____"

Sometimes people think a church building is like the temple, they are both called "Houses of God" but they aren't used in the same way. The average person only visited the temple on special occasions. Here are two examples:

Luke 2:22 _____

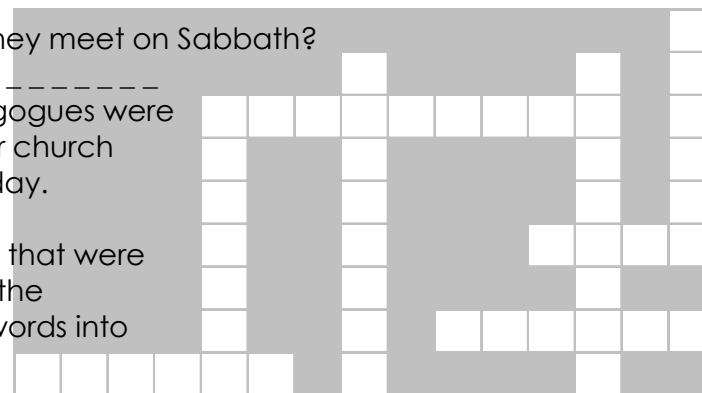
Luke 2:41^{NLT} – The P _____ F _____

Where did they meet on Sabbath?

Luke 4:16 _____

So the Synagogues were more like our church buildings today.

Fit the words that were missing and the underlined words into the grid.



What is your church building like?
