

**True Strength Is Worship**  
**1 Kings 8:1-21, Pew Bible p. 287-288**  
**February 26, 2023**

**I. The Ark Brought to Jerusalem (V. 1-11)**

A. True strength isn't about our ability to build our house and exalt our name, but about our heart to build God's house and exalt God's name.

B. Worship is:

1. Organized
2. Led
3. Corporate
4. Prescribed
5. Uncontrollable
6. God

**II. Solomon Blesses the Lord (V. 12-21)**

A. True strength comes from remembering the great works of God.

B. About the House of God:

1. It is a place of remembrance.
2. God does not need it.
3. We do well to honor it.

## **Group Discussion Questions**

1. Read 1 Kings 8:1-21.
2. How do organization and leadership help worship, as verses 1-3 imply?
3. Why does it matter to both worship God and do it in the way He prescribes, as verses 4-8 imply? Read Leviticus 25:10-15 for more information on how the ark and its poles were supposed to be used, and consider also reading 2 Samuel 6:1-7 to see what happened when this command is not kept.
4. How can God be both merciful to sinners and so rigid in His prescription of worship? Are these two characteristics mutually exclusive?
5. What is the relationship between the presence of God and the house of God, according to verses 10-11? What do you think happens to a church if that relationship is lost?
6. How does worshiping in church help us remember the works of God, as it did Solomon in verse 15? How can you better remember the works of God in your life?
7. Pray for our church members to be on mission to all people. Consider coming to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00-6:30 pm in the Worship Center across the hall from the Choir Room.

## **Church Bible Reading Plan**

2 Chronicles 4-6

March Memory Verses: 2 Chronicles 6:18-21

***Exodus 25:20-22***

*<sup>20</sup> “The cherubim shall spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings, their faces one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubim be. <sup>21</sup> And you shall put the mercy seat on the top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. <sup>22</sup> There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.”*

**Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting**

- PRAYING through Psalm 11, praising God for seeing everything that is done.

**Pray for Our Church Family Needs:**

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:  
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia;  
Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West,  
Glendale, Arizona
- PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- Family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:  
Marge D. (son, Matthew); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Rezwana D. (parents); Charity M. (daughter);  
and Sharon L. (sons)
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:  
Gertrude A. (granddaughter); Family of John E.; Debbie & John P. (her brother);  
Carolyn & Billy H. (her father); Celeste E. (grandmother); Anne W.-B. (son); and  
Del & Laura M. (his mother)
- Those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:  
Michelle L. (health issues); Leon V. (chemo); Debbie B. (health issues); Ann C.-W. (headaches);  
Mary R. (transplant recovery); Stan & Twyla H. (health & other issues); Mimi M. (health issues);  
Michelle LaM. (health issues); Debbie P. (health issues); Kaitlyn D. (pregnancy concerns);  
Ken & Darlene R. (health issues); Joe B. (back surgery recovery); Laura M. (health issues);  
Gaylon K. (infection recovery); Gary C. (recovering at home); Mike P. (in hospital);  
Marge D. (in hospital); and Butch L. (leg infection)
- Others that you are aware of