

- I. Read 1 Kings 5, 2 Chronicles 2
- II. Define unknown words
- III. Answer the following questions

## Comprehension

1. What was the name of the king whom Solomon partnered with in building the temple?

2. What reason did Solomon cite for why David was not allowed by God to build the temple?

3. What was Solomon's request of Hiram?

4. Where is "Lebanon"?

5. What was the exchange made between Hiram and Solomon for goods and services?

6. How much was a "measure" (quantity) in the Bible?

7. What is a "levy", and what was the levy that Solomon imposed upon his people?

8. What was the labor arrangement which Solomon devised for those he levied to do this work?

9. How many men were sent to Lebanon, how many bore burdens, and how many hewed in the mountains?

10. Who did Hiram send to manage the work for Solomon, what was his lineage, and his skill? (see also 1 Kings 7:13)

11. What was the primary source of Solomon's labor force?

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## Context

- David and Hiram were good friends 2 Samuel 5:9-12, 1 Chronicles 14:1-2
- The Sidonian/Zidonian people in Scripture
  - Called "great Zidon" in Joshua 11:8, 19:28
  - Is regularly paired in Scripture with Tyre 2 Samuel 24:6; Ezra 3:7; Joel 3:4; Matthew 11:21-22
  - The widow of Zarephath was a Sidonian 1 Kings 17:9
- Solomon's heavy burdens levied on his people
  - 1 Samuel 8:11-18 God's promise of these burdens
  - 1 Kings 12:4 The people's perception of Solomon's burdens

## **Discussion Opportunities**

The following topics are intended to present opportunities for relevant spiritual discussions among the families of the church. These are written as "leading questions", and are not intended to be "answered" as much as "discussed". Feel free to add other discussion topics, and be sure to mention them in Sunday School!

1. The king of Tyre is called Hiram in 1 Kings 5 and Huram in 2 Chronicles 2, and in several 1 Kings margins it is rendered Hirom. Also, 1 Kings 5 tells us Solomon had 3,300 which ruled over the people, and 2 Chronicles 2 says 3,6000 oversaw the labor force. How do we explain these discrepancies in these texts?

2. Within Solomon's expressions of desire to build the temple is a measure of insight into his reasoning regarding its grandeur (2 Chronicles 2:3-6). Solomon believed the temple should be a reflection of God's greatness and, as if it were possible, be "worthy" of God's majesty. This mindset has had a place in the church, in various ways, from the beginning. Discuss whether or not this reasoning has a "place" in the mindset of the church, and what that place might be.