

VOLUME 2, No. 1 - LEVEL III

# Youth explorer



Heaven's Powerhouse

## Dear Youth,

We are about to begin an incredible adventure as we discover the plan of salvation through Heaven's Powerhouse, the Sanctuary. Why must we study about the sanctuary?

The psalmist tells us: "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary" (Psalm 77:13).

"The sanctuary in heaven is the very center of Christ's work in behalf of men. It concerns every soul living upon the earth. It opens to view the plan of redemption, bringing us down to the very close of time and revealing the triumphant issue of the contest between righteousness and sin. It is of the utmost importance that all should thoroughly investigate these subjects and be able to give an answer to everyone that asketh them a reason of the hope that is in them."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 488.

Human language often fails to express the story of Jesus' love and His forgiveness toward us. This is why you will notice several songs have been used to describe the topics presented. Often poetry and song speak a language that has a deeper meaning than just prose.

As we study the story of Christ's life, death, and intercession in pictures and symbols, we pray that you will learn the story of Jesus in a new way and allow Him to write every word of His saving grace in your heart!

## *Your Friends at the Sabbath School Department*

**Youth Explorer, Volume 2, No. 1**, Editor: Liliane Balbach; Design/Layout: Danilo R. Conceição

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## THE WAY TO HEAVEN'S POWERHOUSE

### MEMORY VERSE:

"Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?" (Psalm 77:13).

### Lesson Helps:

*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 23–26; Steven N. Haskell, *The Cross and Its Shadow*, pp. 19–27; *The SDA Bible Commentary* [E.G. White Comments], vol. 1, pp. 1103, 1104.

### Heartbeat:

If you were lost in the middle of a forest, how would you find your way back to your campsite?



### SUNDAY | OFFICE HOURS

We are lost! Eternally lost! Our first parents had disobeyed God. They broke His holy law and they had to die. Did they have a solution? Did they have a compass? No! But the "the instant man accepted the temptations of Satan, and did the very things God had said he should not do, Christ, the Son of God, stood between the living and the dead, saying, 'Let the punishment fall on Me. I will stand in man's place. He shall have another chance.'"—*The SDA Bible Commentary* [E. G. White Bible Comments], vol. 1, p. 1085.

**1. Before Adam sinned, is there any evidence that God had a solution already prepared? Revelation 13:8, last part.**

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“As soon as there was sin, there was a Saviour. Christ knew that He would have to suffer, yet He became man’s substitute. As soon as Adam sinned, the Son of God presented Himself as surety for the human race, **with just as much power to avert the doom** pronounced upon the guilty **as when He died upon the cross of Calvary.**”—Ibid., p. 1084 (emphasis added).

**2. What provision did God make? What served as a compass? Genesis 3:15.**

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“The compass consists of the following words, which were spoken by the Lord to Satan: ‘I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed’ (Genesis 3:15). In every heart God has planted an enmity to sin, which, if heeded, will lead to righteousness and eternal life. Any man . . . who will absolutely follow the divine compass placed in his heart, will accept Christ as his Saviour.”—*The Cross and Its Shadow*, pp. 19, 20.

**3. Why did the choice of Adam affect the whole human race? As you read the following verses, think about what scientists are discovering about genetics and DNA. Genesis 2:16, 17; Romans 6:23.**

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“Transgression placed the whole world in jeopardy, under the death sentence. But in heaven there was heard a voice saying, ‘I have found a ransom’ (Job 33:24).”—*The SDA Bible Commentary* [E. G. White Comments], vol. 6, p. 1076.



**APPLY IT!** | Are you using the compass when you feel lost and troubled about which way you should take in the journey of life?

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**MONDAY | WORSHIPPING GOD**

Have you ever wondered how Adam’s children and grandchildren learned about Christ, the Lamb of God, when they had no Bible scrolls or a church to attend? After Adam sinned, he and his children worshipped God at the gate of the Garden of Eden. This was the first church or sanctuary.



**1. What symbolic act did Adam and his children have to do to keep Jesus and His sacrifice fresh in their mind? Genesis 4:4.**

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“To Adam, the offering of the first sacrifice was a most painful ceremony. His hand must be raised to take life, which only God could give. It was the first time he had ever witnessed death, and he knew that had he been obedient to God, there would have been no death of man or beast. As he slew the innocent victim, he trembled at the thought that his sin must shed the blood of the spotless Lamb of God. This scene gave him a deeper and more vivid sense of the greatness of his transgression, which nothing but the death of God’s dear Son could expiate [redeem]. And he marveled at the infinite goodness that would give such a ransom to save the guilty.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 68.



**2. How was Abraham taught more about the plan of salvation through Christ? Genesis 22:2, 8–12.**

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“Isaac was a figure of the Son of God, who was offered a sacrifice for the sins of the world. God would impress upon Abraham the gospel of salvation to man. In order to do this, and make the truth a reality to him as well as to test his faith, He required him to slay his darling Isaac. All the sorrow and agony that Abraham endured through that dark and fearful trial were for the purpose of deeply impressing upon his understanding the plan of redemption for fallen man. He was made to understand in his own experience how unutterable was the self-denial of the infinite God in giving His own Son to die to rescue man from utter ruin.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 369.



**APPLY IT! |** As you read this next quote, think about whether there is anything the Lord may be asking you to give for Him. Write it down below.

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“This act of faith in Abraham is recorded for our benefit. It teaches us the great lesson of confidence in the requirements of God, however close and cutting they may be; and it teaches children perfect submission to their parents and to God. By Abraham’s obedience we are taught that nothing is too precious for us to give to God.”—*The SDA Bible Commentary* [E. G. White Comments], vol. 1, p. 1094.

The pyramids of Egypt were lost from sight as Israel trudged toward the Promised Land. After three months of travel they encamped in the foothills of Mount Sinai. The grandeur of the mountain peaks reached for the skies while dense clouds shrouded the mountain in mystery. Then rolling thunder announced the “foot-steps” of the approaching Jehovah, while lightning signaled His power. By such a display Jehovah sought to inspire His people with His holiness, and the importance of what He was about to do.

On Sinai’s mountaintop our heavenly Father and His Son stood side by side as the heavenly trumpet sounded louder and louder. Suddenly there was great silence as the divine Son proclaimed Their law in language that humans could understand. The hosts of the Hebrews were awed. They trembled in silence. This was the setting in which Christ revealed to Moses on Mount Sinai the story of salvation through the sanctuary.



### **1. What did God instruct Moses to do, and why? Exodus 25:8.**

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When the children of Israel moved to Egypt, many of them lost their connection with God. God spoke to them His law from Mount Sinai and explained to them the sacrificial system of worship. But the Lord had to work with them as He would with young children and teach them using simple illustrations. Since we tend to remember only 20% of what we hear, 30% of what we see, 50% of what we hear and see, and 80% of what we hear, see, and do, God gave His people a visual, hands-on illustration of the way of salvation.

### **2. How old was Jesus when He understood His part in the sanctuary service? Luke 2:41–49.**

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“For the first time the child Jesus [when He was 12 years old] looked upon the temple. He saw the white-robed priests performing their solemn ministry. He beheld the bleeding victim upon the altar of sacrifice. With the worshipers He bowed in prayer, while the cloud of incense ascended before God. He witnessed the impressive rites of the paschal service. Day by day He saw their meaning more clearly. Every act seemed to be bound up with His own life. New impulses were awakening within Him. Silent and absorbed, He seemed to be studying out a great problem. The mystery of His mission was opening to the Saviour.”—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 78.



**APPLY IT!** | How would you have felt if you had discovered your great mission in life at the age of twelve?

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The heavenly sanctuary is the great powerhouse of Jehovah. Here we can get all the help we need to solve every problem and overcome every temptation. You probably have seen electric trolleys in the city. They don't run on gas or batteries but on electricity, which they receive through the slender arms touching the wires above. As long as this connection is unbroken, the trolleys run smoothly up and down the hills and valleys. But the instant the connection is broken, the car stops and cannot go forward.

**1. Who is our connection to the sanctuary in heaven? Genesis 28:12, 13; John 1:51.**

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“Christ is the ladder that is let down in our path today, and that reaches to the battlements of heaven, to the very threshold of glory. Now the question is, Will you climb the ladder?”—*The Bible Echo*, November 19, 1894.

**2. In your own words, explain how Jesus connected us to God after Adam sinned. John 12:32.**

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“Now we find that the battlements can be reached, that God is above the ladder and is waiting with arms outstretched to help every soul who will come into the everlasting kingdom of our God. Praise His holy name! Ye inhabitants of the earth, praise Him! And why? Because through Jesus Christ—whose long human arm encircles the race while with His divine arm He grasps the throne of the Almighty—the gulf is bridged with His own body; and this atom of a world, which was separated from the continent of heaven by sin and became an island, is again reinstated because Christ bridged the gulf—Christ has bridged it!”—*Christ Triumphant*, p. 86.

**3. What is the “wire” that connects us to the powerhouse of Jehovah? Hebrews 11:1. What breaks our connection? Matthew 14:31.**

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“As long as he **by faith keeps a firm hold of God, he has light and power from the sanctuary above**; but if he allows **doubt and unbelief to break the connection**, he is in darkness, not only unable to go forward himself, but a **stumbling-block** in the way of others.”—*The Cross and Its Shadow*, p. 23 (emphasis added).



**APPLY IT!** | Do you have a personal connection with Jesus? Is it a strong or weak hold? What can you do to strengthen it?

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“Let us trust in the word of the Lord, and by our cheerful obedience testify our gratitude for His pardoning love.”—*The Review and Herald*, February 17, 1885.

## THURSDAY | THE PSALMIST'S SECRET

Have you ever been discouraged about your life? Have you had trouble sleeping because you were worried about something? Did you feel like God wasn't listening to your prayers? This is how the psalmist felt in Psalm 77 verses 1–9.

**1. Read Psalm 77:1–9. In a few sentences summarize the feelings expressed in this psalm about the writer's life.**

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Notice in the above verses, the writer is focusing on himself. He keeps repeating “I . . . I . . . I.” That was his big problem!

**2. How did the psalmist turn his negative, doubting thoughts into positive thoughts of faith? Verses 11, 12.**

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Notice how in verse 13 the writer turns his complaints and negative thoughts away from himself and remembers God's goodness. His I's . . . I's . . . I's . . . are changed into “YOU . . . YOU . . . YOU.”

**3. What secret did Asaph find in verse 13? Psalm 77:13.**

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**APPLY IT!** | When you have questions, problems, and worries, will you decide today to direct them in prayer to Christ in the sanctuary above? Maybe you would like to write one right now.

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English and math are the foundational academic subjects on which most other school subjects depend. When we master these two, we do well in most of the other subjects at school. Likewise, the sanctuary is the central pillar of our faith. When we have a correct understanding of it, we will be able to understand other important subjects of our faith—the law of God, the Sabbath, the judgment, the second coming, and many more. As we wait for the second coming of Jesus, it is important for us to study the subject of the sanctuary. Read the quotes below and summarize the reasons why we need to study the sanctuary. Highlight the ones that are most important to you.

**a.** \_\_\_\_\_

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“The correct understanding of the ministration in the heavenly sanctuary is the foundation of our faith.

“The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. All need a knowledge for themselves of the position and work of their great High Priest.”—*Evangelism*, pp. 221, 222.

**b.** \_\_\_\_\_

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“The enemy will bring in false theories, such as the doctrine that there is no sanctuary. This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith.”—*Ibid*, p. 224.

**c.** \_\_\_\_\_

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“Another lesson the tabernacle, through its service of sacrifice, was to teach—the lesson of pardon of sin, and power through the Saviour for obedience unto life.”—*The Faith I Live by*, p. 192.

**d.** \_\_\_\_\_

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“It is of the utmost importance that all should thoroughly investigate these subjects [of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment] and be able to give an answer to everyone that asketh them a reason of the hope that is in them.”—*The Great Controversy*, pp. 488, 489.



## WITH JESUS IN THE CAMP

### MEMORY VERSE:

“And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them” (Exodus 25:8).

### Lesson Helps:

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 343, 344;  
*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 43–49.

### Heartbeat:

If you were a father, would you be willing to let your only son die to save your nation?

### SUNDAY | THE PATTERN

If you were to build a custom home or a church, you would need to have an architect to draw up the plans. Christ was the Master Architect who provided the design for the first earthly sanctuary. He told Moses to build a custom designed, movable tent which we call a tabernacle. Moses took notes and recorded every measurement in a book. Christ's purpose was to visually display His plan for the salvation of humanity.



**1. Why did God ask Moses to build a sanctuary? Exodus 25:8. What was the distance from the ark of the covenant to the tents of the people when they marched? Joshua 3:3, 4. Figure it out in miles or kilometers.**

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The tabernacle stood in the heart of Israel's camp. Through the court, the furniture, the sacrifices and festivals God taught His people truths that were difficult to understand. But while God wanted to be near His people, He still was the eternal, all-powerful God. He could come only as close as His divine majesty and their sinful natures allowed.

**2. Which blueprint did God give to Moses? Hebrews 8:5.**

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“God presented before Moses in the mount a view of the heavenly sanctuary and commanded him to make all things according to the pattern shown him.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 343.



**APPLY IT! |** If we will consider that the sanctuary was to be the place where God's presence dwelt, and that all of it is a pattern for our character building, then we can ask ourselves some important questions. First, am I studying and following the pattern of Jesus?

“Every day that you live, you can be perfecting the blessed attributes fully revealed in the character of Christ; and when you do this, you will bring light, love, peace, and joy into your homes.”—*The Review and Herald*, July 29, 1890.



## MONDAY | FINDING MATERIALS



If you were to build a home or a church, you would go to a local lumber store and order the wood, the nails, the drywall, doors, windows, and other materials needed for the project. But there were no lumber or hardware stores in the desert. Where did Moses find the materials to build the tabernacle?

What about the design of the furniture and the decorations for the tabernacle? That too was provided by the Master Architect. Every piece of furniture, every curtain, even the measurements and type of fabric and color were specified. Why was Christ so particular? Every detail of the design, building, and decoration of His tabernacle was to teach the great truth of repentance, forgiveness, and salvation through Jesus Christ.



**1. Instead of miraculously providing all the building materials for the sanctuary, why did God ask the people to bring some of their own materials for the project? Exodus 35:4, 5.**

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“For the building of the sanctuary great and expensive preparations were necessary; a large amount of the most precious and costly material was required; yet the Lord accepted only freewill offerings. . . . Devotion to God and a spirit of sacrifice were the first requisites in preparing a dwelling place for the Most High.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 343.

“While the building of the sanctuary was in progress the people, old and young—men, women, and children—continued to bring their offerings, until those in charge of the work found that they had enough, and even more than could be used. And Moses caused to be proclaimed throughout the camp, ‘Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing’ (Exodus 36:6).”—*Ibid.*, p. 344.

**2. How are we to imitate the liberality of the Israelites in giving to missions, church and school building projects, sanitariums, and literature? 2 Corinthians 9:7.**

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“[The Israelites’] devotion, their zeal and liberality, are an example worthy of imitation. All who love the worship of God and prize the blessing of His sacred presence will manifest the same spirit of sacrifice in preparing a house where He may meet with them. They will desire to bring to the Lord an offering of the very best that they possess. A house built for God should not be left in debt, for He is thereby dishonored.”—Ibid., p. 344.



**APPLY IT!** | As you think of the willingness of the Israelites to bring their offerings, what are you inspired to do and give for God and His work on earth?

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## TUESDAY | TALENTED WORKERS

If you were the project manager for the building of the tabernacle, where would you find the craftsmen to build such a high-quality tabernacle and such perfectly detailed furniture? The Lord demanded perfection in every detail of the work, but how would He obtain it? The great Master Architect had already found and chosen the best supervisors and craftsmen for the job.

**1. Who were the craftsmen that God called by name to work on the tabernacle and its furnishings? Exodus 31:1–6. What specific work did they do?**

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Bezaleel was the project manager and Aholiab was his assistant. Bezaleel, whose name meant “the one who is under the shadow of the Mighty One,” was from the tribe of Judah. He was skilled in working with gold, silver, brass, in cutting stones, and carving wood. Aholiab was called by God to work as an engraver and embroiderer and master weaver. His name meant “The Father is my pavilion.” Both men’s names testified of their closeness to God.

**2. Which other craftsmen and craftswomen did the Lord use to work on the tabernacle, furniture, and the priest’s garments? Exodus 28:3; 35:25, 26. Read the verses and find the modern names for each profession.**

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God gave wisdom to these wise-hearted and talented men and women and bestowed on them His Spirit so they could make all that He had commanded (Exodus 31:6). So the sanctuary and all its parts was not merely the skilled work of men and women; but it was indeed the product of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit!



### **APPLY IT! | Talent Checklist!**

Which talents and special abilities has God given you to help with His work in these last days?

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### **APPLY IT! | Memorize the quote below.**

**“There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart and lives a life wholly consecrated to God. All who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to His service will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical, mental, and spiritual power.”—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 159.**

## **WEDNESDAY | THE CAMP IS ORGANIZED**

How far do you have to walk or drive to come to church? It may take you twenty minutes or even an hour to get there. The Israelites were blessed because their tabernacle was located in the center of their camp. The tents of the leaders formed the perimeter of a large open space, the plaza. Around them were the twelve tribes of Israel, each under their own flag. No secular activities could be done there. Inside the plaza was the court of the tabernacle. This organizational plan showed that everything the Israelites did centered on the sanctuary, and Jehovah’s house was the center of His government.

When a person in the camp felt guilty for his or her sins, he or she could look toward the tabernacle, sniff the evening air, and see the smoke rising. Sacrifices were being offered in their behalf day and night. Leviticus 6:8–13. It was a comforting thought! What a beautiful picture of the constancy of mercy and love of God!

**1. Look at the illustration of the Israelite encampment. How many males over age 20 were in the camp? Numbers 1:46.**

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**2. Where did Moses and Aaron and the Levites pitch their tents? Numbers 3:23, 29, 35, 38.**

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There was a separation between the tents of the people and the holy premises which were formed by the three sons of Levi. Moses and Aaron and his sons camped along the eastern side, in front of the sacred space. The three Levite families, Gershonites, Kohathites, and Merarites, camped along the southern, western, and northern borders as guardians of the holy plaza.



**APPLY IT!** | The Jewish tabernacle was a type of a Christian church. The tabernacle is Christ's body of believers who come from the north, south, east, and west as represented by the twelve tribes. God gathers those who shall be His children forever. From which corner of the world do you come to be a part of Christ's church on earth?

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What lessons can we learn from the organization of Israel's encampment?

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## THURSDAY | NATHAN WAS NAUGHTY

Nathan was a naughty boy. He had skipped school for three days without the permission of his parents. Finally the teacher called to find out the reason of his absence. Nathan's parents were shocked and grieved that their son had deceived them. They thought long and hard about how to discipline him that he would grow up to be an honest and honorable young man. After talking it over, they decided to punish Nathan by taking away his liberty for three days. For three days, they confined him to the attic of the house where he could think and spend quiet time by himself. They moved his bed upstairs and at mealtime Dad carried Nathan's food to him. Night came; Mom and Dad tucked Nathan into bed and went to their bedroom. Dad could not sleep.

"What's the matter, John?" asked the mother. "Why don't you go to sleep?"

"I can't," said the father, "I think I'll go up and stay with Nathan."

So he walked up to the attic and opened the door. Nathan was still awake, sobbing softly. The father came close and kissed away the tears. Then he said:

"Son, Dad loves you. Dad wants you to be a good son." Dad was also crying. The disobedient but now repentant child began to realize that wrongdoing is very costly. Each of the three nights the loving father went to sleep in the attic with Nathan. He could not enjoy his own comfortable room while his son must stay in the attic. After the three days, Nathan had learned his lesson and was restored to his place in the family.

In this simple story you may catch a little glimpse of the depth of God's love for us.

### 1. Where did Christ pitch His tent? John 1:14. Why?

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“Through all [the Israelites’] weary wandering in the desert, the symbol of [God’s] presence was with them. So Christ set up His tabernacle in the midst of our human encampment. He pitched His tent by the side of the tents of men, that He might dwell among us, and make us familiar with His divine character and life.”—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 23.

**2. Like Nathan, we have been separated from God because of our sins. Our heavenly Father could not endure the separation, so He sent His Son to be with us. How does Jesus reconnect us with His Father? Genesis 28:12.**

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“God has given the youth a ladder to climb, a ladder that reaches from earth to heaven. **Above this ladder is God**, and on every round fall the bright beams of His glory. **He is watching** those who are climbing, **ready**, when the grasp relaxes and the steps falter, **to send help**. Yes, tell it in words full of cheer, that no one who perseveringly climbs the ladder will fail of gaining an entrance into the heavenly city.”—*My Life Today*, p. 156 (emphasis added).



**APPLY IT!** | Have you sometimes felt that no one understands you—not even your parents, your siblings or your friends? \_\_\_\_\_. What truth can you tell yourself the next time you feel that way?

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“Since Jesus came to dwell with us, we know that God is acquainted with our trials, and sympathizes with our griefs. Every son and daughter of Adam may understand that our Creator is the friend of sinners. For in every doctrine of grace, every promise of joy, every deed of love, every divine attraction presented in the Saviour’s life on earth, we see ‘God with us.’”—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 24.

**FRIDAY | OUR LADDER CHECKLIST**

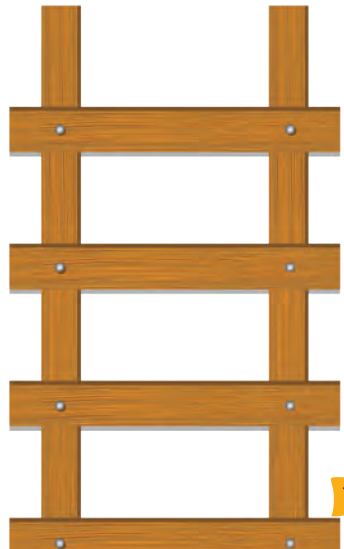
God is also showing us a ladder that we are to climb, holding on to Him. Write down the steps of the ladder. 2 Peter 1:5–7.

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“Point the youth to Peter’s ladder of eight rounds, and place their feet, not on the highest round, but on the lowest, and with earnest solicitation urge them to climb to the very top.” —*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 147.

“You are not to think that you must wait until you have perfected one grace before cultivating another. No; they are to grow up together, fed continually from the fountain of charity; every day that you live, you can be perfecting the blessed attributes fully revealed in the character of Christ; and when you do this, you will bring light, love, peace, and joy into your homes.” —*The SDA Bible Commentary* [E.G. White Comments], vol. 7, p. 943.

## NOTES

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# 3

## WITH JESUS IN THE COURTYARD

### MEMORY VERSE:

“Jesus saith unto Thomas, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

### Lesson Helps:

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 347, 348; 352, 353;  
Steven N. Haskell, *The Cross and Its Shadow*, pp. 133–141.

### Heartbeat:

You just realized that you have done something wrong, very wrong! You feel so guilty. What can you do? Where can you go to find peace?



### SUNDAY | ENTERING THE COURT

If you were living in the camp of Israel and committed a terrible sin, what would you do? From your tent, you could see the white linen fence around the tabernacle and the smoke ascending from inside that fence. There was your only hope! You must go there to receive forgiveness.



**1. Describe the materials that were used to make the hangings of the outer court. Exodus 27:9–18. What was their symbolism?**

**Materials used:**

**Wall:**

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Revelation 19:8.

**Pillars:**

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Revelation 3:12.

“The sacred tent was enclosed in an open space called the court, which was surrounded by hangings, or screens, of fine linen, suspended from pillars of brass. . . . The hangings of the court being only about half as high as the walls of the tabernacle, the building could be plainly seen by the people without.” — *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 347.

**2. The entrance to the court was covered by a beautiful veil or curtain, embroidered with golden angels. Identify the colors of the curtain and its rods. Exodus 27:16, 17.**

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The same type of veil that was at the entry of the court was also at the opening to the holy place and to the most holy place.

**3. How many gates did the court have? Leviticus 8:3, 4. Why only one? John 10:9; 14:6.**

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“Christ is the door to the fold of God. Through this door all His children, from the earliest times, have found entrance, . . . and through Him they are brought within the fold of His grace.” — *The Desire of Ages*, p. 477.



**APPLY IT!** | How will you respond to the invitation of Jesus as He stands knocking at the door of your heart?

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Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
 Calling for you and for me;  
 At the heart's portal He's waiting and watching,  
 Watching for you and for me.

Come home, come home,  
 Ye who are weary, come home;  
 Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling,  
 Calling, O sinner, come home!  
 —*Reformation Hymnal*, No. 214.



## MONDAY | INSIDE THE COURT

You realize that you have done wrong. You've been convicted by your own conscience! You have sinned! You must go to the tabernacle to confess and to receive forgiveness. But first you must go to your pasture and choose the most precious lamb you have and bring it along with you. On your way, you notice the neighbors watching you and speculating why you needed to make a sacrifice. Ignoring them, you continue on your way. As you enter the court, you see smoke, bleating animals, and the tabernacle itself. The priest meets you at the door, encourages you to come in, and explains to you what to do next.

**1. What huge piece of furniture stood in the courtyard close to the entrance? Exodus 38:1–7; 40:6.**

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Size in feet or meters: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Describe the steps the sinner had to take when bringing his or her animal to the court. Leviticus 4:27–30. What did it mean?**

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“In the court, and nearest the entrance, stood the brazen altar of burnt offering. Upon this altar were consumed all the sacrifices made by fire unto the Lord, and its horns were sprinkled with the atoning blood.” —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 347.

“The repentant sinner brought his offering to the door of the tabernacle, and, placing his hand upon the victim’s head, confessed his sins, thus in figure transferring them from himself to the innocent sacrifice. By his own hand the animal was then slain, and the blood was carried by the priest into the holy place and sprinkled before the veil, behind which was the ark containing the law that the sinner had transgressed. By this ceremony the sin was, through the blood, transferred in figure to the sanctuary.”—*Ibid.*, p. 354.

**3. What important lesson did every Israelite learn as he or she killed the innocent lamb? How does this apply to our life? Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22.**

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“The great lesson embodied in the sacrifice of every bleeding victim, impressed in every ceremony, inculcated by God Himself, was that through the blood of Christ alone is forgiveness of sins.”—*The SDA Bible Commentary* [E. G. White Comments], vol. 7, p. 913.



**APPLY IT!** | We are guilty! We have broken God’s holy law. What can we do? Romans 7:24, 25.

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“Will you not hate sin and pray most earnestly that you may have a sense of its exceeding sinfulness? Will you not hate that which caused the death of the Majesty of heaven, the Son of God?”—*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 14, p. 73.

**TUESDAY | A PERFECT OFFERING**

**1. What type of offering did the sinner need to bring for his or her sins? Exodus 12:5. Why this specific one? 1 John 1:9.**

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“In every bleeding sacrifice was typified ‘the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world’ (John 1:29).”—*The Signs of the Times*, January 2, 1893.

**2. Could the blood of an animal pay for my sin? Hebrews 10:4.**

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“The sinner, by confessing his sins over the lamb, . . . transferred them to the lamb. The life of the lamb was then taken instead of the life of the sinner, typifying the death of the Lamb of God, who would offer His life for the sins of the world. The blood of the animal was powerless to remove sin, but by shedding its blood the penitent revealed his faith in the divine offering of the Son of God.”—*The Cross and Its Shadow*, p. 124.

### 3. What if I was so poor that I didn't have a lamb to bring? Leviticus 5:7, 11–13.

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A poor senior citizen watches his wealthier neighbors pass by with their lambs. He sees others taking their pigeons and doves, but he wasn't able to catch a pigeon or dove. Sinking into discouragement he wonders: "How will I have my sin forgiven?" Just then someone tells him: "You can bring a handful of flour for your sin." As he watches the priest offer the crushed wheat as an emblem of the body of Christ to be broken for him and burn it on the altar, he has peace for he realizes that his sin is forgiven.



**APPLY IT!** | How was I responsible for the death of Christ on Calvary? How can I be in danger of crucifying my Lord again? Hebrews 6:6.

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## WEDNESDAY | HIS BLOOD FLOWS FOR ME

The earthly tabernacle is gone. The priests are no more. Today we have an eternal High Priest, who is interceding in heaven for us. The moment we sin, we can go to the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16), confess our sins, and receive forgiveness.

### 1. Where is our altar of sacrifice? Matthew 10:38. As we come before the Lord in prayer each morning, what are we to sacrifice to Him? Hebrews 13:15, 16; Romans 12:1, 2.

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"Sacrifice all to God. Lay all upon His altar—self, property, and all, a living sacrifice. It will take all to enter glory."—*Early Writings*, pp. 66, 67.

### 2. How does the sinner feel after confessing his or her sin and received forgiveness? Romans 5:1.

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Alas! and did my Saviour bleed, and did my Sov'reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?

#### Chorus:

At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away,  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do!

—*Reformation Hymnal*, No. 110.



**APPLY IT!** | As you come to Jesus' altar each morning, do you lay at His feet all your sins, all your bad habits, all your evil thoughts, and all your wrong actions?

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**THURSDAY | A PLACE TO WASH UP**

**1. What was the second piece of “furniture” in the outer court? What did the priest do there? Exodus 30:17–20.**

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“Between the altar and the door of the tabernacle was the laver, which was also of brass, made from the mirrors that had been the freewill offering of the women of Israel. At the laver the priests were to wash their hands and their feet whenever they went into the sacred apartments, or approached the altar to offer a burnt offering unto the Lord.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 347, 348.

**2. What does the laver represent to the Christian? Acts 22:16; Romans 6:4.**

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Gladly we choose to be buried with Christ in baptism and raised to a new life. Now we are accounted just. At communion, we renew our baptismal vows and receive renewed grace.

**3. What lessons can we learn from the laver, made of the mirrors that the women had offered to the Lord? Complete the sentence from the verse and note.**

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The women gave up v \_\_\_\_\_ and p \_\_\_\_\_  
to gain “b \_\_\_\_\_ of h \_\_\_\_\_” (Psalm 96:9).

“Pride and vanity are manifested everywhere; but those who are inclined to look into the mirror to admire themselves, have little inclination to look into the law of God, the great moral mirror. This idolatry of dress destroys all that is humble, meek, and lovely in the character. It consumes the precious hours that should be devoted to meditation, to searching the heart, to the prayerful study of God’s word.”—*Messag- es to Young People*, pp. 359, 360.





**APPLY IT!** | Am I proud and vain in the way I dress and in the way that

I fix my hair? \_\_\_\_\_ If I am, how can I change with the help of  
Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

**CHALLENGE QUESTION!** | When in Christ's life on earth did blood and

water flow? Find the reference. \_\_\_\_\_

Rock of Ages cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.  
Let the water the blood from thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.  
— *Reformation Hymnal*, No. 111.

## FRIDAY | THE TIME IS FULFILLED

As we study the courtyard of the sanctuary we see Christ's work for humanity symbolized: the Lamb of God, the sacrifice upon the altar, the washing of water, all pleaded with the sinner to come and find forgiveness. But have you thought about the fact that, in order for Christ to fulfill those types, He had to come to earth as a human being?

"In heaven's council the hour for the coming of Christ had been determined. When the great clock of time pointed to that hour, Jesus was born in Bethlehem. 'When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son' (Galatians 4:4)." — *The Desire of Ages*, p. 32.

**1. As you read about the risk God took to send His Son to our world, what can you gratefully exclaim? John 3:16, 17.**

"Yet into the world where Satan claimed dominion God permitted His Son to come, a helpless babe, subject to the weakness of humanity. He permitted Him to meet life's peril in common with every human soul, to fight the battle as every child of humanity must fight it, at the risk of failure and eternal loss.

"The heart of the human father yearns over his son. He looks into the face of his little child, and trembles at the thought of life's peril. He longs to shield his dear one from Satan's power, to hold him back from temptation and conflict. To meet a bitter conflict and a more fearful risk, God gave His only-begotten Son, that the path of life might be made sure for our little ones. **'Herein is love. Wonder, O heavens! and be astonished, O earth!'**" — *Ibid.*, p. 49 (emphasis added).



## REVIEW IT!

As you think about the great love that has prompted the whole plan of salvation—the whole sanctuary service—ask yourself the following:

1. Do I recognize that I need forgiveness? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have I gone to the Saviour and repented of my sin? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Have I asked Him to cleanse me? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have I been washed by His Word? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have I done this once or twice, or is it a daily matter? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Am I thankful, appreciative, excited, and praising God for His wonderful, special sacrifice of Jesus to our lost world? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Am I showing His praises? \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTES

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# 4

## THE PRIESTHOOD

### MEMORY VERSE:

“Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus” (Hebrews 3:1).

### Lesson Helps:

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 349–352;  
Steven N. Haskell, *The Cross and Its Shadow*,  
pp. 83–85; 299–302.

### Heartbeat:

If you were an Israelite, and wished to work as the priest’s assistant in the sanctuary, could you get a job there?



### SUNDAY | WHY THE LEVITES?

You would only have a chance of getting a job as the priest’s assistant in the sanctuary if you came from the tribe of Levi. God had set apart the tribe of Levi for the service of the sanctuary. Now you may think that Levi, the father of the Levites, must have been a very righteous man, and that’s why the Lord had chosen his children and their descendants for such a holy office. Think again. Levi and Simeon had been united in murdering the Shechemites, and they were also the most guilty in selling their young brother Joseph.

## 1. Why was the tribe of Levi chosen for the work of the sanctuary? Exodus 32:25–29.

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“In the case of [the tribe of Levi], . . . their fidelity to Jehovah when the other tribes apostatized [by worshipping the golden calf], secured their appointment to the sacred service of the sanctuary, and thus the curse was changed into a blessing.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 236.

## 2. If we are impulsive like Levi was before his conversion, how can the Lord change us when we surrender to Him? Isaiah 1:18.

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“Wondrous is the love of our God that can change a curse into a blessing. Only a mighty God can make our scarlet sins as white as snow. The impulsive nature which, under the control of Satan, drives a man to commit desperate crimes is not removed when he is converted. That same impetuosity, consecrated and under the control of Christ, makes him a valiant warrior for the Lord. Saul, the desperate persecutor, when converted, became Paul, the leading apostle.”—*The Cross and Its Shadow*, p. 83.



**APPLY IT!** | How do you act in a crisis when the honor of God is at stake? Do you stand for God and the truth even if your family and friends do not support you?

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## MONDAY | CHOSEN FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

We have studied the tabernacle courtyard with its expensive furniture. We have analyzed their meanings, but we notice Someone is missing. We’ve seen only the silent pictures which represent our Savior’s character and ministry, but that is not enough. We need a personal Saviour who is warm, tender, and compassionate to our needs. We need the voice of Jesus to melt our cold hearts and awaken our love for Him. To satisfy that need, Jehovah called a man to serve as a priest, for only a living person, like us, could represent Christ in His work as our heavenly High Priest.

### 1. Which family from the Levites did God choose for the priesthood? Numbers 3:10. Whom did Aaron represent?

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“The priesthood . . . was restricted to the family of Aaron. Aaron and his sons alone were permitted to minister before the Lord; the rest of the tribe was entrusted with the charge of the tabernacle and its furniture, and they were to attend upon the priests in their ministrations, but they were not to sacrifice, to burn incense, or to see the holy things till they were covered.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 350.



“God intended that these great leaders [Moses and Aaron] of His people should be representatives of Christ. Aaron bore the names of Israel upon his breast. He communicated to the people the will of God.”—*Ibid.*, p. 426.

**2. Are you wondering why God chose Aaron to be a high priest when he had committed a great sin by leading Israel to worship the golden calf? How was he punished for his sin? Numbers 20:12.**

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“The Lord was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed him’ (Deuteronomy 9:20). But in answer to the earnest intercession of Moses, his life was spared; and in penitence and humiliation for his great sin, he was restored to the favor of God.”—*Ibid.*, p. 320.

Aaron, like the apostle Peter, had truly repented of his terrible sin. God forgave him and trusted him to serve as high priest. He later called him “the saint of the Lord” (Psalm 106:16).

**3. What helped Aaron to be a more compassionate high priest? Hebrews 5:1, 2.**

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Aaron was tempted as all the people had been. Now he fully identified with their sin and could sympathize with them. He understood their weaknesses because of his own weakness.



**APPLY IT!** | Are you compassionate toward others?

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**TUESDAY | MARCHING ORDERS**

The Angel of the Lord soared above the people at the head of the procession. He showed Israel when to move and where to stop. Moses and Aaron marched, following the protection of the cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night, while the sons of Aaron followed them with trumpets ready to call their orders. The people understood the special sounds and moved accordingly.

**1. Who gave the marching orders when it was time to break camp or to encamp? Numbers 9:15–18.**

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“When it was for the good of the people and for the glory of God that they should pitch their tents in a certain place, God signified His will to them by causing the pillar of cloud to rest directly over the tabernacle, where it remained until He would have them journey again. In all their journeyings they were required to observe perfect order.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, pp. 650, 651.

## 2. Describe the priest's part as he led out in the morning and evening worship for the congregation of Israel. Exodus 29:38, 39, 42.

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"Every morning and evening a lamb of a year old was burned upon the altar . . . thus symbolizing the daily consecration of the nation to Jehovah, and their constant dependence upon the atoning blood of Christ."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 352.



**APPLY IT!** | Does your family have morning and evening worship daily? \_\_\_\_\_  
Does your home worship exhibit the order and unity that God wants to see there and in the church? \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss with your parents and pastor how things could be improved.

### WEDNESDAY | A ROYAL GUARD

Secret service agents guard the president of the United States and the White House where he lives; a royal guard protects the queen of England and Buckingham Palace.

More important than an earthly guard was the royal guard of the King of kings. The tabernacle was the sign to the children of Israel of their unseen King. Moses and Aaron were the royal guard of His palace. They were assisted by the Levites who waited exclusively upon their heavenly King.

#### 1. What were some other jobs that only the priests had to do?

- They were responsible for c \_\_\_\_\_ each piece of sacred furniture before the Levite porters moved them. Numbers 4:15.
- Only the priests were allowed to carry the \_\_\_\_\_ on their shoulders. Joshua 3:6.
- They had to ensure that the sacred f \_\_\_\_\_, kindled by God at Mount Sinai, never went out. Leviticus 9:24; 6:12.
- Once a week they made the c \_\_\_\_\_. Leviticus 24:5–9.
- They tended the golden l \_\_\_\_\_ with wicks and oil morning and evening. Exodus 27:20, 21.
- They ensured that the sweet i \_\_\_\_\_ continuously diffused its fragrance on the golden altar. Exodus 30:7–9.

#### 2. As we review the work of the Levites, let us consider how this applies to ourselves. Who is the royal priesthood of Christ, our King today? 1 Peter 2:9.

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“We should daily exercise faith; and that faith should daily increase as it is exercised, as we realize that [Christ] has not only redeemed us, but has loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests unto God and the Father.—*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 287.



**APPLY IT!** | Are you living up to your high and honorable job description? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, where do you need to improve with Christ’s help? \_\_\_\_\_

## THURSDAY | THE PRIESTS’ GARMENTS

The clothes we wear can tell others a lot about who we are and whom we represent. The Levites wore a white linen robe which was a symbol of our sinless Saviour. The high priest also wore the long white linen robe of the common priest. But when he entered the most holy place, he was dressed in his gorgeous robes. His garments represented Christ’s perfect and lovely character as He confesses our names before His Father.

**1. The garments of the high priest were costly and beautiful. Read the description of his garments, and fill in the answers. Exodus 28:4–29. Write a word or two about their significance. Read *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 350, 351.**

The fine linen coat. Exodus 28:39. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The blue robe. Verses 28, 31–35. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The ephod. Verses 6–8. \_\_\_\_\_

The onyx stones. Verses 9–14. \_\_\_\_\_

The turban or mitre. Verses 36–39. \_\_\_\_\_

**2. The high priest was the chief justice of Israel. What was the insignia of his office, and what did it mean? Verse 29. How did God show him His will? Verse 30. Find the answer in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 351.**

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### 3. What does it mean when we say “Christ carries me on His heart?” Psalm 40:17.

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“So Christ, the great High Priest [like Aaron the earthly high priest], pleading His blood before the Father in the sinner’s behalf, bears upon His heart the name of every repentant, believing soul.”—Ibid.



**APPLY IT!** | God gave special instructions to all the people of Israel regarding their garments (Numbers 15:38). As you read the quote below, ask the Lord to reveal to you whether your dress is befitting your sacred calling.

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“In the tabernacle service, God specified every detail concerning the garments of those who ministered before Him. Thus we are taught that He has a preference in regard to the dress of those who serve Him. Very specific were the directions given in regard to Aaron’s robes, for his dress was symbolic. So the dress of Christ’s followers should be symbolic. In all things we are to be representatives of Him. Our appearance in every respect should be characterized by neatness, modesty, and purity. But the word of God gives no sanction to the making of changes in apparel merely for the sake of fashion, that we may appear like the world.—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 96.

#### FRIDAY | A PRECIOUS GRACE

Did you realize that reverence for holy things is a precious grace that does not come naturally to us and is one which we must cultivate? “Many who profess to be children of the heavenly King have no true appreciation of the sacredness of eternal things.”—Ibid., vol. 5, p. 496.

As you review the lessons this week, think about your own attitude towards the things of God. Review the Scriptures below and ask yourself the following questions.

Am I reverent towards. . . ?	Scripture	Yes	No	Action
	Prov. 30:5			
	Ps. 89:7			
	Lev. 19:32			
	Ex. 20:12			
	Lev. 19:30			
	Ex. 3:5			
	1 Thess 5:12, 13			



## HOPE!

If you find that you have some “no” answers included, do not despair. There is hope.

- **“Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth” (Psalm 46:10).**
- **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13).**

As you focus on Him, and then act according to His will, reverent thoughts will grow. He is SO worthy of our worship!

## NOTES

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# 5

## WITH JESUS IN THE HOLY PLACE

### MEMORY VERSE:

“For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary” (Hebrews 9:2).

### Lesson Helps:

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 353, 354; Steven N. Haskell, *The Cross and Its Shadow*, pp. 50–65.



### Heartbeat:

If you've accepted Jesus as your Saviour and been baptized, what would you need to do to grow as a Christian?

### SUNDAY | ENTERING THE HOLY PLACE

We continue our walk into the holy place of God's powerhouse. There are no windows in the room. As we enter in, we would be first attracted to a 7-branched candelabra. We would smell the baked bread spread out on the banquet table. Nearby, we would see the red grape juice. Christ, our Bridegroom has spread a feast for us to nourish and strengthen us to continue our journey to heaven. Nearest to the most holy place, we would see the golden altar; its incense filling the tabernacle with a sweet fragrance.

**1. Before the priest could enter into the holy place, what did he have to do? Exodus 30:19, 20. Why?**

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“The priests were not allowed to enter the sanctuary with their shoes on their feet; for the particles of dust cleaving to them would desecrate the holy place. They were to leave their shoes in the court before entering the sanctuary, and also to wash their hands and their feet before ministering in the tabernacle or at the altar of burnt-offering. Thus was constantly taught the lesson that all defilement must be put away from those who would come into the presence of God.”—*Gospel Workers*, p. 173.

**2. Write down the four coverings that made up the roof of the tabernacle. Exodus 26:1, 7, 14.**

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These four coverings were symbolic of the work of Christ, our Sanctuary. His purity, His royalty, His Priesthood, and His sacrifice are shown there. There is no detail that doesn't teach us more about Him.



**APPLY IT! |** Can you think of anything in your own life that Jesus wants to cleanse away? Will you ask Him to do so?

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**MONDAY | A GLITTERING PLACE**

Our God is a lover of the beautiful. Why did He deck His sanctuary with gold and silver furniture, white and vividly-colored tapestries? It was not only to please the eye but to color-code His messages of love and to highlight the important points. There were only three pieces of furniture in the holy place, but each one had a special meaning, a special purpose, and a specific location. Our God loves beauty, quality, and simplicity.

**1. What material was used to make the furniture in the sanctuary? On a separate sheet of paper, make a sketch of the tabernacle. Look at the picture below to help determine where the pieces were located.**



## Furniture Material Used:

### The table:

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Exodus 25:23, 24.

### The candlestick:

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Exodus 25:31.

### The altar:

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Exodus 30:1, 3.

### The boards:

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Exodus 26:15–29.

When the priest entered the holy place, he saw gold everywhere. On the veil of fine linen of blue, purple, and scarlet, cherubim were embroidered in shining gold. When he looked at the ceiling, he saw fine linen of blue, purple, and scarlet with cherubim embroidered in threads of pure gold. The walls made of acacia wood, were set in silver sockets, and held firmly by pillars and connecting bars. These fixtures also are overlaid with gold, with figures of angels engraved or reflected on them, giving the building the appearance of solid gold.

## 2. Who do the angel figures in the holy place represent? Hebrews 12:22; 1:14.

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“These [curtains or veils in the holy place], like the inner covering, which formed the ceiling, were of the most gorgeous colors, blue, purple, and scarlet, beautifully arranged, while inwrought with threads of gold and silver were cherubim to represent the angelic host who are connected with the work of the heavenly sanctuary and who are ministering spirits to the people of God on earth.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 347.



**APPLY IT!** | All of this beauty in the sanctuary is to impress the beholder with the purity and loveliness of God. What does it mean to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness? Psalm 29:2.

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## TUESDAY | THE TABLE

When you think about worshipping God, do you ever think of eating? Most likely you think of hearing God’s Word, praying and singing. But when we enter the holy place, we will notice that Jesus has set up a banquet just for us!

## 1. What was set on the table in the holy place? Exodus 25:30; 1 Chronicles 9:32.

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“On the Sabbath day the Levites made twelve loaves, or cakes [one for each tribe of Israel], of unleavened bread. These cakes were placed on the table hot each Sabbath day, arranged in two rows, or piles, six in a row, with pure frankincense on each row.”—*The Cross and Its Shadows*, p. 55.

## 2. Explain the meaning of the bread for us? John 6:35.

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“It was called showbread, or ‘bread of the presence,’ because it was ever before the face of the Lord. It was an acknowledgment of man’s dependence upon God for both temporal and spiritual food. . . . Both the manna and the showbread pointed to Christ, the living Bread, who is ever in the presence of God for us.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 354.

## 3. How often should we eat the bread of life as exemplified by the Bereans? Acts 17:11; John 5:39.

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“Every day you should learn something new from the Scriptures. Search them as for hid treasures, for they contain the words of eternal life.”—*My Life Today*, p. 22.



**APPLY IT!** | Studying God’s Word is the eating described in John 6:53. What should we do if we find that we aren’t very hungry?

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## WEDNESDAY | SWEET INCENSE AT ALL TIMES

Have you ever been to a church that had incense coming from it and that was fragrant with a pleasant perfume? The tabernacle had a fragrance coming from the altar of incense in the holy place. This holy fire was constantly burning. Morning and evening the priests placed incense upon it which was made of four spices. This perfume diffused throughout the entire tabernacle and was carried by the breeze into the courtyard and beyond. . . .

## 1. Who saw the altar in the holy place in heaven? What was its purpose? Revelation 8:3, 4.

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“John, the beloved disciple, was permitted several times in vision to behold the Saviour officiating in the heavenly sanctuary. He saw a heavenly being standing at the glorious golden altar. He beheld the incense offered upon that holy altar. How it must have thrilled his soul when he saw that precious incense added to the poor, faltering prayers of the struggling saints here on the earth: He saw those prayers, after the incense was added, ascend up before God, and they were accepted because they were made fragrant with the incense.”—*The Cross and Its Shadow*, p. 60.

**2. Find the meaning of the burning fragrance from the incense. Exodus 30:8; Romans 8:34.**

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**3. Why do we need an Intercessor? 1 John 2:1.**

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“As our Intercessor, His office work is to introduce us to God as His sons and daughters. Christ intercedes in behalf of those who have received Him. To them He gives power, by virtue of His own merits, to become members of the royal family, children of the heavenly King.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, pp. 363, 364.

“Today a living Saviour stands in the heavenly courts as our Intercessor, pleading for us, that through His merits we may be enabled to resist the temptations of the enemy, and be more than conquerors through Him.”—*The Signs of the Times*, January 6, 1898.



**APPLY IT!** | How often should we pray? 1 Thessalonians 5:17. How often do you pray?

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**THURSDAY | A LIGHT BY DAY AND BY NIGHT**

Have you ever seen a talent of solid gold? A talent weighs 75 pounds. The lamp stand in the holy place was made of one talent of solid gold.

**1. Describe the lamp stand. Exodus 25:31, 32, 37. When were the lights turned off? Leviticus 24:2.**

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**2. Whom does the lamp stand represent? John 8:12; Psalm 119:105. What is the meaning of the oil? Zechariah 4:12–14.**

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“Christ is the great light, and Christians are appointed to reflect that light. The ocean is vast, its dangers are many, and the eyes of far-away voyagers are turned toward the lighthouse—the church of Jesus Christ. . . . Shall it not be the language of every heart here this morning, “What! Let the light that is in me go out or burn dim! Never! Never!”—*Historical Sketches*, p. 143.

**3. When we have the light of Christ shining in our heart, what will happen to our candle? Matthew 5:14–16.**

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“As the sun goes forth on its errand of love, dispelling the shades of night and awakening the world to life, so the followers of Christ are to go forth on their mission, diffusing the light of heaven upon those who are in the darkness of error and sin.” —*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, p. 39.



**APPLY IT!** | Write down some specific ways that your light has been shining for Jesus. Memorize the quote below.

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“Trials patiently borne, blessings gratefully received, temptations manfully resisted, meekness, kindness, mercy, and love habitually revealed, are the lights that shine forth in the character in contrast with the darkness of the selfish heart, into which the light of life has never shone.” —*Ibid.*, p. 44.

## FRIDAY | THE CHRISTIAN IN THE HOLY PLACE

How do we as Christians fit in the holy place? We have just come from the courtyard where we have placed our sins and our idols on the altar. We have given our heart, our talents, and all we have to Jesus. At the laver, we were baptized and started a new life with Jesus.

Now as we enter the holy place, we notice three things that are essential to our growth as Christians. At the golden table, we study our Bible and have our personal devotions with Jesus. At the golden altar, we pray to our Lord and at the golden candlestick, we receive the light from Christ and put it on a candlestick so it may shine to others.

It's time for a little self-examination in light of what we have learned this week.

1. **How often do you study the Word of God?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What are you studying?** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Are you praying to Jesus continually throughout the day?** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **How will you let the love of Christ shine through you this next week?** \_\_\_\_\_

## SABBATH STORY

There is a wonderful hymn in the *Reformation Hymnal*, No. 474, for you to read and sing.

### LET THE LOWER LIGHTS BE BURNING

Philip Paul Bliss was directing the singing for a series of services conducted by the famous preacher Dwight L. Moody. At the end of his sermon, Moody told the story of a captain who was attempting to bring his boat to the Cleveland harbor one very dark and stormy night.

“The waves rolled like mountains,” Moody said. “Not a star could be seen.”

He described how the boat rocked on the violent waves as the captain peered through the darkness,

looking for a signal light by which to guide his vessel to safety. When he finally spotted a single light from the lighthouse, he asked the pilot:

"Are you sure this is Cleveland Harbor?"

"Quite sure, sir," the pilot replied.

"Then where are the lower lights?" the captain continued.

"Gone out, sir," the other man answered.

"Can you make the harbor?" the captain asked anxiously.

"We must, or perish, sir," the pilot replied.

But despite his strong heart and brave hand, in the darkness, he missed the channel. With a resounding crash the boat piled up on the rocks and then settled slowly to a watery grave.

The congregation listened intently. Moody concluded his sermon with this warning to the Christians:

**"Brethren, the Master will take care of the great lighthouse; let us keep the lower lights burning."** This sermon inspired Bliss to pen the words of this hymn.

Jesus is our Lighthouse! Are your lower lights burning? Are they burning at your school, at work, and in the church? Is your home a lighthouse in your neighborhood?

## NOTES

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## WITH JESUS IN THE MOST HOLY PLACE

### MEMORY VERSE:

“And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee” (Exodus 25:21).

### Lesson Helps:

*The Great Controversy*, pp. 411, 412;  
Steven N. Haskell, *The Cross and Its Shadow*,  
pp. 45–49.

### Heartbeat:

Where in the tabernacle was the audience chamber of the Most High?



### SUNDAY | THE MOST HOLY PLACE

Imagine entering the secret place of the Most High! What was it like for the high priest to enter into the most holy place? He would first take off his shoes and wash his hands and feet. Then he would reverently lift the 15-foot high veil and walk into the second apartment. The high priest could enter the most holy place only once a year. The penalty for disobedience was death.



**1. What was the only piece of furniture in the most holy place? Exodus 25:10, 11.**

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“In the most holy place stood the ark, a chest of precious wood overlaid with gold, the depository of the two tables of stone upon which God had inscribed the law of Ten Commandments.”—*The Great Controversy*, p. 412.

**2. Describe the mercy seat and what stood above it. Exodus 25:17–20. What is the significance of the mercy seat being placed above the law?**

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God’s throne is represented by the mercy seat. The word “mercy” means, “That benevolence, mildness or tenderness of heart which disposes a person to overlook injuries, or to treat an offender better than he deserves” (Noah Webster, *American Dictionary of the English Language*, 1828). Read Psalm 103:8.

“The law of God, enshrined within the ark, was the great rule of righteousness and judgment. That law pronounced death upon the transgressor; but above the law was the mercy seat, upon which the presence of God was revealed, and from which, by virtue of the atonement, pardon was granted to the repentant sinner.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 349.

**MONDAY | THE GLORY OF THE SHEKINAH**

The holy of holies represents the audience chamber of the Most High. It is the most sacred place in the sanctuary, containing the sacred ark, glittering with gold. Covering the ark is the golden mercy seat with the two golden cherubim, stretching their wings on high. Between and above the cherubim is the Shekinah, the visible presence of God’s glory. On the mercy seat rests the golden censor placed there by the high priest as he enters inside. From the golden altar in the holy place, rises the smoke from the incense, which dims the glory of the Shekinah and fills the room with fragrance. On the golden walls are forms of angels, while the veil and inner covering of the ceiling are covered with cherubim richly embroidered in sparkling gold threads.

**1. What do the angels in the tabernacle represent? Daniel 7:10.**

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“The matchless splendor of the earthly tabernacle reflected to human vision the glories of that heavenly temple where Christ our forerunner ministers for us before the throne of God. The abiding place of the King of kings, where thousand thousands minister unto Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stand before Him (Daniel 7:10); that temple, filled with the glory of the eternal throne, where seraphim, its shining guardians, veil their faces in adoration, could find, in the most magnificent structure ever reared by human hands, but a faint reflection of its vastness and glory.” —*The Great Controversy*, p. 414.

**2. What was placed inside the ark? Deuteronomy 10:1, 2.**

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**3. Since the ark of the tabernacle is a symbol of what Jesus wants to do within our heart, what is the significance of the tables of stone being placed within it? Hebrews 10:16.**

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**TUESDAY | JUSTICE AND MERCY**

Do you know that before giving any instructions on building the tabernacle or making its furniture, the Lord carefully described the ark to Moses? Why? The ark and its contents had the key to understanding the plan of salvation.

**1. What is sin? 1 John 3:4; Romans 3:20; 7:7. What is the punishment for sin under the law? Romans 7:11; James 1:15.**

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**2. How do both God’s justice and mercy work together for our salvation? Psalm 85:10.**

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“In Jesus mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other. . . . The only-begotten Son of God took upon Him the nature of man and established His cross between earth and heaven. Through the cross, man was drawn to God, and God to man. Justice moved from its high and awful position, and the heavenly hosts, the armies of holiness, drew near to the cross, bowing with reverence; for at the cross justice was satisfied.” —*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 39.

**3. Give at least one example showing how justice and mercy met each other. John 8:3–11.**

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“It is at the cross of Calvary that mercy and truth meet together, where righteousness and peace kiss each other. The sinner must ever look toward Calvary; and with the simple faith of a little child, he must rest in the merits of Christ, accepting His righteousness and believing in His mercy.”—*Ibid.*, p. 384.

“[Christ] planted His cross midway between heaven and earth and made it the object of attraction which reached both ways, drawing both Justice and Mercy across the gulf.”—*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 243.



**APPLY IT!** | How can my heart and character reflect the mercy and justice of God’s character?

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“The sinner, drawn by the power of Christ from the confederacy of sin, approaches the uplifted cross, and prostrates himself before it. Then there is a new creature in Christ Jesus. The sinner is cleansed and purified. A new heart is given to him.”—*Ibid.*, p. 243.

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**WEDNESDAY | ANGELS IN OUR LIVES**

Two cherubim in the earthly sanctuary were reverently looking down at the law (justice) and the mercy seat (grace). Although the angels are intelligent heavenly beings, there is something they can’t quite understand.

**1. What mystery are heavenly angels desiring to understand? 1 Peter 1:12; Colossians 1:26, 27.**

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“The cherubim of the earthly sanctuary, looking reverently down upon the mercy seat, represent the interest with which the heavenly host contemplate the work of redemption. This is the mystery of mercy into which angels desire to look—that God can be just while He justifies the repenting sinner . . . ; that Christ could stoop to raise unnumbered multitudes from the abyss of ruin and clothe them with the spotless garments of His own righteousness to unite with angels who have never fallen and to dwell forever in the presence of God.”—*The Great Controversy*, p. 415.

**2. Describe the work of the angels for us today. How do they respond when we need encouragement and when we go astray? Hebrews 1:14; Psalm 34:7.**

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“Each saint had an attending angel. If the saints wept through discouragement, or were in danger, the angels that ever attended them would fly quickly upward to carry the tidings, and the angels in the city would cease to sing. Then Jesus would commission another angel to descend to encourage, watch over, and try to keep them from going out of the narrow path; but if they did not take heed to the watchful care of these angels, and would not be comforted by them, but continued to go astray, the angels would look sad and weep. They would bear the tidings upward, and all the angels in the city would weep . . . . But if the saints fixed their eyes upon the prize before them and glorified God by praising Him, then the angels would bear the glad tidings to the city, and the angels in the city would touch their golden harps and sing with a loud voice, ‘Alleluia!’ and the heavenly arches would ring with their lovely songs.”—*Early Writings*, p. 39.

**3. When will we meet our special heavenly friends and understand how intimately they were connected with our life? John 14:3.**

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“Every redeemed one will understand the ministry of angels in his own life. The angel who was his guardian from his earliest moment; the angel who watched his steps, and covered his head in the day of peril; the angel who was with him in the valley of the shadow of death; who marked his resting place, who was the first to greet him in the resurrection morning—what will it be to hold converse with him, and to learn the history of divine interposition in the individual life, of heavenly cooperation in every work for humanity!”—*My Life Today*, p. 367.



**APPLY IT!** | Have you been thankful to God for the angels that are watching over you?  
\_\_\_\_\_ How are you cooperating with them?

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**What is the first thing you plan to ask or tell your angel when you meet him?**

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**THURSDAY | TWO MORE ITEMS**

There were two more items placed in the ark of God. They also were symbolic of something to be done in our heart; we should want to learn more about them.



**1. What other two items were placed in the ark? Exodus 16:33, 34; Hebrews 9:4.**

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**2. What was the significance of the rod placed in the ark? Numbers 17:10.**

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“The blossoming of any rod was to be a token that the Lord had chosen that tribe for the priesthood.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 403.

The rod then was a symbol of God’s authority in the Israelites’ life through His appointed messengers.

**3. What is our manna today? 3 John 2; Psalm 67:2.**

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“The same God who gave the children of Israel manna from heaven lives and reigns. He will give skill and understanding in the preparation of health foods. He will guide His people in the preparation of wholesome food. He desires them to see what they can do in the preparation of such food, not only for their own families . . . but for the help of the poor.”—*Counsels on Diet and Foods*, p. 268.



**APPLY IT! |** Manna represents a healthy vegetarian diet that we, modern Israel, must adopt if we are going to the heavenly Canaan. What is the second lesson we are to take from the manna?

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“Christ has given us no promise of help in bearing today the burdens of tomorrow. He has said, ‘My grace is sufficient for thee’ (2 Corinthians 12:9); but, like the manna given in the wilderness, His grace is bestowed daily, for the day’s need. Like the hosts of Israel in their pilgrim life, we may find morning by morning the bread of heaven for the day’s supply.”—*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 119.



**APPLY IT! |** Are you skillful in preparing healthy, simple food and sharing it with others?

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Many of us have lots of questions about the will of God in our life. The sanctuary is to teach us how we can know His will. As we consider this, notice how God guided His people in the past. See Exodus 25:22.

“Above the mercy seat was the Shekinah, the manifestation of the divine Presence; and from between the cherubim, God made known His will. Divine messages were sometimes communicated to the high priest by a voice from the cloud. Sometimes a light fell upon the angel at the right, to signify approval or acceptance, or a shadow or cloud rested upon the one at the left to reveal disapproval or rejection.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 349.

**1. What are the two sure methods that enable us to know the will of God in our life? John 8:31, 32.**

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**2. Self-examination. Place a Y (for Yes) or N (for No) as you answer the questions.**

- [    ] Am I studying God’s Word every day, with a sincere desire to know His will on any subject?
- [    ] Am I listening for His still, small voice, His guiding Spirit to know what to do?
- [    ] Am I willing to listen to His instructions and then do as He asks?

**NOTES**

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# Youth explorer

## Heaven's Powerhouse



**W**e are about to begin an incredible adventure as we discover the plan of salvation through Heaven's Powerhouse, the Sanctuary. Why must we study about the sanctuary?

The psalmist tells us: "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary" (Psalm 77:13).

As we study the story of Christ's life, death, and intercession in pictures and symbols, we pray that you will learn the story of Jesus in a new way and allow Him to write every word of His saving grace in your heart!

- 1 - The Way to Heaven's Powerhouse
- 2 - With Jesus in the Camp
- 3 - With Jesus in the Courtyard
- 4 - The Priesthood
- 5 - With Jesus in the Holy Place
- 6 - With Jesus in the Most Holy Place
- 7 - The Day of Atonement
- 8 - The Day of God's Appointment
- 9 - The Time is at Hand
- 10 - My Personal Advocate
- 11 - With Jesus in the Courtroom
- 12 - A Little Sanctuary
- 13 - The Temple Eternal