

On Wednesdays we've been looking at worship **"then and now."** For almost 500 years, the **tabernacle** was the hub of worship for God's people. At Mount Sinai, God had called the liberated children of Israel through Moses:

"And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may _____ in their midst." (Exo 25:8)

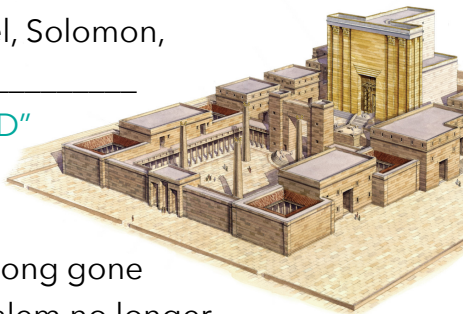
But God didn't leave it up to Moses' imagination or the people's speculation as to what to build; he gave them a very specific pattern (Exo 25:9-31:18) to follow.

The third king of Israel, Solomon, eventually built "a _____

for the name of the LORD"

(1 Kings 5:5; 8:10-11)

called the **temple**.



But the tabernacle is long gone and the temple in Jerusalem no longer stands, **so what now?** Is all lost? Not at all. Listen to the consistent message of the New Testament:

- The God who made the world **"does not _____ in temples made by man"** (Acts 17:24-25)
- Christians are **"being _____ together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit"** (Eph 2:19-22)
- Paul told Christians in Corinth, **"_____ are the temple of the living God"** (2 Cor 6:16)
- Peter encouraged Christians to realize, **"_____ yourselves like _____ stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy _____, to offer spiritual _____ acceptable to God"** (1 Pet 2:4-5)

For Class & Family Discussion:

- In the age of the tabernacle, what did God promise in **Leviticus 26:11-12**?
- Now, let's open our Bibles to **2 Corinthians 6:16-18**. Many centuries later, what does the apostle Paul quote? What does he want us to understand by using this ancient passage?
- **Matthew 27:51** tells us that **"the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom"** when Jesus died. What did this mean?
- **Hebrews 8:1-6** describes the tabernacle and priesthood as **"a copy and shadow of the heavenly things"** while drawing attention to Jesus as **"a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man."** What's the big idea here?
- What does it mean for disciples of Jesus today to be **"like living stones ... built up as a spiritual house"** (1 Pet 2:4-5)? What does God want?