



Grades 4–5 • Lesson 59

God Dwells Among His People

Exodus 25:8–9, 27:1–2, 30:17–19, 25:17–18, 28:4, 40:34–35; Hebrews 10:11–14

To solve the puzzle, complete the sentences below using the word list.
Then use the first letter of each answer to fill in the numbered circles.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

- The showbread was put on a _____ .
- The sacrifices were burned on an _____ .
- The priests washed in a bronze _____ .
- God's instructions for the tabernacle are recorded in the book of _____ .
- Many items in the tabernacle had _____ for poles so they could be carried easily.
- Who else could enter the most holy place besides the high priest? _____ .
- The first high priest was Moses' brother. _____ .
- The Ten Commandments were written on stone tablets and placed in the ark of the _____ .
- The golden _____ was used for light in the holy place.
- One of the garments made for the high priest was an _____ .

Lampstand	No one	Altar
Ephod	Basin	Table
Covenant	Exodus	Aaron
		Rings

Name _____



Fill in the blanks to complete the verse.

And _____ spoke all
these _____, saying, "I
am the _____ your God,
who brought you out of the
_____ of _____,
out of the house of
_____.
You shall have no other
_____ before me.

Exodus 20:1–3

What You Heard *In the Word*

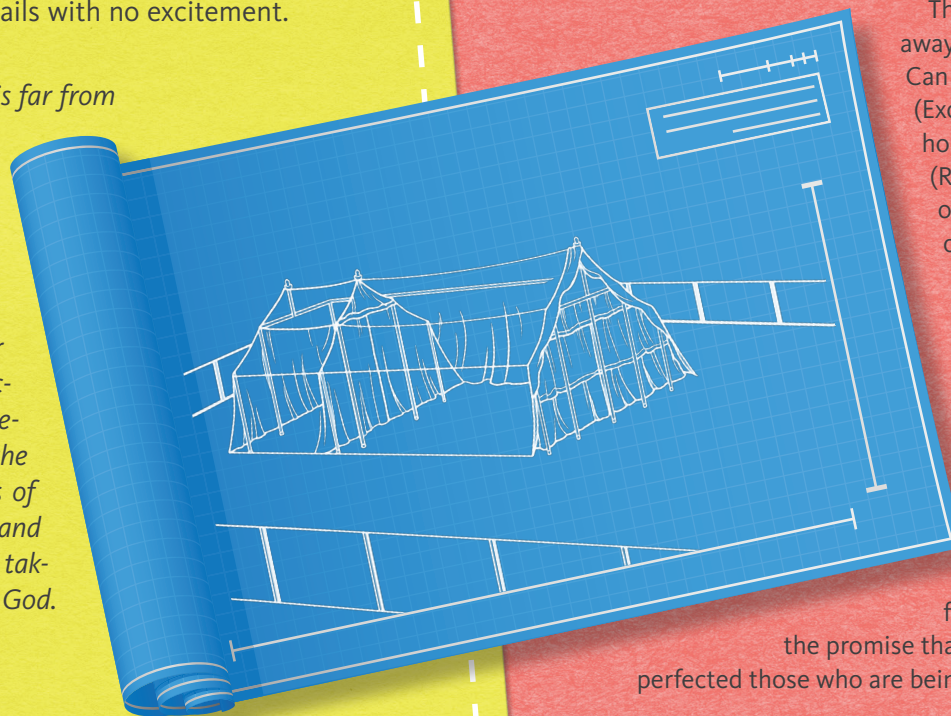
- God gave instructions for how the Israelites should build the tabernacle as a place to worship him.
- The animal sacrifices offered on the bronze altar could never take away sin. Jesus' death on the cross was the final sacrifice made once for the forgiveness of sin.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

A friend says that he thinks the whole account of how God told the Israelites to build the tabernacle is boring! It is nothing but lots of details with no excitement.

What could you say?

The account of the tabernacle is far from boring once you realize that all of the directions God was giving the Israelites actually point to Jesus and what he would one day do. The tabernacle was a place for the Israelites to worship God and offer sacrifices for their sins. They had to offer sacrifices over and over. But when Jesus came, he offered himself as the final sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins for all time. All who believe and trust in him will have their sins taken away and become children of God. That's exciting news!



HomeWord *For Parents*

The account of the construction of the tabernacle is so detailed that it is one of those sections of Scripture that people tend to skip over. But why did God include such detailed instructions? These directions reveal that God dwells with men according to his plan and purpose. This dwelling place, with all its furnishings, was to be built according to God's pattern (Exodus 25:9).

In the tabernacle, the most important piece of furniture was the ark of the covenant—the gold-covered chest that would find its home within the most holy place. The ark would house the golden urn that held manna, Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant (Hebrews 9:4). It was covered by the mercy seat overshadowed by two cherubim at either end (Exodus 25:17–18). God would speak to the priest from above the mercy seat over the ark (Exodus 25:22). On the Day of Atonement, the blood of the sacrifice would be sprinkled on the mercy seat to make atonement for the sins of Israel (Leviticus 16:15–16).

The picture here should take our breath away as God reveals his plan of redemption. Can you picture God above the mercy seat (Exodus 25:22), looking down at the ark housing the law that could never be obeyed (Romans 3:19–20), knowing that because of his holiness he must demand perfect obedience? And then, once a year—on the Day of Atonement—the blood is sprinkled, according to the law, onto the mercy seat. God sees the sin offering presented, which provides a temporary covering but can never take away sins completely (Hebrews 10:11). What a wonderful foreshadowing of Christ's sacrifice offered once for sins forever (Hebrews 10:12)!

The building of the tabernacle, far from being boring, offers us hope and the promise that by one offering—Jesus Christ—God has perfected those who are being sanctified (Hebrews 10:14).