

Unit 12 • Session 1

Solomon Asked for Wisdom

2-3's Lesson

BIBLE PASSAGE:

1 Kings 2-3

STORY POINT:

God gave Solomon wisdom.

KEY PASSAGE:

James 1:5a

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What does God know? God knows everything.



INTRODUCE THE STORY

Opening Activities

(30 MINUTES)



TEACH THE STORY

Large Group

(15 MINUTES)



EXPERIENCE THE STORY

Small Group

(15 MINUTES)



Opening Activity Supplies

"Comparison Items"
printable (2-3 per class)

Large Group Supplies

Sleeping bag or pillow
Crown
Bible
Key passage marker

Small Group Supplies

Bible story coloring page
(1 per child), crayons
"Wisdom Matching Cards"
(1 set per group)
Key passage poster
Story point poster

LEADER Bible Study

The downfall of David's kingdom was propelled by David's sin with Bathsheba. Amid the pain of losing their firstborn son, God showed David and Bathsheba that He still loved them. Bathsheba gave birth to Solomon. God chose Solomon to be Israel's next king. (See 2 Sam. 12:24-25; 1 Chron. 22:9-13.)

David spoke to his son from his deathbed, giving specific instructions: "Keep your obligation to the Lord your God to walk in his ways" (1 Kings 2:3a). After 40 years of reigning over Israel, David died and Solomon became Israel's king.

Early in Solomon's reign, God appeared to him in a dream. "What should I give you?" God asked. Solomon's response set him apart from many other kings. His God-honoring qualities were apparent. First, Solomon humbly acknowledged his lack of experience in leading God's people. Then he said, "Give your servant a receptive heart to judge your people and to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of yours?" (1 Kings 3:9).

If you were a king or queen and God offered to give you anything you asked for, what request would you make? Ask the preschoolers you teach what they would ask for if they could receive anything their hearts desired. One might assume that a king would ask for power or for victory over his enemies. Perhaps he would ask for riches or to live a long life. Solomon asked for none of these. Instead, he asked God to make him wise. God was pleased with Solomon's request, and He agreed to give Solomon a wise and understanding heart.

Solomon's heart was surrendered to God. Solomon was a wise king who wanted to do God's plan. Solomon wasn't perfect, but God had a plan to give His people a greater and wiser king—His Son, Jesus. Jesus completely trusted God. Jesus surrendered His own life to die on the cross for our sin.

The BIBLE Story

Solomon Asked for Wisdom

1 Kings 2–3

David had been the king of Israel for a long time. Now his son Solomon was going to be the king. Before David died, he gave Solomon some special instructions.

David said, “Be strong and brave. Obey God, and you will be a good king. God will keep His promise to us. Every king of Israel will come from our family.”

David told Solomon to make wise choices. When David died, Solomon became the king of Israel.

One night, God talked to Solomon in a dream. God said, “Solomon, ask for anything you want and I will give it to you.” Now, a king might ask to live a long life or to be very rich. Solomon could have asked God to take away all his enemies. But Solomon did not ask to be rich or to live a long time. He asked for something even better.

Solomon said, “God, I am young, and I do not know very much about being a king. Please make me wise. Help me obey You. Help me know what is right and wrong. Help me be a good leader.”

God told Solomon, “I am happy you asked for wisdom. I am going to make you more wise and understanding than anyone who



has ever lived. No one in the future will ever be as wise as you, Solomon.”

God also said, “Because you asked for wisdom, I will also give you what you did not ask for: long life, riches, and honor. You will be greater than any other king while you are alive.”

Then Solomon woke up. He thanked God and praised Him.

**Bible
Storytelling Tips**

• **Use a prop:**
Spread out a sleeping bag before you tell the Bible story.

Christ Connection: Solomon was a wise king who wanted to follow God’s plan, but Solomon was not perfect. God had a plan to send a greater and wiser king—Jesus. Jesus trusted God and followed God’s plan by dying on the cross for our sin.

INTRODUCE the Story



SESSION TITLE: Solomon Asked for Wisdom

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Kings 2–3

STORY POINT: God gave Solomon wisdom.

KEY PASSAGE: James 1:5a

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What does God know? God knows everything.

Opening Activities

Welcome time

Intro music

Play the intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers.

"Comparison
Items"
printable
(2-3 per class)

Decide which is better

Show children each pair of pictures, and invite them to decide which is better in each pair. Encourage preschoolers to explain why they made their choice in each instance.

SAY • Good choices! An apple tree is better than one apple because you can pick more apples anytime. And a ripe banana is much more tasty than a rotten banana. Usually, we think that having lots of money is better than having just one coin. But do you know what is better than money? Listen closely to our Bible story today to find out what King Solomon thought was more valuable than money.

Countdown video

Transition to tell the story

Show the countdown video to gain the attention of all the preschoolers and move them to Large Group.

"Ask God" song

Sing

"You are Great" song

Sing the key passage song, "Ask God" and the theme song, "You are Great."

TEACH the Story



Large Group

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STORY POINT: God gave Solomon wisdom.

KEY PASSAGE: James 1:5a

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What does God know? God knows everything.

Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- Bookmark
- Sleeping bag or pillow
- Crown

· [CG: Giant timeline](#)

· [CG: Bible story picture](#)

· [Video: “Solomon Asked for Wisdom”](#)

· [CG: Story point](#)

[Place a bookmark at 1 Kings 2 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Display the open Bible.]

SAY • Today’s Bible story comes from 1 Kings in the Old Testament part of the Bible. This story might sound like a fairy tale, but it is a true story from history! The Bible is God’s Word. Everything in the Bible is true.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues people through His Son, Jesus.

[Put on crown and sit down on sleeping bag. Stretch arms like you are getting ready to sleep.]

SAY • In the Bible story we are about to watch, king Solomon goes to sleep and something amazing happens! Let’s watch our story to see what happens next.

Watch the Bible story

[Show the Bible story video. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.]

SAY • Being a good king is hard. Solomon knew he could not be a good king without God’s help! God loves to give good gifts to His people, so **God gave Solomon wisdom**. But Solomon was not perfect. God had a plan to send a greater and wiser king—Jesus. Jesus trusted God and followed God’s plan by dying on the cross for our sin.

Practice the key passage

[Place the key passage marker at James 1:5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage.]

· Key
Passage
Marker
· Bible

· CG: Key
Passage

SAY • Did you know you could ask God for wisdom just like Solomon did? It's true! You don't have to wait for God to speak to you in a dream. Our key passage says that anyone can ask God for wisdom!

Learn the big picture question

· CG: Big
Picture
Question

SAY • God can give us wisdom because God knows everything. In fact, that's our big picture answer!

What does God know? God knows everything.

Pray

[Pray before dismissing to Small Group.]

LEADER • Lord, thank You for being so wise and good. We know that we can trust You. Help us to love you more each day. Amen.

Pray and transition to experience the story

EXPERIENCE The Story



Small Group

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BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What does God know? God knows everything.

LOW PREP

Play “Prince, Prince, King”

Play a variation of “Duck, Duck, Goose” but instead guide children to say “Prince, prince, king!” Play until each child has a turn. Briefly retell the Bible story.

SAY • Solomon was a young man when he became king. King Solomon asked God to make him wise. God gave Solomon wisdom to lead God’s people. **GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING.**

Story Point Poster

Practice the story point

Invite children to sit with you in a circle. Teach them a simple fingerplay to practice the story point. Point upward when you say *God*, touch your head when you say *knows*, and sweep your arm in an arch as you say *everything*. Repeat until the preschoolers can perform the motions by themselves.

SAY • GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING. God told Solomon that he could ask for anything and God would give it to him. King Solomon asked God to make him wise. Wisdom is loving God and obeying His words. Jesus is wise because He is God the Son.

"Wisdom Matching Cards" (1 set per group)

Play a matching game

Mix up the cards and arrange them face-up in a grid. Encourage the preschoolers to find matches. Read the Bible verses on the cards.

SAY • GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING. God gave Solomon wisdom to lead God’s people. Solomon wrote down wise sayings in the Bible.

Transition

Preschoolers may color the Bible story coloring page and practice the key passage.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the Bible story coloring page for parents to take home.

- Bible story coloring page
- Key passage poster
- Crayons