

Script – The People Build a Tabernacle

Moses: [speaking to the people] God wants us to build a tent church. We will need gold, silver and many lovely things for the tent church.

Person 1: [nodding] We will give what we have.

Narrator: The people returned to their tents and soon the people returned with bracelets and earrings that were placed before Moses.

[The people leave, then return with items they want to give.]

Person 2: [happy] I have brought linen

Person 3: [smiling] Here are some warm firs.

Person 1: [holding it up] and I want to give this fine brass mirror.

Bezaleel: I will teach you how to melt the gold, silver and brass to make other things for the tent church. I can also show you how to make chairs and other furniture.

Aholiah: I know how to sew cloth. I can teach you how to sew beautiful patterns of red, purple and blue on large curtains. We can make thread by twisting long goat hairs into strong yarn that was woven into heavy clothe.

Narrator: Everyone helped. Some dyed rams skins red. People were happy while they worked on the tent church. Everyday they brought more things for the house of God.

Bezaleel: [looking at all the items that the people had brought] Moses, tell the people not to bring any more. There is plenty to finish the work.

Narrator: Everyone wanted to give something and many wanted to help with the work.

[All of the people begin to work about, moving things, arranging items as the narrator completes this following description of their activities. Note: this section is optional, providing a word picture of what is being constructed.]

Narrator: The men cut long boards and covered them with gold. They set them in silver sockets to form the tabernacle wall. Gold covered wooden bars helped to hold the bars upright. Carefully the people worked to build a house for God. Bezaleel worked on a beautiful chest call The Ark. He covered it with gold. The lid was also covered with gold and called The Mercy Seat. On each end of the lid, Bezaleel made two cherubims facing each other, looking down at the center of the Mercy Seat, following the plan that God had given to Moses. He made a table and covered it with gold. There was a boarder around the top that looked like a crown, this was called the Table of Showbread. He also made rings and poles so that the table and the Ark could

be carried. The people would carry the tabernacle and all of the furnishing when they started on their trip again to Canaan. Bezaleel and his helpers made a beautiful, large candlestick with seven branches. It was pure gold. A bowl on each branch would hold oil for the lamps. The golden candlestick would stand inside the tabernacle. God had given a design to Moses for an altar to burn incense. Bezaleel made the altar out of wood and covered it with gold. It had a horn at each corner and a beautiful crown around the edges. Everything for God's house was beautiful. Bezaleel directed as a large square altar that would stand in front of the tabernacle. They covered the altar with shining brass. They made tools for the altar out of brass, shovels, grates, bowls and pots. They made a large bowl called a laver to hold water. The laver was created from the brass mirrors. In the sunlight, the laver would be dazzling. The laver was placed outside the tabernacle, near the large altar. Moses watched as the men placed fence boards into brass sockets. Carefully they hung fine linen over the boards to make a cloth wall around the tabernacle called a courtyard. There was one door and this entrance was beautiful embroidery of red, purple and blue. Inside the courtyard, the gold boards were covered with curtains that were embroidered with beautiful patterns of red, purple and blue. Over the tabernacle, they placed coverings of goat's haircloth. Over these, they placed ram and badger skins dyed red.

[The people stop their activities and come together on stage.]

Narrator: When everything was ready, the people came to worship God. Over the tabernacle, they saw the special cloud, a sign that God was with them. When God sent fire to burn the sacrifice that Aaron had prepared, then the people knew that they had pleased God. They bowed and worshiped God, thanking Him for His care.

The End