

BE THE CHURCH

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Be the Tabernacle:

1. Commit to pursuing God's DESIGN for your life.

⁹ Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it. – **Exodus 25:9**

⁴⁰ Now be sure to make them according to the pattern you were shown on the mountain. – **Exodus 25:40**

2. Plant God's WORD in your heart and mind.

¹⁰ They shall make an ark of acacia wood... ¹⁶ And you shall put into the ark the testimony that I shall give you. – **Exodus 25:10a,16**

3. Trust in God's PROMISES, whatever you face.

^{4b} In this ark were the golden urn containing the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. – **Hebrews 9:4b**

²³ You shall make a table of acacia wood... ³⁰ And you shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before me regularly. – **Exodus 25:23a,30**

4. Be continually filled with God's SPIRIT.

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. – **Exodus 40:34**

³¹ And you shall make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. It shall be made with cherubim skillfully worked into it... ^{33b} the veil shall separate for you the Holy Place from the Most Holy. – **Exodus 26:31,33b**

^{2b} "...I will appear in the cloud over the atonement lid." – **Leviticus 16:2b**

³⁷ But Jesus cried out with a loud voice and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the temple curtain was torn in two, from top to bottom. – **Mark 15:37-38**

DIGGING DEEPER

HEBREWS 8:1-9:15

- In what way is Jesus our high priest (**8:1-3**; **9:11-12**)? What does a priest do? Why was a priest necessary (**9:6-7**; **Exodus 28:41**; **Exodus 30:10**)?
- Why is the new covenant of the New Testament better than the old covenant of the Old Testament (**8:6-13**)? How do you think the old covenant was building up to (or pointing toward) the new covenant?
- It's common to think of God in the Old Testament as being a harsh and holy judge. But God's presence in the tabernacle was associated with the cherubim on top of the ark of the covenant. What was the top of the ark of the covenant called (**9:5**; **Exodus 25:20-22**)? What does this emphasize about God's character (**Exodus 34:6-7**)?
- What did the external regulations for worship and the tabernacle accomplish (**9:1,8-10**)? Why were these regulations not enough for eternity? What is the difference between the "ritual purity" of the old covenant and the purity given to us through Jesus Christ in the new covenant (**9:13-14**)?
- Given that the external regulations for worship and the tabernacle were incomplete, what role should regulations and rituals play in the life of Christ followers?
- What does it mean that Jesus is our mediator (**9:15**)? Do we need any other mediator (priests, saints, etc.) in order to have access to God? How should this affect the way we live each day?