

# Virtual Sunday School Lesson

## *Building God's House (Exodus 25, 35, 36)*



### **Bible Verses (NIV):**

#### **Exodus 25: 1-8**

The Lord said to Moses: Tell the Israelites to take for me an offering; from all whose hearts prompt them to give you shall receive the offering for me. This is the offering that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze, blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine linen, goats' hair, tanned rams' skins, fine leather, acacia wood, oil for the lamps, spices for the anointing-oil and for the fragrant incense, onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and for the breast piece. And have them make me a sanctuary, so that I may dwell among them.

#### **Exodus 35: 4-29**

Moses said to all the congregation of the Israelites: This is the thing that the Lord has commanded: Take from among you an offering to the Lord; let whoever is of a generous heart bring the Lord's offering: gold, silver, and bronze; blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and fine linen; goats' hair, tanned rams' skins, and fine leather; acacia wood, oil for the light, spices for the anointing-oil and for the fragrant incense, and onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and the breastpiece.

All who are skilful among you shall come and make all that the Lord has commanded: the tabernacle, its tent and its covering, its clasps and its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; the ark with its poles, the mercy-seat, and the curtain for the screen; the table with its poles and all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence; the lampstand also for the light, with its utensils and its lamps, and the oil for the light; and the altar of incense, with its poles, and the anointing-oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the entrance, the entrance of the tabernacle; the altar of burnt-offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils, the basin with its stand; the hangings of the court, its pillars and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court; the pegs of the tabernacle and the pegs of the court, and their cords; the finely worked vestments for ministering in the holy place, the holy vestments for the priest Aaron, and the vestments of his sons, for their service as priests.

Then all the congregation of the Israelites withdrew from the presence of Moses. And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and brought the Lord's offering to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the sacred vestments. So they came, both men and women; all who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and pendants, all sorts of gold objects, everyone bringing an offering of gold to the Lord. And everyone who possessed blue or purple or crimson yarn or fine linen or goats' hair or tanned rams' skins or fine leather, brought them. Everyone who could make an offering of silver or bronze brought it as the Lord's offering; and everyone who possessed acacia wood of any use in the work, brought it. All the skilful women spun with their hands, and brought what they had spun in blue and purple and crimson yarns and fine linen; all the women whose hearts moved them to use their skill spun the goats' hair. And the leaders brought onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and the breastpiece, and spices and oil for the light, and for the anointing-oil, and for the fragrant incense. All the Israelite men and women whose hearts made them willing to bring anything for the work that the Lord had commanded by Moses to be done, brought it as a freewill-offering to the Lord.

#### **Exodus 36: 2-7**

Moses then called Bezalel and Oholiab and everyone skillful to whom the Lord had given skill, everyone whose heart was stirred to come to do the work; and they received from Moses all the freewill-offerings that the Israelites had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill-offerings every morning, so that all the artisans who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task being performed, and said to Moses, 'The people are bringing much more than enough for doing the work that the Lord has commanded us to do.' So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp: 'No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.' So the people were restrained from bringing; for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work.

## Activity: Building God's House

**Theme:** It takes a community to build God's house

**Supplies:** none.

**Lesson:**

God has a strong desire to be with his people, today and even back in the time of Moses.

When God gave Moses the ten commandments, he gave instructions to build a special box to put them in, this was the ark of the covenant. It was made of gold and had two angels on the cover.

Then, God commanded them to build a special tent to place the ark into; this would be God's house so he could be among his people. Everyone was called to help collect the materials needed. Among the materials called for were gold, silver and bronze; yarn and linens; fine woods and animal hairs; precious stones and jems. The people brought more than was even needed to do the work.

The people worked together to build a large tent, divided into two parts, one for the priests to pray and the other for the ark, where God would be. A large compound surrounded the tent where the people would gather to offer praise and sacrifices.

This reminds me of when our church was built. People came together, donating money, time and materials. Each used their talents to create a place of worship, where we can gather as followers of Christ to proclaim our love for him.

God's house has changed over the centuries, from a tent to a hard wall structure. Different places make different looking churches, but they all praise God and gather in his presence.

### Closing Prayer

Gracious Father; thank you for your love and desire to create all that we see, holding it together with your strength...  
Amen

## Video: FaithKids: Ark & the Tabernacle <https://youtu.be/PCTNy58bFB0>

God tells his people to build a special tent where they can meet with him.

Duration: 1:58

## Video: Paulo Santos: Tabernacle Tour <https://youtu.be/JgqLsnzG6gM>

A virtual tour of the tabernacle and it's relationship to Jesus

Duration: 6:53

## Craft: Building the Tabernacle (Preschool)

Supplies: Tin foil, colored yarn, leather, wood, stickon jewelry, toothpick, bread, birthday candle, cloth, tape

Directions:

Help the children gather things to build the tabernacle. prepare a small piece of each of the items on the page and tape in place. For bread, you can use a picture of a loaf of bread. As you gather the items, be sure to tell the child that the church is a group of people using their talents to serve God.



## BUILDING THE TABERNACLE

**gold, silver,  
bronze**

**blue, purple,  
scarlet yarns**

**tanned skins**

**wood**

**jewels**

**poles**

**bread**

**lampstand**

**garments**

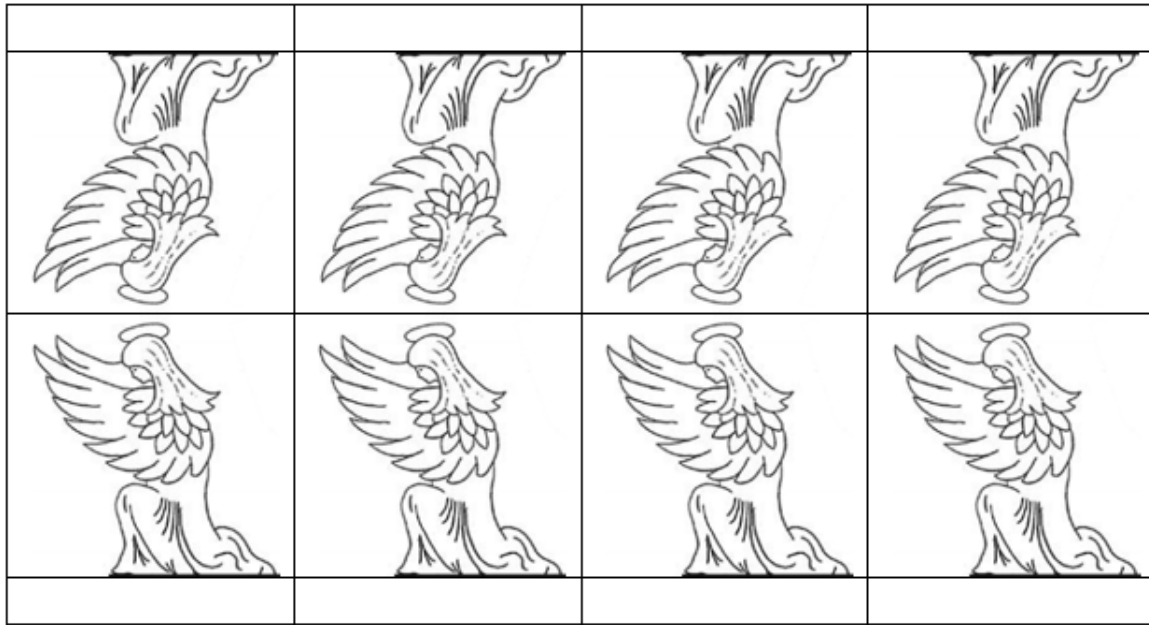
## Craft: Ark of the Covenant

Supplies: small box with lid (jewelry box), gold lace, craft sticks, glue, gold crayon/marker/paint, scissors

Directions:

Color the below angels gold, using crayons or markers. Fold in half and fold out the bottom flaps. Cut around the edges.

Color the box gold and glue the gold lace along the edge of the box lid. Glue the craft sticks, one on each side. Glue the angels on the top.



## Craft: God's House (Separate PDF file)

Supplies: God's house craft pages, scissors, glue

A stackable 3 in 1, starts with the tabernacle on the bottom, then covered by the temple of Jerusalem and capped by a church. Print off one set of "God's house craft" pages, double sided for each child. Score the folding edges to ensure an even fold. Cut out, fold and glue the tabs of the two pieces for the tabernacle, then cut out, fold and glue the three pieces for the Jerusalem temple. The temple should slip over top the tabernacle. Finally, cut out, fold and glue the pieces of the church, being able to slip over the temple, which slips over the tabernacle. Be sure to keep the three parts separate until the glue tries thoroughly.





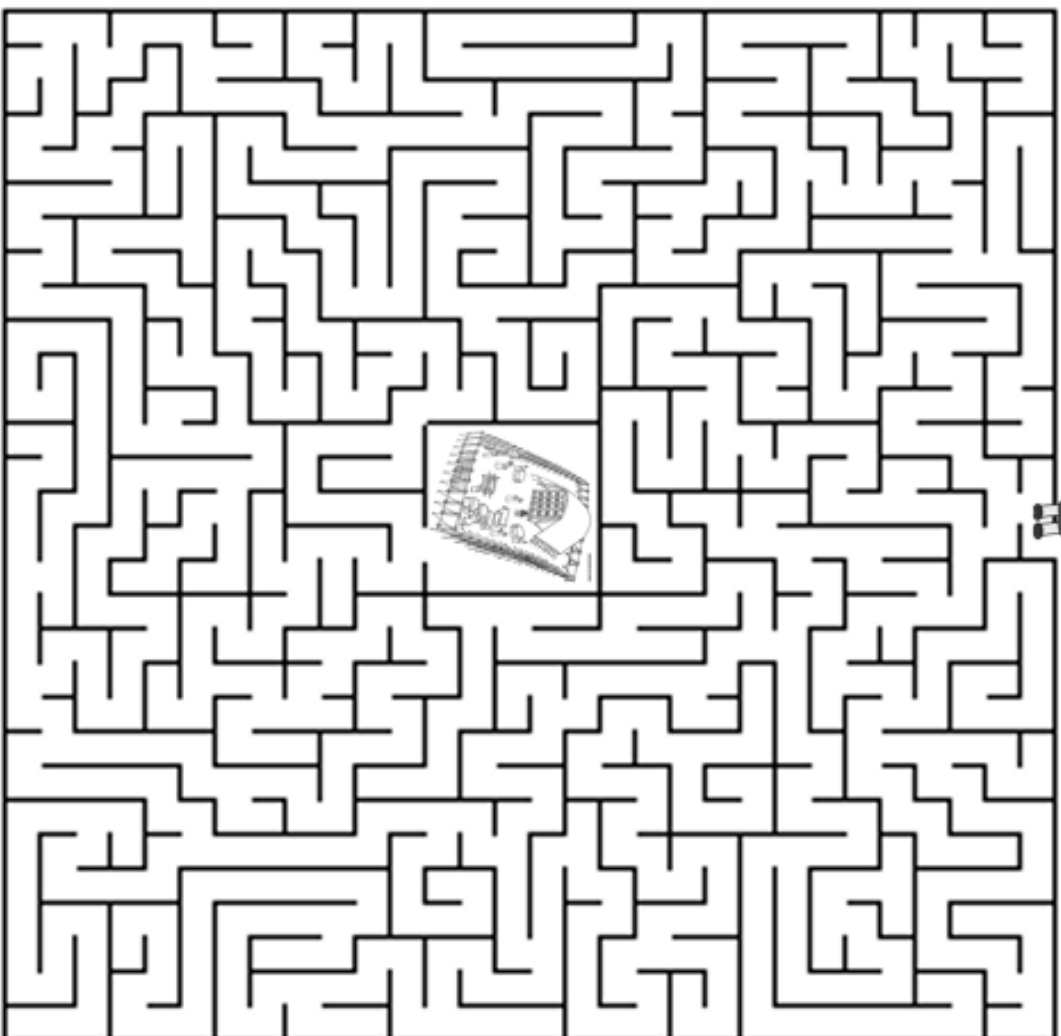
God Told His People to Build a Place Where He May Live Amongst Them.



The Ark of the Covenant was a special box that held the tablets God made with the 10 Commandments. It was kept in the holiest of holies in the Tabernacle.



The tabernacle was located in the center of the Israelite camp. Help this person find their way to the tabernacle.



D I T E X I U K A Y M S A M O  
 T W N Q L G E D A K L O M T F  
 N B A D X C I L R N Y Z S N Q  
 B N N I L A A O O E D O F E T  
 I T E V S O C N N K G S L Q S  
 P L V W G Z G X R T X A D H N  
 C F O H D T A T Z E V M G S F  
 Q J C G V D A H I E B L F P W  
 L R E M O J C W R N O A V E S  
 S T N E M D N A M M O C T W Y  
 F R D R E T L A Z N C X E B L  
 G O I V K A V G T N Y R H Q O  
 G X T A B L E T S U B Y I G H  
 S M V J Y R G R M E N I T O Z  
 K M S L H E W R H T I Z Z C Y

AARON	ALTER	COMMANDMENTS
COVENANT	GOD	GOLD
HEBREWS	HOLY	LAVER
MOSES	TABERNACLE	TABLETS

