

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
Lower Elementary	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> None</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Measuring cups, sturdy paper plates, plastic knives, spoons, bowls, napkins, graham crackers, cinnamon graham crackers, frosting, food coloring (yellow or gold), assorted sprinkles, bite-sized candy (gold wrapped)</p>
Upper Elementary	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Adhesive name tags, pens, pencils</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Bowls, spoons, plastic knives, sturdy paper plates, napkins, pictures of mosaics, tortillas, spreadable cream cheese, shredded carrots, shredded cheese, shredded lettuce, raisins, dried cranberries, sunflower seeds, diced ham, bell pepper sticks, broccoli florets</p>
All Kids	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Pencils</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Large serving tray, spoons, bowls, plastic knives, plates, napkins, spreadable cheese (gold colored), celery chunks, baby carrots, cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, sausage bites, broccoli florets, crusty bread chunks</p>



Visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation's story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.



**Workshop Focus:** God lives with us.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Solomon Builds the Temple Storytelling

**Welcome to Cooking! We know who's here because we can see each other, but we can't see God. Where do you think God is right now? Allow kids to respond. King Solomon wanted God to live with God's people. Let's read what he did!**

Hand Spark Story Bibles out to each kid. Help kids find Solomon Builds the Temple on pages 136-139. Encourage kids to follow along as you read. **There is a lot of building going on in this story. Use your hands to show how things are built as we read.**

**Let's talk about the story.** Point to the picture on page 137. **Whose idea was it to build the temple? (King Solomon's) Who did King Solomon build the temple for? (God) How do you think God felt about the temple?** Allow kids to respond. **God was happy to live in the temple among the people, just like God is happy to live among us. God lives with us.**

**Let's make our own sweet temples!**

Spark Resources  
Spark Story Bible

Supplies  
None

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Solomon's Sweet Temple Treat

---

Before serving any food, check with caregivers for kids with food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

**Set Up:** Tint the frosting with food coloring to represent “gold.” Spoon each kid’s frosting into an individual bowl.

**Ingredients** (makes one temple per kid):

- Graham crackers (3 whole rectangles per kid)
- Cinnamon graham crackers (2 whole rectangles per kid)
- Frosting ( $\frac{3}{8}$  cup [158 ml] per kid)
- Food coloring (yellow or gold)
- Assorted sprinkles (1 Tbsp. [15 ml] per kid)
- Bite-sized candy (gold wrapped, 1 per kid)

### Activity Instructions

**King Solomon wanted to build a beautiful house for God. He used the best materials and the most skilled workers to make the most impressive temple ever built for God. We’re going to use some ingredients to make our own versions of Solomon’s temple.** Have kids wash their hands before beginning the activity.

1. Gather the kids at the work area. **The first thing King Solomon needed for the temple was large stones. Where did the workers measure, cut, and shape the stones?** (*in the hills*) Have kids walk to a different location in the room to put three graham crackers on a plate.
2. **Two of these crackers will be the side walls of the temple. Break one of the crackers in half for the back wall of the temple. Now that we have measured and cut our stones, we can return to the work area.** Have kids return to their places with their plates.
3. **What kind of hard, sturdy wood did King Solomon use for the floors and roof of the temple?** (*cedar*) **Cedar wood also had a beautiful smell that King Solomon thought God would enjoy.** Give each kid two cinnamon graham crackers. **Use these sweet-smelling crackers for the roof and the floor of your temple.**
4. **King Solomon created a special room for God. What did Solomon cover the room with to make it shiny and shimmery?** (*gold*) Give each kid a bowl of frosting, plastic knife, and some napkins. **Spread the frosting on the top and edges of each of your crackers.**

### Spark Resources

None

### Supplies

Measuring cups  
Sturdy paper plates  
Plastic knives, 1 per kid  
Spoons  
Bowls, 1 per kid  
Napkins

5. **Now it's time to put our temples together. This part takes some patience and possibly some help from a friend.** Circulate among the kids, offering help as needed.
  - a. Gently stand the two side walls against the floor of the temple.
  - b. Stand the back wall against the two side walls and the floor.
  - c. Place the roof on top of the walls.
6. **Once your temple is standing, carefully cover the outside with gold as well.** Give kids time to work.
7. **What was carved into the wood for God to see?** (*flowers and designs*) Spoon some sprinkles onto each kid's plate. **Use these sprinkles to make some flowers or designs on your temple.**
8. **What special box did Solomon put inside the temple when it was finished?** (*Ark of the Covenant*) Give each kid a wrapped candy to set inside their temple.
9. **God was pleased with Solomon's temple. When it was finished, all of the people came there to worship God every day! We can worship God anywhere, any day because God lives with us!**
10. Allow kids' temple treats to dry while the kids help clean up. Remind kids to wash their hands before coming to Wrap Up.

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Thanks for coming to Cooking! Who built a beautiful temple for God?** (*King Solomon*) **We learned how King Solomon used stone, cedar, carvings, and gold to make the temple a place God would enjoy. Just like God lived in the temple among the people, God lives with us! Where will you and God go this week?**  
Allow kids to respond.

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None

### Prayer Time

Invite kids to stand for prayer. **Copy my words and actions as we pray.**

**Dear God,**  
**Thank you for living with us!** (Arms out, spin in a circle)  
**Help me to remember,** (Point to head)  
**You are always with me.** (Hug self)  
**Amen.**



**Workshop Focus:** I can use my talents to serve God.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksondayschool.org](http://www.sparksondayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Solomon Builds the Temple Storytelling

**Welcome to Cooking!** Hand name tags and pens out to kids. **Think of some talents God has given you. Write them on your name tag.** Have kids wear the name tags. **Look around. There is a lot of talent in this room! Let's read a story of talents used to serve God.**

Direct kids to find 1 Kings 6 on pages 371-372 of their Spark Bibles. Invite kids to mark the passage with an I Read It, Something I Like, or Makes Me Want To Spark Bible sticker, using a pencil to write their responses in the margin. Invite volunteers who enjoy reading (acknowledge this as a talent) to read the following passages.

- 1 Kings 6:2, 4
- 1 Kings 6:7-9
- 1 Kings 6:11-13
- 1 Kings 6:14-15
- 1 Kings 6:18-19, 22
- 1 Kings 6:31-32, 38

**Let's review. Who did King Solomon build the house for? (God) Was God pleased with the temple?** (yes) Have kids read Did You Know? in the orange box on page 372 of their Spark Bibles. **What kinds of talents did the builders need to build**

**Spark Resources**  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

**Supplies**  
Adhesive name tags  
Pens  
Pencils

**the temple?** Allow kids to respond. **No one person could have built the temple. Many people used the talents God gave them to build the temple. Just like the builders, I can use my talents to serve God.**

**Let's put some more of our talents to work!**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Munch-able Mosaics

---

*Before serving any food, check with caregivers for kids with food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

**Set Up:** Prepare and place each mosaic food ingredient in a separate bowl. Display the mosaic pictures where kids can see them. Prepare a workspace with one plate, knife, spoon, bowl, and napkin per kid.

**Ingredients** (makes one mosaic per kid):

- Tortillas (1 per kid)
- Spreadable cream cheese (2-3 Tbs. [30-45 ml] per kid)
- Shredded carrots (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Shredded cheese (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Shredded lettuce (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Raisins (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Dried cranberries (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Sunflower seeds (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Diced ham (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Bell pepper sticks (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)
- Broccoli florets (1-2 Tbs. [10-15 ml] per kid)

#### Activity Instructions

Gather the kids at the workspace. Show kids the mosaic pictures. **Mosaics are big pictures made up of many smaller pieces. Mosaics have been around since Bible times. We're going to use our talents to create mosaic pictures of Solomon's temple that are good enough to eat!** Remind kids to wash their hands before starting the activity.

1. **The first thing we need for a mosaic is a base.** Give each kid a tortilla.
2. **The next thing we need to create a mosaic is something to hold the pieces to the base.** Place a scoop of spreadable cream cheese on the side of each kid's plate. **Spread the cream cheese over the entire surface of your tortilla. The cream cheese will hold your mosaic pieces in place, so be sure not to miss any spots.**

#### Spark Resources

None

#### Supplies

Bowls  
Spoons  
Plastic knives  
Sturdy paper plates  
Napkins  
Pictures of mosaics

3. **Use your imagination** (identify this as a talent) **to decide what the shape of your temple will be. Use the tip of your knife to draw an outline of the temple lightly in the surface of your cream cheese.** Assure kids this is only a guideline they can change at any time.
4. **What did King Solomon have measured and cut in the quarry for the temple?** (*stones*) **Choose an ingredient to represent stones for the foundation of your temple.** Have kids spoon mosaic ingredients into their bowl and then use their fingers to gently press the pieces onto their tortilla.
5. **What parts of the temple did King Solomon have made out of wood?** (*floor, walls, ceilings, doors*) Invite kids to choose more ingredients to add to their temple.
6. **What special decorations did King Solomon have workers add to the temple?** (*carvings of flowers, palm trees, and cherubim*) Encourage kids to add specific design elements to their mosaics.
7. **What did Solomon cover the inside and outside walls with when the temple was almost finished?** (*gold*) **Add some gold pieces to your mosaic.**
8. **What did King Solomon put inside of the temple when it was finished?** (*Ark of the Covenant*) **King Solomon knew God would live wherever the Ark was. Put something in your mosaic to represent the Ark of the Covenant.**
9. **Finish your mosaic, and then take a moment to look at other kids' mosaics. Each mosaic will look different because God gives each of us unique talents.** Identify cooking and creativity as talents. **Like the temple builders, I can use my talents to serve God.**
10. Invite kids to roll and eat their Munch-able Mosaics, then wash their hands for Wrap Up.

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

---

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Thanks for coming to Cooking! What did King Solomon have built for God?**

*(temple)* **What kinds of materials were used to build the temple?** *(stone, wood,*

*gold)* **Many people used their talents to build the temple. We used our talents to create mosaics. I can use my talents to serve God. What are some ways you can**

**use your talents to serve God?** Allow kids to respond.

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

---

**Praying is one way to serve God with your talents.** Invite a volunteer to make up and lead the closing prayer.

**Workshop Focus:** We thank God by giving back.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksondayschool.org](http://www.sparksondayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Solomon Builds the Temple Storytelling

**Welcome to Cooking! When I say, "Go," name as many things as you can that God gives us. Go!** Allow kids to respond. **God gives us so much, and not just things! Our story is about thanking God by giving things back.**

Direct the older kids to find 1 Kings 6 on pages 371-372 of their Spark Bibles. Hand Spark Story Bibles out to the younger kids. Help kids find Solomon Builds the Temple on pages 136-139. **Use your voices and bodies to make the sounds in the story as I read it.** Read the story from the Spark Story Bible.

Encourage the older kids to follow along in their Spark Bibles as best they can. Invite them to mark the passage with a Spark Bible Sticker of their choice, using a pencil to mark their responses in the margin.

**Let's Review. What did King Solomon build for God? (temple) What kinds of things did King Solomon use for the temple? (beautiful and expensive materials, stone, wood, gold) How do you think God felt about the temple?** Allow kids to respond. **King Solomon gave the best he had to thank God. We thank God by giving back.**

**Let's build a temple with materials good enough to eat!**

Spark Resources  
Spark Story Bible  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies  
Pencils

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Bite-sized Building Blocks

---

Before serving any food, check with caregivers for kids with food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

**Set Up:** Place each ingredient in an individual bowl near the work area. Place spreadable cheese into several containers kids can share. Place the serving tray in the work area where all kids can access it.

**Ingredients** (makes one group temple):

- Spreadable cheese (gold colored,  $\frac{1}{4}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup [60-120 ml] per kid)
- Celery chunks (3-4 pieces per kid)
- Baby carrots (3-4 pieces per kid)
- Cucumber slices (3-4 pieces per kid)
- Cherry tomatoes (3-4 per kid)
- Sausage bites (3-4 pieces per kid)
- Broccoli florets (3-4 pieces per kid)
- Crusty bread chunks (3-4 pieces per kid)

### Activity Instructions

Gather the kids around the work area. **King Solomon wanted to build a house for God out of the most beautiful and expensive materials. Why did King Solomon want to use the best things he had for the temple?** Allow kids to respond. **King Solomon wanted to thank God for everything God had done for him. We thank God by giving back! Imagine we are the workers building the temple. Let's work together and give our best to God!** Remind kids to wash their hands before starting the activity.

1. Show kids the serving tray. **This is where we'll build the temple.** Pass out the cheese spread. **This is what we'll use to hold the pieces of the temple together.** Make sure the kids have access to plenty of napkins.
2. **What kind of wood did King Solomon use for the floor and roof of the temple?** (*cedar*) Give kids the chunks of crusty bread to use for wood in the temple.
3. **What are the first things King Solomon had measured and cut from the quarry to put in the temple?** (*stones*) Give kids the celery chunks. **Use these to represent the stones. Work together to start building the temple walls.** Show kids how to use the spreadable cheese to hold the food pieces together.
4. Invite an older volunteer to read 1 Kings 6:8 on page 371 of their Spark Bible and another volunteer to read 1 Kings 6:31 on page 372. **What other things were added to King Solomon's temple?** (*staircase, doors, columns*) Give kids the sausage bites to add to the temple.

### Spark Resources

Spark Bibles

### Supplies

Large serving tray  
Spoons  
Bowls  
Plastic knives  
Plates  
Napkins

5. **What did the workers decorate the temple with to make God happy?** *(carvings of designs and flowers)* Give kids the cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, and broccoli florets. **Use these pieces to add decorations to the temple.**
6. **What did King Solomon cover the walls of the temple with to make it shiny?** *(gold)* **Add some spreadable cheese to fill in any gaps you see in the temple.**
7. **When the temple was finished, King Solomon put a special box inside the room of gold. What was that special box called?** *(Ark of the Covenant)* Give kids the baby carrots. **Use these to make an Ark of the Covenant inside of the temple.**
8. **Once the Ark of the Covenant was inside of the temple, everyone came to worship God.** Say a prayer of thanks for the food and allow kids to snack on the temple. Share any leftovers with other classes and kids' parents. Remind kids to wash their hands before Wrap Up.

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Thanks for coming to Cooking! What did King Solomon build?** *(temple)* **We learned that King Solomon used the most beautiful and expensive materials to build a house for God. We built our own temple to eat. We thank God by giving back. What are some things or ways you give back to God?** Allow kids to respond.

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None

### Prayer Time

**Think of a thing or way to give back to God during our prayer. Repeat my words and actions.**

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for everything you have given me.** (Hands spread wide)

**Here is what I give back to you.** (Hold hands out and lift)

**Help me be thankful all week.** (Make large circles with arms)

**Amen.**

