

THE PLAN

18. The Temple (1 Kings 1-11) January 9, 2022

Story Coordinates (1 Kings 1:1-3:45)

People (Who is the story about?)

Place (Where is their home?)

Presence (How can they meet with God?)

Purpose (What did God tell them to do?)

(2 Chronicles 1:3)

(2 Samuel 7:12-13, Deut. 17:16-18)

The Story (1 Kings 3-11)

- Solomon asked God for _____ to rule _____ people well. (3:7-9)
- God gave Solomon _____, wealth and peace, and Solomon built God a _____. (3:10-14, 6:1)
- God's _____ filled the Temple just like it had filled the _____. (8:10-11)

- Under Solomon's rule, God made Israel into a _____ of _____ and righteousness to the world. (10:6-9)
- While he was building God's _____, Solomon started building his own _____. (11:1-6, 10:26-28, 5:13-14, 3:1)
- God determined to break up Solomon's _____ --while still honoring his _____ to David. (11:11-13)

The Morals

- Human beings are constantly tempted to build our own empires of _____ and _____.
- Those _____ always tempt us away from God's _____.
- We are creature of _____ --we are fulfilled by _____ God, not ourselves. (Ecclesiastes 2:10-11, 12:13-14)

Spoiler Alert

- Jesus invites us to _____ him and become _____ what we were made to be. (Matthew 11:28-30)

Small Group Questions

1. Getting Started:

- What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
- If you could ask God for any one thing like Solomon could, what would you ask for? What would you *want* to ask for?

2. Into the Bible (Matthew 6:19-24)

- How did Solomon “store up treasures on earth?” What happened to his treasures?
- How did Solomon’s treasures reveal where his heart was?
- What does the statement about eyes have to do with Jesus’s point about treasure?

- Is money the only master you cannot serve when serving God? What other masters pull us away from God?

3. Going Deeper

- How do we build our own empires today? What kinds of values or goals tempt us away from building God’s kingdom?
- How can we tell when we’ve started to build our own empires instead of God’s kingdom?
- What kinds of empires are you being tempted to build?

4. Prayer

- Pray for each other, for God’s guidance in showing you how to build his kingdom instead of your own empire.