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**PRAYERS OF THE BIBLE**

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**LESSON 13 I KINGS 8:22-53**

1. What truth or verse from last week’s study on **Solomon’s request for wisdom** spoke to your heart this week, and how did it impact your thinking and your prayers?

**SOLOMON’S PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Four years into Solomon’s reign, construction on the magnificent temple began and took seven years to complete. In awe of the fulfillment of God’s promises, Solomon’s attention turns to dedicating the temple of the Lord, but also praying for the hearts of the people to always be directed towards God.

2. Pray as you read **1 Kings 8:22-53** and identify areas in your life that you are in awe of God’s

promises fulfilled, or that you would like to dedicate more fully to the Lord.

3. a) Read **1 Kings 8:1-21** to set the stage for Solomon’s prayer of dedication. Comment on what stands out to you about this celebration of the temple completion.

b) What is the significance of the temple for believers today and how should that effect the way we live? See 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

4. a) As Solomon begins his prayer in **1 Kings 8:22-24**, what is the first thing he acknowledges about God and what divine attributes does Solomon call out?

1. How does Solomon’s declaration compare with how most people or our culture acknowledge a significant personal achievement? Give an example or two.

5. Read **V25-30** Solomon acknowledges God’s fulfillment of a major promise given to King David, then begins to present his requests. What are his requests of God and what would you say is the general tone of his prayer? (Don’t miss **V27**!)

6. Solomon’s general request (**V30**) is followed by specific petitions regarding violations of their covenant with the Lord as his prayer of dedication continues in V31-51:

* List some of the consequences to their sins that you observe in these verses (Hint: see **V31, 33, 35, 37, 41, 44** and **46**)
* With each turning from God, Solomon also mentions how Israel might respond to God as they suffer the consequences of their sin. What are these responses?
* What phrases do you find Solomon repeating starting in **V30**, and how does this inspire you to pray for yourself and others today?

7. Read **V51-53**. On what basis is Solomon making his closing appeal for God to listen to him?

8. Re-read **V46-50**. Write a truth from these verses and share how you will incorporate that into your prayers.

9. **HEART REFLECTION**

Read **Psalm 26:8 “Lord, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells.”**

As you consider the themes of Solomon’s prayer (faithfulness, mercy, forgiveness) together with the psalm above, write a prayer more fully dedicating your heart (or your loved ones) to the Lord. *If you have a special place of prayer, go there and spend time praying for this.*

**NAME PRAYER REQUEST**