

# What is WORSHIP?

Part 4

## Worship Then & Now The TEMPLE

On Wednesdays this month we're looking at worship **"then and now."** For almost 500 years, the \_\_\_\_\_ 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)

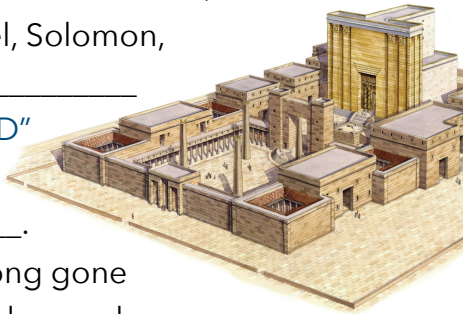
But God didn't leave it up to Moses' imagination or the people's speculation as to what to build; he gave them a very specific pattern (Exo 25:9-31:18) to follow.

The third king of Israel, Solomon, eventually built "a \_\_\_\_\_

for the name of the LORD"

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

called the \_\_\_\_\_.



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**?
- 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?