



## Group Guide

# The Presence of God

*June 9, 2024*

**Main Passage:** 1 Kings 6:11-16,37-38; 8:24-30

## Theological Theme

God loves His people and dwells with us.

## Introduction

- ① When was a “mountaintop moment” in your spiritual life? How have you tried to return to that experience seeking fellowship with God?
- ② When was an “ordinary” moment you recognized God’s presence with you?

## 1. God’s Promise (1 Kings 6:11-13)

Solomon had begun the task of building the temple to the Lord. Solomon followed specific details for the construction and used the most lavish and luxurious materials available. There was nothing spared in the process of establishing a permanent home for the ark of the covenant as the place the people would gather to worship the Lord and meet with Him.

- ① The details of the construction of the temple were precise, but today’s passage reminds us that the ultimate matter was the hearts of the people. Why is our internal posture toward God more important than our external actions?
- ② Where are you tempted to follow your own way rather than obey God’s Word? What makes this area a struggle for you?
- ③ Application: How has God been faithful to you in a time when you were unfaithful to Him?

## 2. Solomon’s Response (1 Kings 6:14-16,37-38)

In these verses, construction of the temple was completed under Solomon’s leadership. He paid attention to all the details and finished the task he had started. Studying this process gives us some valuable principles for our lives and relationship with God.

- ❓ When have you been convinced of something God called you to only to grow discouraged as you faced obstacles in the process of pursuing the call?
- ❓ How do the details of your life represent God to the people around you?
- ❓ Application: Where might God be developing you further as His representative in the daily processes of life? How are you responding? What needs to change?

### 3. Dedication of the Temple (1 Kings 8:24-30)

Most people take promises seriously. But the reality is people often break promises. One of the ways God is different than us altogether is He never breaks His promises. God's covenants with His people are sure and will never fail.

- ❓ We may only be familiar with the act of dedication in certain contexts, such as a child dedication. Why is it important to dedicate our whole lives and the individual pieces to the Lord? How can we do this intentionally?
- ❓ Where do you need to ask God for forgiveness today?
- ❓ Application: Where this week do you need to remember that God is with you and working, even when you fail to recognize His presence and depend on Him?

### Conclusion

God is in the details of life and cares about not just the finished product but the process along the way. The way that we conduct ourselves with the tasks God gives us will either make us more like Him or more like the world. Solomon followed every detail God gave even if he didn't know the reason behind it. This is what every believer should do as we look to know God through His Word and follow His commands daily.

- ❓ Where are you prone to believe God is limited in certain ways? How does this impact your relationship with Him?
- ❓ Where is God calling you to pay attention to details in your life right now? What might you have overlooked where He is working?
- ❓ How can you seek a gospel conversation with another by sharing about God's purpose for His temple and the way He dwells with His people today?