

Help Wanted!

Exodus 31:1-11; 36:1-7; *Prophets and Kings*, pp. 62, 63

Ah Ming and Mei Li (pronounced “May Lee”) huddled in front of Dad’s iPad. They were watching a video of someone on the screen build a great-looking origami house. They followed the directions step by step and eventually they had a great-looking house too! Some things need a pattern, directions, or a plan. God knew plans were important when the Israelites started to build the tabernacle, a sanctuary for Him.

The Israelites found it hard to describe their feelings of joy and happiness! God loved them so much that He wanted a home in

their camp! They called God’s tabernacle home His sanctuary.

They could talk to God anytime, just as we can. But God knew it was important for the Israelites to have a place where they could meet with Him. The Israelites had lived in Egypt a long time. They knew more about Egyptian gods than about the living God who had rescued them. It would be very easy for them to forget God. The tabernacle was God’s way of reminding them that He was there all the time.

First the Israelites collected the materials they would need. They happily gave their gifts.



The Message

*I worship God when I use
my abilities to do His work.*

Memory Verse

*“Serve wholeheartedly,
as if you were
serving the Lord,
not people”
(Ephesians 6:7).*

Everyone gave the best things they owned for God’s home. They brought silver, gold, and brass, as well as their best material and animal skins. In fact, they gave so much that God said to Moses: “Tell them to stop. We have enough.” Everyone wanted to help with the building project. From the oldest to the youngest, everyone wanted to do something.

God wanted His house to be very special for the people. He gave plans to Moses for the workers. He described everything in great detail.

Soon it was time to choose who was going to do what jobs. God talked to Moses: “Building My sanctuary is the most important thing you will do. I have chosen two special people to help. Bezalel and Oholiab come from different tribes. Bezalel is Uri’s son, Hur’s grandson, and comes from the tribe of Judah. Oholiab comes from the tribe of Dan. He is Ashisamach’s son. I have blessed these men in a special way. They will be able to work with all kinds of tools. They can follow the plans I have given you. No one will be able to make things as well as they can.

“You will need many other skilled people to help. Everyone who works on the building will receive an extra blessing from Me. I will make their talents and abilities much better than before.

“Remember to make all the things I showed you. I gave you the plans for the meeting tent and everything inside, including the ark and its special cover. When the ark is finished, put the Ten Commandments inside.”

The Israelites worked together to build

God’s tabernacle home. Happiness filled their hearts as they worked. Just as God promised, He blessed their talents and abilities.

Our church is like the Israelites’ tabernacle. We come here to worship God and praise Him for everything He does for us. When we use our talents and abilities for God, He will bless them and improve them.



S A B B A T H

DO If possible, go outdoors with your family and look for some of God's creatures. Try to figure out what special ability some creatures have. Tell three new things that you learned during your walk. Thank God for them.

SING Sing "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 51).

READ Find a quiet place and read your lesson story together. Then read 1 Peter 4:10.

S U N D A Y

DO With your family, make some cookies. Use a cookie cutter to make different shapes.

SHARE Talk with your family about lessons you can learn from the cookies. (Each cookie is different. So are we, with different God-given gifts and abilities.)

READ Read Romans 12:4-8 with your parents. What does this mean?

DO Read the memory verse. What does this verse mean to you? Ask God to help you serve Him.

M O N D A Y

READ For family worship, read Exodus 31:1-11. What two men did God fill with His Spirit to make beautiful things?

DO List some things you are good at. How can you worship God with these? (See Matthew 25:40.)

DO Say your memory verse. Thank God for His gifts.

T U E S D A Y

DO During family worship, ask your parents about their work. How did they prepare for it? How did God lead them to it? What do they like about it? How does their work help God's church? Read together Colossians 3:23.

DRAW Draw a picture of what you can do for God now. Draw another picture of what you want to do when you grow up.

DO Say or sing your memory verse.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ For worship, read Ecclesiastes 9:10, first half. Tell what this means.

DO Ask your family to help you make a shaved crayon picture: Trace your hand on construction paper. Sprinkle crayon shavings within the hand tracing. (Crayons can be shaved with a blunt knife.) Put waxed paper on top of the shavings. Ask an adult to iron it until the shavings melt. Cool and pull off the waxed paper. Sign your name and write: "I offer my skills and abilities to God." Then review your memory verse.

SING Sing "God Made Our Hands" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 57).

THURSDAY

READ Read Exodus 36:1 for family worship. Skill and ability are important to do God's work. What else is important?

DO Have someone read to you the following instructions: Stand in a square marked on the floor. Turn left. Take four steps forward. Turn right. Take two steps forward. Turn right. Take one step forward. Then take two steps sideways to the right. Then take three steps forward. Did you end up in the same place you began? If you did, you followed the directions exactly.

PRAY Ask God to help you always to follow His directions.



The basin where the priests washed was made of women's shiny bronze mirrors.

FRIDAY

DO For worship, tell this week's Bible lesson in your own words. What three new things did you learn from this lesson? Take turns reading Deuteronomy 6:5, Romans 12:1, and Colossians 3:17. What do these verses mean?

DO Plan together how you and your family can use your abilities for God tomorrow.

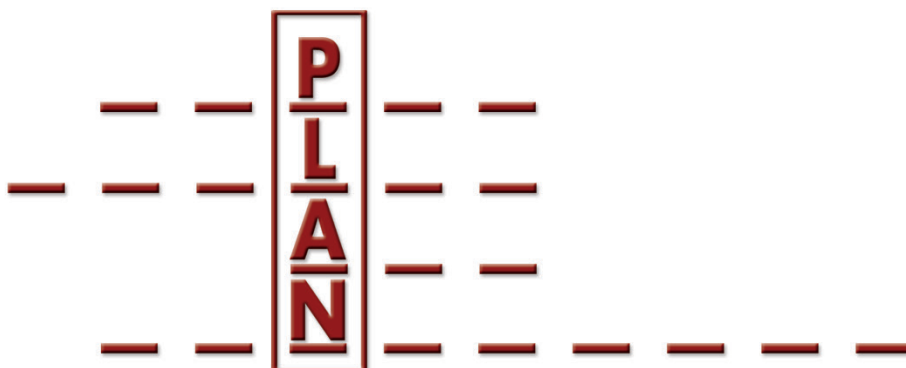
DO Sing "I Want to Be" (Sing for Joy, no. 124). Thank God for the abilities He has given to your family.

Help Wanted!

PUZZLE

Directions: Answer the following questions to learn more about building God's sanctuary. Use words from the word list below.

1. How did the Israelites feel when God wanted to have His house among them?
2. What did the builders need to build God's house?
3. How many Israelites gave something to help build God's house?
4. What was God's house to be called?



skills
sad
all
church

joyful
most
silver
sanctuary

tabernacle
crafts
happy
some