

DAVID'S WORSHIP

Lesson 1, 1 Chronicles 15:1-3, 14-16, 25-29a, NIV

MAKING A MOVE

Planning a move? Will you hire movers, rent a truck, put items in storage, or a combination of all of these? Moving is filled with difficult decisions. And the slogans of moving companies are of little help. If you can match half of these companies with their slogans, you have moved far too many times!

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Ryder | a. "America's most trusted mover" |
| _____ 2. Atlas Van Lines | b. "Your moving and storage resource" |
| _____ 3. Mayflower | c. "Let's Get Moving" |
| _____ 4. U-Pack | d. "Go new places" |
| _____ 5. U-Haul | e. "The smart way to move and store" |
| _____ 6. PODS | f. "Dedicated to customers and focused on quality" |
| _____ 7. Budget Truck Rental | g. "Ever better" |
| _____ 8. Penske Truck Rental | h. "We drive. You save." |

DAVID'S MOVING PLANS

David came to recognize that moving the ark of the covenant was an act of worship that had to be done with planning and reverence. Unscramble the words in David's moving plans below. Refer to the Scripture references for clues.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Decide on a new ACILNOOT | 1 Chronicles 15:1 |
| Assemble qualified EMORSV | 1 Chronicles 15:2, 3, 14 |
| Choose reliable AAINNOOPRRSTTT | 1 Chronicles 15:15 |
| Pay moving EEENPSSX | 1 Chronicles 15:26 |
| Host a AEGHIMNORSUW party | 1 Chronicles 15:16, 25 |

DAVID'S GRATITUDE

Lesson 2, 1 Chronicles 16:8-12, 28-36, NIV

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

There always seems to be a good reason to celebrate! Find the different kinds of parties in the grid below. Transfer the unused letters to the line below to reveal what Winston Churchill once said about celebrating.

O N E G W E L C O M E D	BIRTHDAY
C F U N D R A I S I N G	BLOCK
H O E I K C O L B R O B	CHRISTMAS
R S N M O T L E E E I A	COSTUME
I E V R E A C N S R T F	DANCE
S C O A N V N I T I A N	DINNER
T N V W I I R H A R U E	FAREWELL
M A L E D P D P E A D D	FUNDRAISING
A D R S R A T W Y B A R	GARDEN
S E F U Y O E R E C R A	GRADUATION
L O S O S L I N G T G G	HOUSEWARMING
I M E H L E M U T S O C	SURPRISE
	WELCOME

Churchill quote: _____

PARTY ANIMALS

A party animal is a person who loves celebrations! Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of your own worship celebrations by identifying as one of the following:

- **A canary with a sore throat**—I should be singing, but I sometimes let circumstances quiet my songs of praise rather than letting my singing lift my mood.
- **A loud mouse**—The description of being “quiet as a mouse” doesn’t apply to me! I am reserved sometimes, but my gratitude to God cannot be silenced!
- **An elephant with a short memory**—I fail to live up to my reputation of never forgetting. Troubles come and my memories of how God has acted for me in the past seem to fade.
- **A grateful cat**—Sure, felines can be distant and aloof, but I stop thinking about myself all the time when I recall what God has done.
- **A generous pig**—I can be greedy sometimes. But acknowledging God’s might, I try to focus on giving rather than taking.

DAVID'S HOUSE

Lesson 3, 1 Chronicles 17:1, 3, 4, 11-14; 21:18, 21-27, NIV

FAIR OR UNFAIR?

Mark each of these statements about the history of the temple as seeming fair (F) or unfair (U) to you. What is important is that you can defend your choices.

- _____ 1. David had a palace but the ark representing God's presence was stored in a tent.
- _____ 2. David made a selfless decision to build a temple, but God refused to let him.
- _____ 3. David did the hard work of bringing stability to Israel, but his son would have the glory of building the nation's most important building.
- _____ 4. Saul's throne was taken away because of his disobedience, but God promised to establish the throne of David's line forever.
- _____ 5. Araunah wanted to bear the cost of building an altar and making a sacrifice.
- _____ 6. David insisted that he himself bear the cost of building an altar and making a sacrifice.
- _____ 7. God demanded animal sacrifice in a specific place so that he would withhold his acts of judgment.

WHO IS IN CHARGE?

Drop letters from each column into the grid to spell out a quip that answers the title question. Letters can be used only once. The last line is the attribution to the quip.

O	A			A	U	A		P						
M	I	D	D	I	L	G	H	S		A	N	E	R	B
Y	D	N	L	P	S	H	N	S	R	O	V	D		G

Who is in charge? _____

Attributed to: _____

MARY'S PRAISE

Lesson 4, Luke 1:39-56, NIV

BLESS YOU!

Match the first part of each of these blessing quips to its conclusion.

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ 1. May you never forget what is worth remembering, | a. and never want as long as you live. |
| _____ 2. May the saddest day of your future | b. be no worse than the happiest day of your past. |
| _____ 3. May God give you: for every storm a rainbow, for every tear a smile, | c. so that you will always have something to strive for. |
| _____ 4. May you be in Heaven a half hour | d. and never close his fist too tight on you. |
| _____ 5. May your smile be big and wide | e. before the devil knows you're dead. |
| _____ 6. May the Lord keep you in His hand | f. and may trouble be always a stranger to you. |
| _____ 7. May your pockets be heavy and your heart be light; | g. and may your pockets always have a coin or two inside. |
| _____ 8. May you live as long as you want | h. for every care a promise and a blessing in each trial. |
| _____ 9. May good luck be your friend in whatever you do, | i. may good luck pursue you each morning and night. |
| _____ 10. May you get all your wishes but one | j. nor ever remember what is best forgotten. |

PRAYING FROM THE PSALMS

How has God been active in your life this year? Praying portions from the Bible's songbook, the Psalms, can help us recall and thank God for his work in us. Try memorizing one or more of the following verses from Psalms and work them into your prayers this week.

Safety and Security—"The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore" (Psalm 121:7, 8).

Strength and Peace—"The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace." (Psalm 29:11).

Answers to Prayers—"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." (Psalm 20:4).

His Enduring Presence—"May God be merciful unto us, and bless us and make his face shine on us" (Psalm 67:1).

His Remarkable Creation—"May the Lord bless you from Zion, he who is the Maker of heaven and earth." (Psalm 134:3).

DAVID'S PRAYER

Lesson 5, 1 Chronicles 17:16-27, NIV

EXCEPTIONAL ACCEPTANCE

Here are a few lines from famous Oscar acceptance speeches. Choose your favorite, then tell your neighbor why you like it more than the others.

“This moment is so much bigger than me.” —Halle Berry

“I want to thank everyone I’ve ever met in my entire life.” —Julia Roberts

“And I am standing here because the woman I share my life with has taught me and demonstrates for me every day just what love is.” —Tom Hanks

“And most of all, I want to thank my father . . . the man who, when I said I wanted to be an actor, said, ‘Wonderful, just have a backup profession like welding.’” —Robin Williams

“I can’t deny the fact that you like me, right now, you like me!” —Sally Field

“It’s my privilege. Thank you.” [his entire speech] —Joe Pesci

[addressed to his statuette on receiving his first Oscar after decades of acting] “You’re only two years older than me, darling. Where have you been all my life?” —Christopher Plummer

HOW TO GIVE AN ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

When people accept an award, their speeches include certain elements. Nathan reported the content of his revelation to David, detailing God’s plan for David’s family. David’s prayer in response is like an acceptance speech. Summarize each portion of the lesson text in a sentence or two that reflects these key elements of acceptance speeches.

Show humility (1 Chronicles 17:16-19)

Recognize your peers (1 Chronicles 17:20-22)

Look to the future (1 Chronicles 17:23-27)

SOLOMON SUMMONS THE ARK

Lesson 6, 1 Kings 8:1-13, NIV

GLORY, GLORY, GLORY!

Like many biblical words, *glory* has lost much of its significance because people overuse or misuse it. But God's glory is awe-inspiring and unique. Not only was God's glory evident when the ark of the covenant was brought to the temple, but we see God's glory repeatedly throughout Bible history. Summarize what you learn about God's glory as you consider the following Scriptures.

Scripture	How God's Glory Was Manifested	What I Learn About God's Glory
Exodus 13:21, 22		
Exodus 16:10		
Exodus 19:9		
Exodus 24:15-18		
Exodus 33:9, 10		
Exodus 40:34, 35, 38		
Ezekiel 8:1-4		
Ezekiel 10:3-5, 18, 19		
Ezekiel 11:22, 23		
Matthew 17:1-7		
John 1:14		
1 Corinthians 6:19, 20		
Revelation 15:8		

GOD'S GLORY IN US

God's glory is not limited to one time or place. In fact, Scripture says God's Spirit lives in every Christian and dwells in his church today (Romans 8:9-11; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17). Think about God's glory in your life today as you answer the following questions.

How have you seen God's glory in the church or in the lives of individual Christians?

What does it mean to you that God's Spirit is dwelling inside of you?

When have you been most aware of God's presence in your life?

Where do you need to sense God's presence in your life today?

SOLOMON SPEAKS TO THE PEOPLE

Lesson 7, 1 Kings 8:14-21, NIV

TWELVE OF MANY

Today's study from 1 Kings reminds us that God keeps his promises, but not always in the way or at the time we would choose. Each of the 12 Scriptures below contains a promise from God. Unscramble the sentences below and match them to the corresponding verses.

Psalm 34:7	
Psalm 103:11	
John 3:16	
John 14:2	
Acts 2:38	
Romans 8:26	
Romans 8:28	
1 Corinthians 10:13	
2 Corinthians 12:9	
James 1:5	
1 John 1:9	
Revelation 21:4	

1. pray those for wisdom gives to who God it.
2. offers The prayers Spirit can't we express.
3. God from tempted gives an path Christians escape sin.
4. become gives Holy Spirit those the God who to Christians.
5. eternal an home for preparing Jesus is believers.
6. protects God His people.
7. who good things All work the of those love for God.
8. shown our Christ's is in strength weakness.
9. we will confess forgive God If sins, our them.
10. fear those God loves who Him.
11. promises life to God everlasting believers.
12. all will Someday and tears sorrow cease.

ONE FAVORITE PROMISE

Has there been a time in your life when one of the above promises was most helpful to you? What was the situation?

Which promise was it?

How did it help you?

SOLOMON SEEKS GOD'S BLESSING

Lesson 8, 1 Kings 8:22-30, 52, 53, NIV

SEVEN PRAYERS, SEVEN PRINCIPLES

In 1 Kings 8:31-51 (not in today's text), Solomon's dedication prayer for the temple features seven particular situations where he seeks God's intervention. Summarize those petitions below and note what principles they exhibit for prayers today.

1 Kings 8	Prayer	Principle
Verses 31, 32		
Verses 33, 34		
Verses 35, 36		
Verses 37-40		
Verses 41-43		
Verses 44, 45		
Verses 46-51		

PRAYER EMPHASIS

Sometimes we get in a rut when we pray and focus on one aspect of prayer to the neglect of others. Check the boxes below to indicate what percentage of your prayers focus on each particular aspect.

	0%	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	40%	50%+
Praise									
Confession									
Giving Thanks									
Requests for self									
Requests for others									

What adjustments should you make to these percentages? _____

SOLOMON ANTICIPATES PRAISE

Lesson 9, 1 Kings 8:54-61, NIV

STANDING (?) IN NEED OF PRAYER

Solomon is the first person recorded in Scripture to have knelt while praying. Does that posture express deeper devotion than other prayer postures? Why, or why not? Look up the Scripture references below to reach your conclusions.

Kneeling: Daniel 6:10; Luke 22:41; Acts 20:36; 21:5

Standing: 1 Samuel 1:26; Mark 11:25

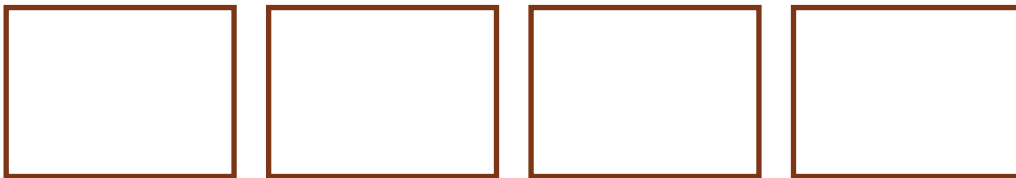
Sitting: Judges 20:26; 2 Samuel 7:18

Face to the ground (prostrate): Joshua 7:6-10; Matthew 26:39

Head uplifted: Luke 9:16 (contrast Luke 18:13)

Hands uplifted: 1 Kings 8:54; 1 Timothy 2:8

In the boxes below, draw stick figures to indicate the postures that are most common for you in your praying.



Would adopting a different prayer posture enrich your praying or make you uncomfortable? Share your responses.

SINGLE-MINDED OBEDIENCE

Lesson 10, Matthew 4:1-11, NIV

TRUE OR FALSE

Mark each of the following questions **True** or **False** regarding today's text from Matthew 4:1-11. Time limit of one minute!

T or F 1. In the give-and-take between Jesus and the devil, Jesus was the only one to use Scripture.

T or F 2. God didn't want Jesus to be tempted, but he let the devil have his way.

T or F 3. The three temptations happened in the wilderness.

T or F 4. Jesus was so strong he didn't need any help from angels.

T or F 5. Jesus thwarted the devil by using well-crafted human reasoning.

T or F 6. Jesus was special, and so were his temptations—unlike those faced by everyday people.

TEMPTED LIKE JESUS

Each of the following sentences might be spoken by someone facing a temptation similar to one that Jesus faced. For each one, circle **FIRST**, **SECOND**, or **THIRD** to indicate which temptation of Jesus it matches. In the spaces provided, jot a phrase or two to indicate how and why the Christian should resist the temptation.

I know it was the right decision to borrow the money and buy the business. I told all my friends God was with me and he wouldn't let it fail. I told God I'd give him all the glory when my business turned a profit. But the economy has taken a nosedive, and I'm afraid I may be facing bankruptcy. I don't understand how God could allow me to stumble this way. 1st 2nd 3rd?

I've dreamed about a job like mine all of my life, and I've worked for a promotion for years and years. I think it will be coming soon, so I can't let up now. If my boss wants something, I do it. If the job requires extra hours, even on the weekend, I give them. Yes, life is crazy now, but our family's whole future depends on me succeeding here. I'll have more time for the kids and more time to help at church later. But now I have to give everything to this job. 1st 2nd 3rd?

I have to provide for my family, don't I? Frankly, I get a little tired of hearing the church talk about money. Preachers get perks that never come to a common guy like me. I can't afford to give. 1st 2nd 3rd?

GOD-HONORING PIETY

Lesson 11, Matthew 6:1-8, NIV

GIVING, PRAYER, AND HEART

Fill in the blanks with your reactions. Use Matthew 5:13-20; 6:1-8 and other texts as appropriate.

1. You overhear someone saying to another that the second person's giving to the needy should increase.

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

2. You overhear someone saying that Christians in general are stingy.

5. You overhear a Bible-study leader urging someone to greater participation in group prayer times.

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

3. You overhear someone bragging about his or her donation to a local homeless shelter.

6. You overhear someone promising to pray for another. A few days later that second person asks the first if he or she has actually done so.

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

4. You overhear someone say that he or she "just can't afford giving more than 1 percent" of his or her salary to the church, so that person makes up for it with extra service.

7. You've spoken the same need to God in prayer again and again for years, but you haven't seen an answer. A friend tells you you're just not praying about this hard or often enough.

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS BIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

THIS IS UNBIBLICAL BECAUSE: _____

KINGDOM-SEEKING PRAYER

Lesson 12, Matthew 6:9-15, NIV

FORGIVENESS POINTERS

Read what others have said about forgiveness. By yourself or with a partner, decide how some of these statements fit with Jesus' instruction in Matthew 6:9-15. Write your comments below the corresponding quote.

"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you." —Lewis B. Smedes

"It's one of the greatest gifts you can give yourself, to forgive." —Maya Angelou

"When you forgive, you in no way change the past—but you sure do change the future." —Bernard Meltzer

"Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it." —Mark Twain

"Forgiveness is something that, when you do it, you free yourself to move on." —Tyler Perry

"Forgiveness liberates the victim. It's a gift you give yourself." —T. D. Jakes

"Forgiveness is not always easy. At times, it feels more painful than the wound we suffered, to forgive the one that inflicted it. And yet, there is no peace without forgiveness." —Marianne Williamson

"He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every man has need to be forgiven." —Thomas Fuller

"Many people have trouble with forgiveness because they have been taught it is a singular act to be completed in one sitting. That is not so. Forgiveness has many layers, many seasons." —Clarissa Pinkola Estes

"What forgiveness is at its heart is both saying that justice has been violated and not letting that violation count against the offender." —Miroslav Volf

FORGIVENESS CHALLENGE

Complete the following sentences:

The next step toward forgiveness I need to take is _____.

The person I need to forgive is _____.

EVER-PERSEVERING PETITIONS

Lesson 13, Luke 11:5-13, NIV

HANDLING PERSONAL REQUESTS

Would you give a child everything he or she asked for? Why, or why not?

If everyone received everything they thought they wanted, would the world be perfect? What might be the consequences?

Describe a time when you received something you asked for and realized it was not what you expected or having it was more trouble than not.

How would you describe someone who is persistent? Have you ever experienced someone who was persistent to obtain what it was that he or she desired? If yes, describe some of their actions.

A PATHWAY TO PRAYER

Respond to the following questions and develop a pathway for you to follow in your prayer life in the coming weeks.

What life situation is most urgent to you at this moment? What requests would you like to make to God about this situation? Express it here as clearly and specifically as you can.

What has prevented you from being persistent in praying about this situation in the past? What can you do to overcome this resistance?

Remind yourself of several instances when God has answered your prayers in the past and thank him for them.

Express your confidence in God's love for you as his precious child and his willingness to hear and answer your prayer.

Lesson 1

Making a Move: 1=g. 2=d. 3=a. 4=h. 5=b. 6=e. 7=c. 8=f.

David's Moving Plans: 1=location. 2=movers. 3=transportation. 4=expenses. 5=housewarming.

Lesson 2

Reasons to Celebrate: "One does not leave a convivial party before closing time."

O N E G W E L C O M E D
 C F U N D R A I S I N G
 H O E I K C O L B R O B
 R S N M O T L E E E I A
 I E V R E A C N S R T F
 S C O A N V N I T I A N
 T N V W I I R H A R U E
 M A L E D P D P E A D D
 A D R S R A T W Y B A R
 S E F U Y O E R E C R A
 L O S O S L I N G T G G
 I M E H L E M U T S O C

Lesson 3

Who Is in Charge?

M	A	N		P	L	A	N	S		A	N	D		G
O	D		L	A	U	G	H	S						
Y	I	D	D	I	S	H		P	R	O	V	E	R	B

Lesson 4

Bless You! 1=j. 2=b. 3=h. 4=e. 5=g. 6=d. 7=i. 8=a. 9=f. 10=c.

Lesson 5

Possible responses to **How to Give an Acceptance Speech:**
Humility—David recognized that he was just the proverbial poor boy from a poor family. He was unworthy of the role God gave him by his grace. **Peers**—Just like an actor might say that he or she was honored to be part of a great cast, David recognized that he was born into a nation unlike any other. **Future**—An award recipient expresses hope that what he or she accomplished would continue to influence others. David prayed that God would keep his promise to bless David's household forever.

Lesson 7

Twelve of Many: Psalm 34:7, God protects his people; Psalm 103:11, God loves those who fear him; John 3:16, God promises everlasting life to believers; John 14:2, Jesus is preparing an eternal home for believers; Acts 2:38, God gives the Holy Spirit to those who become Christians; Romans 8:26, The Spirit offers prayers we can't express; Romans 8:28, All things God works for the good of those who love him; 1 Corinthians 10:13, God gives tempted Christians an escape path from sin; 2 Corinthians 12:9, Christ's strength is shown in our weakness; James 1:5, God gives wisdom to those who pray for it; 1 John 1:9, If we confess our sins, God will forgive them; Revelation 21:4, Someday all sorrow and tears will cease.

Lesson 8

Possible responses for **Seven Prayers, Seven Promises:**
Verses 31, 32—Punish those who are guilty and acquit the innocent. **Principle:** Ask that God will see that justice is done. **Verses 33, 34**—We are suffering because of our sin and need your forgiveness. **Principle:** Practice repentance and be grateful for forgiveness. **Verses 35, 36**—We have no rain because of our sins; hear and forgive us, and we will follow the right path. **Principle:** It's not enough to repent; we must also do our best to stay on the right path. **Verses 37-40**—Whenever disaster or disease comes upon us, we will call out to God for help and forgiveness. **Principle:** No matter what troubles come our way, God knows our hearts and can help us. **Verses 41-43**—We ask that all peoples on earth may come to know you and fear you, just as we do. **Principle:** Our prayers should include requests for those who are not

yet part of God's people. **Verses 44, 45**—When we go out to fight our enemies, please hear us and give us victory. **Principle:** In our prayers we should remember that the battle belongs to the Lord. **Verses 46-51**—If we are carried away because of our sins to foreign parts and repent of our wicked ways, please forgive us and look out for us. **Principle:** No matter where we end up in life, God can hear and answer our prayers.

Lesson 10

True or False: All the sentences are false. Consider the following references: 1-v. 6. 2-v. 1. 3-vv. 5, 8. 4-v. 11. 5-vv. 4, 6, and 10. 6—Christians today are tempted to trust themselves instead of trusting God (vv. 2-4), ask God to prove he's real (or deny God when he doesn't respond as they wish) (vv. 5-7), and give themselves over to the pursuit of the world instead of the pursuit of God (vv. 8-10).

Tempted Like Jesus: The case studies represent, in this order, the second, the third, and the first temptations. Students may make different comparisons. Christians today are tempted to ask God to prove he's real or deny God when he doesn't respond as they wish (vv. 5-7), give themselves over to the pursuit of the world instead of the pursuit of God (vv. 8-10), and trust themselves instead of trusting God (vv. 2-4).