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Prayer Warrior

Key References: 1 Kings 8:22-53; 2 Chronicles 5–7; *Prophets and Kings*, chap. 2, pp. 35-50; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 4, pp. 146-151; Our Beliefs nos. 14, 11, 17















powertext

"Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way" (1 Kings 8:23).

Think of a big meeting at which lots of people from your area got together for a special event. It was just like that when Solomon called all the people of Israel together for the dedication of the new temple.

King Solomon stood in front of the magnificent temple he had built for God. This permanent temple was much larger and more magnificent than the tent tabernacle created while Moses led the people through the wilderness.

Seven years had passed since Solomon had commanded that work begin on this temple. Finally it was the day of official dedication. The Israelite people were gathered in expectation. Leaders and kings from other nations were also present, wanting to know more about famous King Solomon and his God.

The seventh month was always a good time for celebrations. The harvest was finished, and the time for new planting had not begun. It was time for the Feast of Tabernacles, seven days set aside for thanking God for the harvest. Now the people would also celebrate God's mercies by dedicating themselves and the new temple to Him.

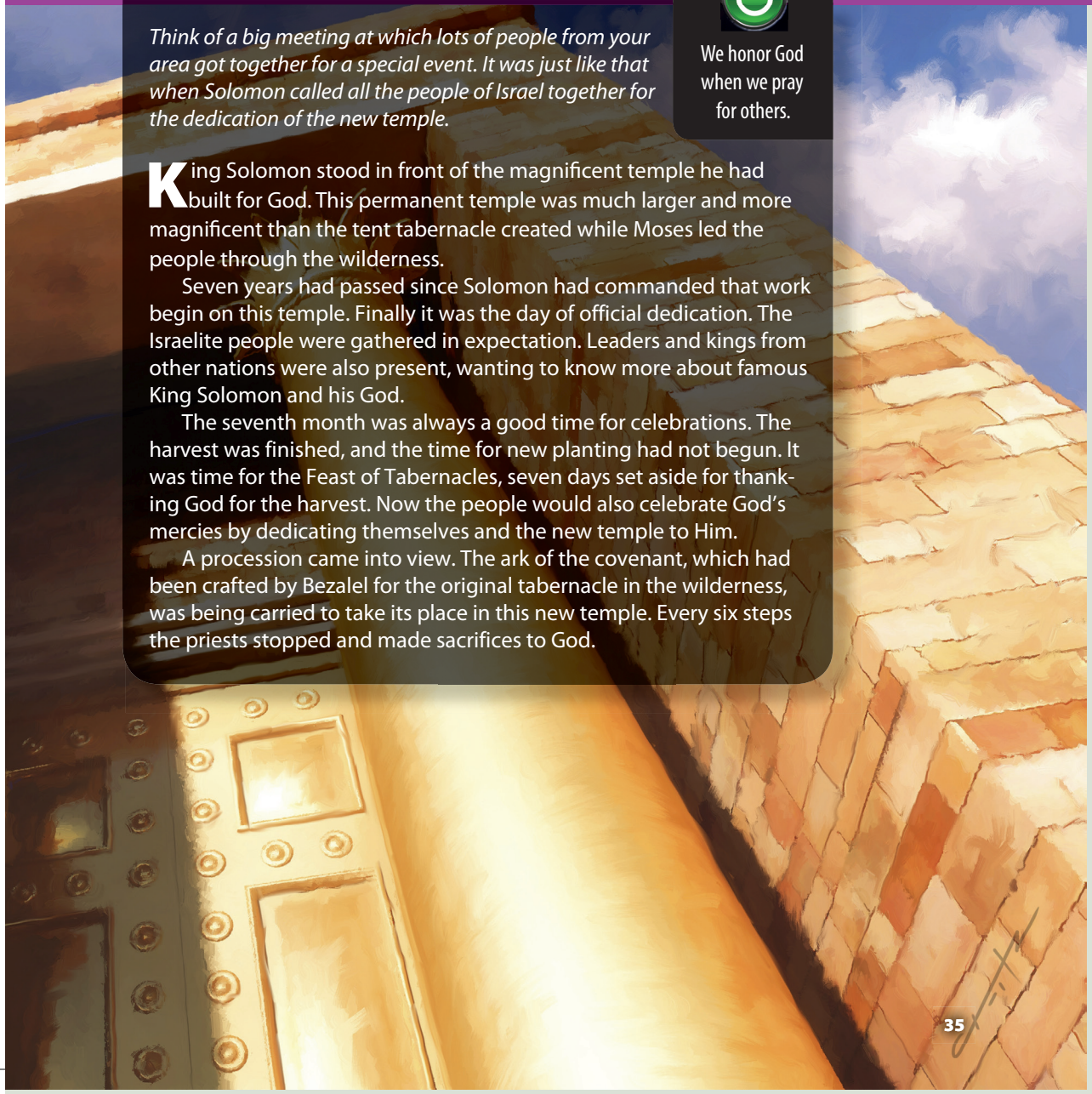
A procession came into view. The ark of the covenant, which had been crafted by Bezalel for the original tabernacle in the wilderness, was being carried to take its place in this new temple. Every six steps the priests stopped and made sacrifices to God.

powerpoint

We honor God when we pray for others.

Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 33.



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Sunday

READ Read 1 Kings 8:14-19 and this week's story, "Prayer Warrior."

REVIEW Review the power text, 1 Kings 8:23.

PRAY Ask God to meet a person's needs in a special way.

Monday

READ Read 1 Kings 8:23, 24.

LIST In your Bible study journal, list ways God has kept His promises in your life as well as your gratitude to Him.

CREATE Create a prayer calendar, listing at least a person for each day. Remember to pray for a person every day.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for the person on your prayer calendar for today. Ask God to reveal Himself to that person today.

Tuesday

READ Read 1 Kings 8:27.

THINK If you were selected to be in charge of building a dwelling place for God, what would it be like?

DRAW Create a picture or a floor plan of your ideal place of worship for God.

LOOK Look for ways God is answering your prayers for others.

REVIEW Review the power text.

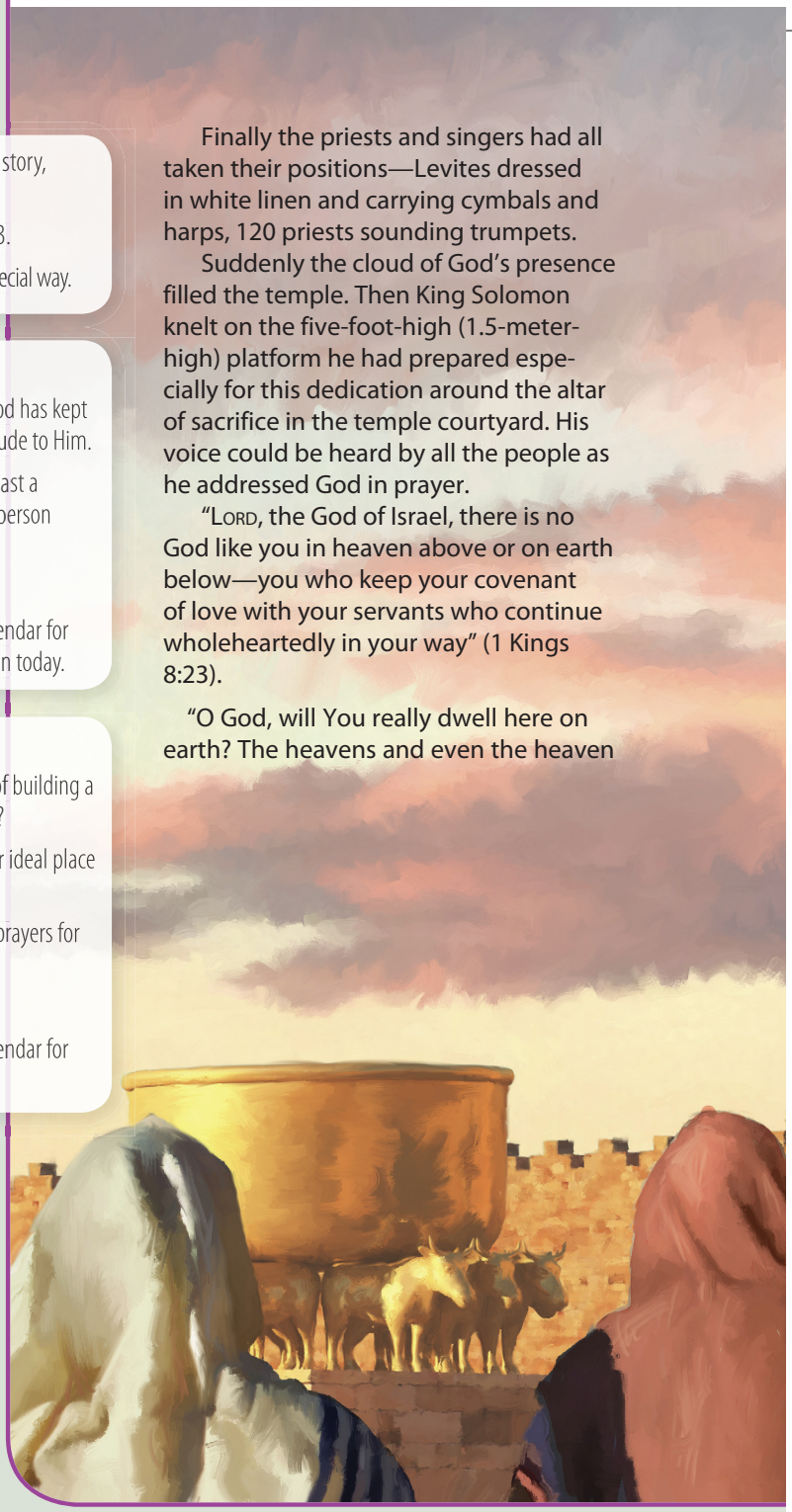
PRAY Pray for the person on your prayer calendar for today. Don't forget to be specific.

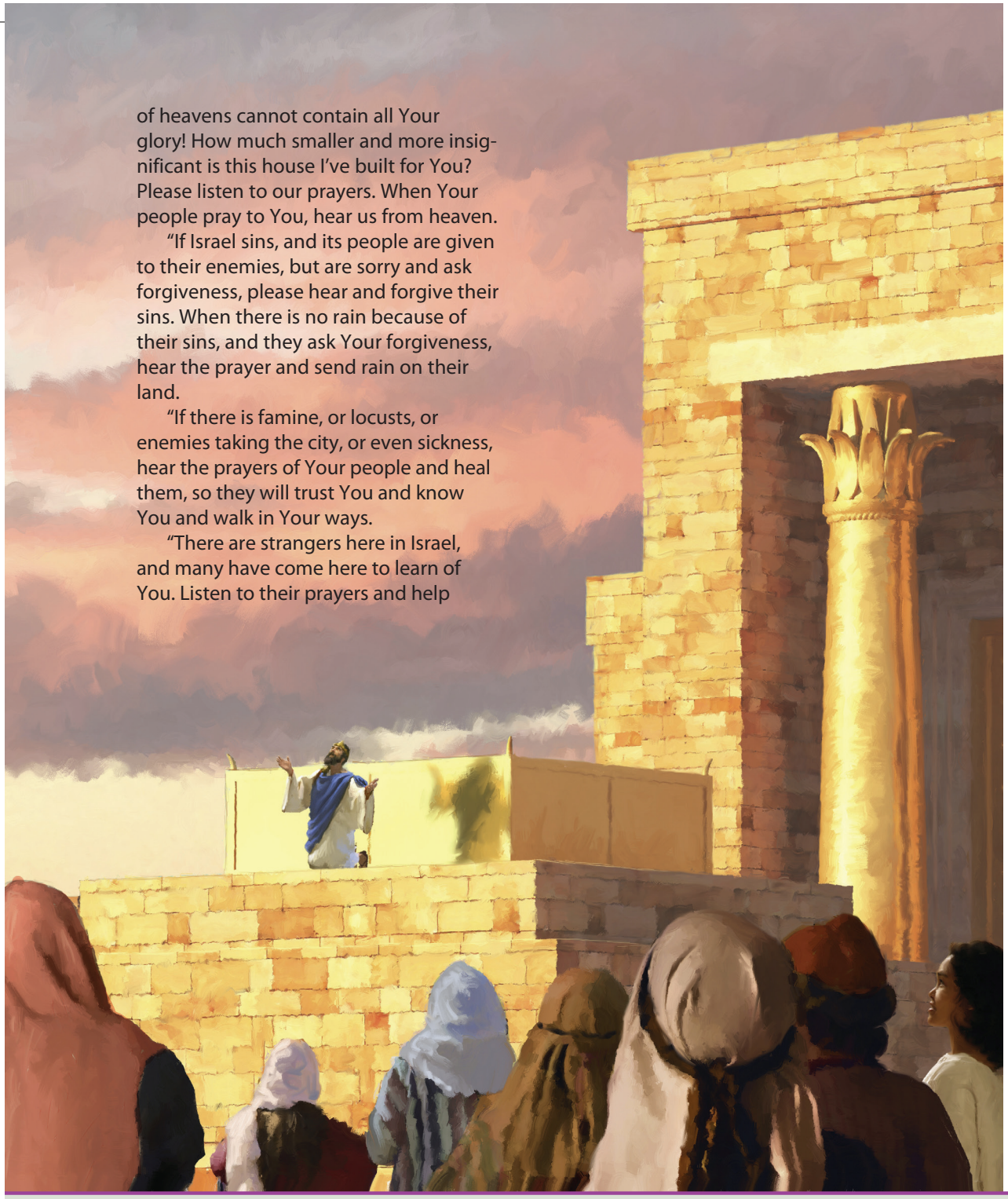
Finally the priests and singers had all taken their positions—Levites dressed in white linen and carrying cymbals and harps, 120 priests sounding trumpets.

Suddenly the cloud of God's presence filled the temple. Then King Solomon knelt on the five-foot-high (1.5-meter-high) platform he had prepared especially for this dedication around the altar of sacrifice in the temple courtyard. His voice could be heard by all the people as he addressed God in prayer.

"LORD, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way" (1 Kings 8:23).

"O God, will You really dwell here on earth? The heavens and even the heaven





of heavens cannot contain all Your glory! How much smaller and more insignificant is this house I've built for You? Please listen to our prayers. When Your people pray to You, hear us from heaven.

"If Israel sins, and its people are given to their enemies, but are sorry and ask forgiveness, please hear and forgive their sins. When there is no rain because of their sins, and they ask Your forgiveness, hear the prayer and send rain on their land.

"If there is famine, or locusts, or enemies taking the city, or even sickness, hear the prayers of Your people and heal them, so they will trust You and know You and walk in Your ways.

"There are strangers here in Israel, and many have come here to learn of You. Listen to their prayers and help

4

Wednesday

READ Read Philippians 4:6.

DISCOVER If you could rate your life this week between 1 for "Totally Stressed Out" and 10 for "Completely Serene," what number would best represent it?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for the person on your prayer calendar, and also ask God to keep you completely at peace.

Thursday

READ Read 1 Peter 5:7.

THINK What does it mean to bring to God our anxiety?

REMEMBER Don't forget to let someone know you are praying for them.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for the person on your prayer calendar for today. In prayer, present to God the things that cause you anxiety, asking Him to help you overcome these feelings.

Friday

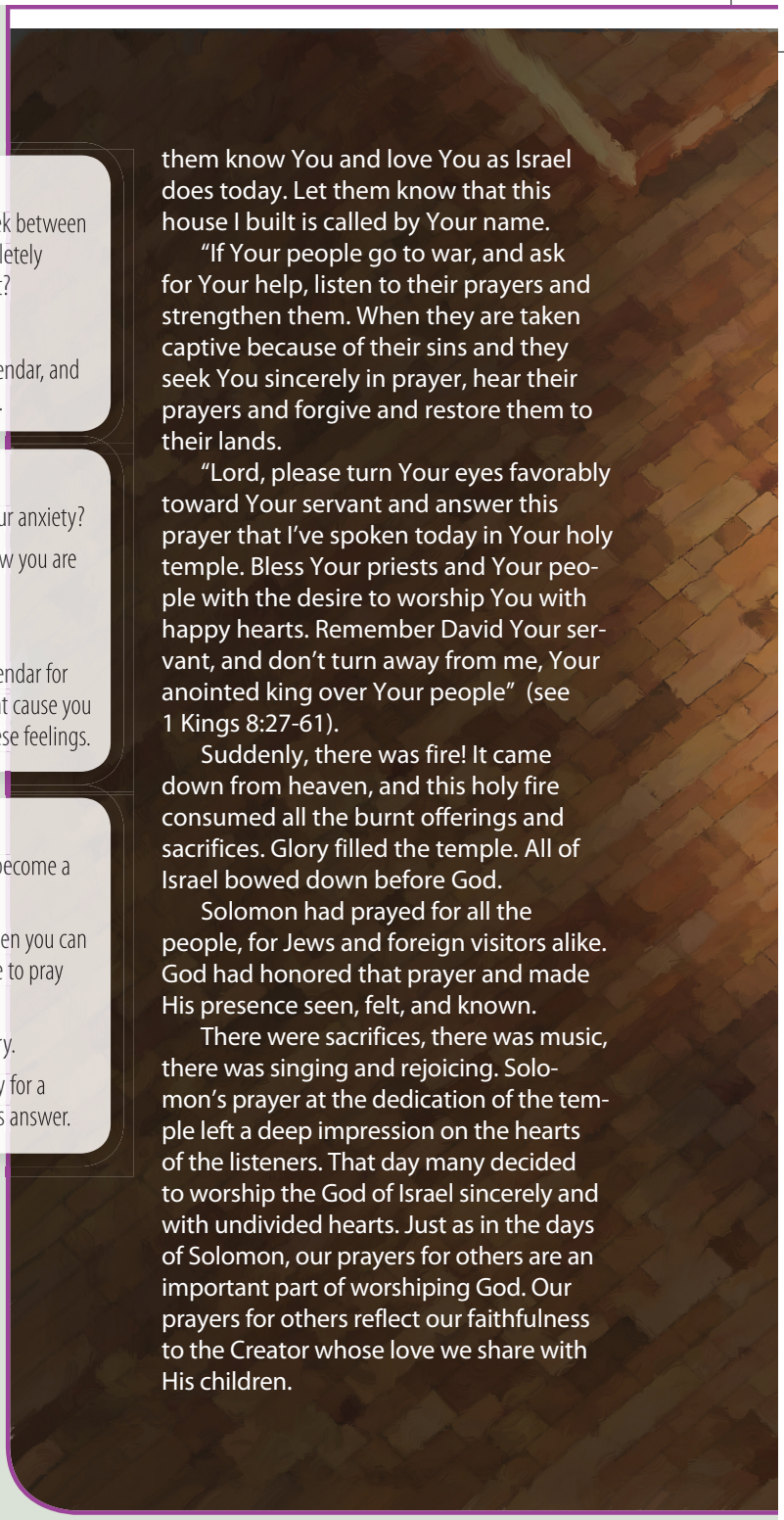
READ Read Romans 12:12.

CONNECT Contact a friend and ask them to become a prayer partner with you.

PLAN Set aside regular times each week when you can get together or call one another on the phone to pray together.

REPEAT Say the power text aloud by memory.

PRAY You have another chance today to pray for a person on your prayer calendar. Look for God's answer.



them know You and love You as Israel does today. Let them know that this house I built is called by Your name.

"If Your people go to war, and ask for Your help, listen to their prayers and strengthen them. When they are taken captive because of their sins and they seek You sincerely in prayer, hear their prayers and forgive and restore them to their lands.

"Lord, please turn Your eyes favorably toward Your servant and answer this prayer that I've spoken today in Your holy temple. Bless Your priests and Your people with the desire to worship You with happy hearts. Remember David Your servant, and don't turn away from me, Your anointed king over Your people" (see 1 Kings 8:27-61).

Suddenly, there was fire! It came down from heaven, and this holy fire consumed all the burnt offerings and sacrifices. Glory filled the temple. All of Israel bowed down before God.

Solomon had prayed for all the people, for Jews and foreign visitors alike. God had honored that prayer and made His presence seen, felt, and known.

There were sacrifices, there was music, there was singing and rejoicing. Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple left a deep impression on the hearts of the listeners. That day many decided to worship the God of Israel sincerely and with undivided hearts. Just as in the days of Solomon, our prayers for others are an important part of worshiping God. Our prayers for others reflect our faithfulness to the Creator whose love we share with His children.



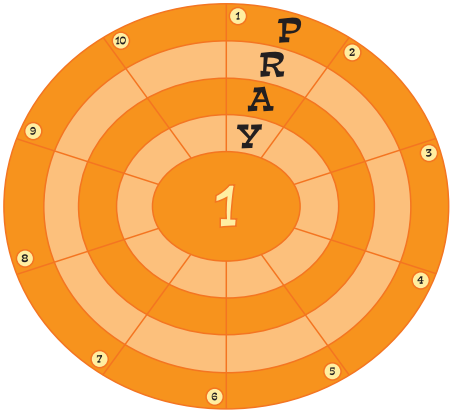
PUZZLE
4

PRAYER WARRIORS

Instructions: This puzzle contains four-letter-word answers. Each is placed in the circled grid from the outside in. When they are in place, the letters on the outside starting with number 1 will form the two-word answer in each grid. All of the texts are found in 1 Kings 8, NIV.

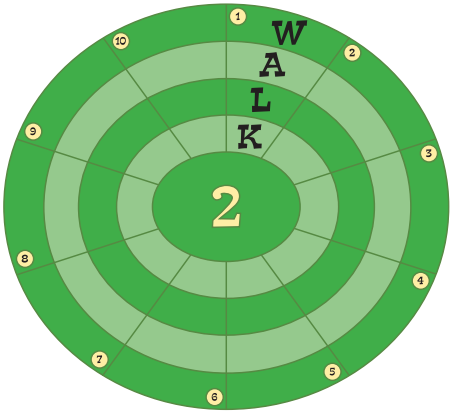
First Grid:

1. Talk to God reverently (verse 30)
2. A public path for travelers, street
3. Requests (verse 43)
4. Belonging to you, _____ people (verse 35)
5. Not shut (verse 29)
6. To change, to _____ from their sin (verse 35)
7. What does God do from heaven? _____ (verse 34)
8. "May your _____ be open" (verse 29)
9. Stood up (verse 54)
10. Another word for "spoke" or "told" (verse 25)



Second Grid:

1. Move step-by-step (verse 25)
2. A promise to speak the truth (verse 31)
3. Water falling in drops (verse 36)
4. The spiritual element in human beings (verse 48)
5. To listen, _____(verse 28)
6. Allow God _____ your heart
7. A request, a _____ (verse 38)
8. Another word for "offered" (verse 34)
9. Just one of, Jesus is God's _____ Son
10. "As you have _____" (verse 25)



Puzzle Clue

To _____ for _____ is one way to _____ _____.