

Chapter 10

The Temple

I will dwell in the midst of the Israelites and will not forsake my people Israel.

1 Kings 6:13

For the Parents:

In chapter 10 your child learned to:

- Explain the importance of the Temple in Israel's life
- Link unfaithfulness with the division of Israel
- Choose ways to remain faithful to God

With the reign of King Solomon, Israel became prosperous and took its place among other kingdoms of its day. The building of the Temple in Jerusalem fostered a centralized life of worship for the people as well, with the Ark of the Covenant no longer carried from place to place but housed in the center of the Temple. Because the ark was there, the Temple became the place where ritual sacrifices to God were offered. It was a destination of pilgrimage and a privileged place of worship, the dwelling place of God on earth.

Solomon is remembered most warmly in the Scripture for his prayer at the outset of his reign, asking for the gift of wisdom—a grace much needed in the growing complexity of the settled life of the people.

With Your Child:

1. Keeping peace at home often means “lifting the burdens of others” and also staying faithful to God. This week, how will you do each of these with your family as a way of increasing the love you have for them?

How will I lift someone's burden in my family?

2. Read about Saint Peter on the Review and Explore page.