

August 4-5, 2019

## 4th-5th Lesson



### Unit 12, Session 1

# Solomon Asked for Wisdom

## 1 Kings 2-3

**Story Point:** God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people.

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*Open your Bible and read aloud 1 Kings 2-3, or tell the story from the following Bible story script.*

David was the king of Israel for many years. His son Solomon was going to be king after him. Before King David died, he gave Solomon some instructions.

“Be strong and brave, Solomon,” David said. “Obey God, and you will be successful. God will keep His promise that every king of Israel will come from our family.” **When David died, Solomon became the king of Israel.**

**One night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream. God said, “Solomon, ask for anything you want, and I will give it to you.”**

Anything? A king might have asked to live a long life or to have lots of riches. Solomon could have asked God to give him victory over all his enemies. But Solomon did not ask to be rich or to have a long life. Solomon wanted to be a good king. He asked for something even better.

**Solomon prayed, “God, I am young, and I do not know very much about being a king. Please make me wise and obedient to You. Help me know the difference between right and wrong. Help me lead Your people well.”**

**God was happy with Solomon’s request. God said, “I will give you wisdom. In fact, I will make you more wise and understanding than anyone who has ever lived. No one in the future will ever be as wise as 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 during your lifetime.”**

**Then Solomon woke up. He praised God and offered sacrifices to worship Him.**

*Christ Connection: 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.*

**Supplies:** Toilet paper, sock puppet, retro glasses & candy, t-shirt (all wrapped in separate boxes/bags for secrecy.) 2-3 Bibles per group, 2 playground balls per group, 4th-5th Take Home, 1 per kid

# Opening Activities



## INTRODUCE the Story

### WELCOME TIME

### Intro Music

Play intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to share about a time they got something they wanted without asking for it.

### Optional Activity: Make requests

Guide kids to form pairs. Explain that in each round, the first partner will say, “Ask for anything” and the second partner will respond with a request: “Could I please have [*any silly request*]?” Neither player is allowed to smile during the exchange. If a player smiles, his partner earns one point. Kids should keep track of their own points.

After the first exchange, switch roles so the second partner begins with, “Ask for anything.” After two exchanges, guide kids to each find a new partner and play again. Continue as time allows. (Silly examples: a rubber chicken, pickled pigs’ feet with cheese, a trip to the moon)

- What kinds of things might a king request?

[*Play the countdown video as you transition to Large Group.*]

### Video: Countdown

## Large Group

### Large Group Game: Let's Make a Deal

Let’s play a game called Let’s Make a Deal! I need 3 contestants who feel like they are good at choosing between 2 things. [*Choose 3 contestants to come up on the stage.*] Ok, here’s how you play: I will give each of you a choice between 2 different secret items and whichever one you choose will be your prize to take home. But choose wisely! You might choose something that you really don’t want! Ready? Ok, let’s play Let’s Make a Deal!

### SFX: Game Show Music

Ok, [Contestant 1’s name] you’re up! You can choose between this [Item 1] or this [Item 2]. Which item do you choose? Pull out whichever item they choose and make funny positive or negative comments about it.

### SFX: Winning Sound Effect

OR

### SFX: Losing Sound Effect

Have Contestant 1 sit back down. OK, [Contestant 2’s name] your turn! You can choose between what [Contestant 1’s name] didn’t choose or this NEW item [Item 3]. Which item do you choose? Pull out whichever item they choose and repeat comments as before.

Have Contestant 2 sit back down. OK, [Contestant 3’s name] you are last but not least! You can choose between what [Contestant 2’s name] didn’t choose or this NEW item [Item 4]. Which item do you choose? Pull out whichever item they choose and repeat comments as before.

Wow! What a great round of Let’s Make a Deal! I’m sure some of you wish you had chosen differently but enjoy those prizes either way!



## Worship

God, is so wise! He helps us by giving us what we need to love Him, love others, and love life! Let's sing praises to Him now and stand up.

[Song: Alive](#)

[Song: Movin Me](#)

## TEACH the Story

Hey everyone! It's great to see all of you today! We are going to hear a story from the Bible this morning that might be hard to believe, but it's true. The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues people through His Son, Jesus. [*Show the giant timeline and point to today's Bible story.*]

[CG: Giant Timeline](#)

Today's Bible story is about how Solomon asked God for wisdom. Does anyone know who Solomon was? Solomon was the son of King David. Wisdom is knowing how to live your life in a way that loves God and others. Let's watch this video to see how God helps King Solomon. [*Show the "Solomon Asked for Wisdom" video.*]

[Video: "Solomon Asked for Wisdom"](#)

- What does this story teach us about God?

[CG: Question 1](#)

God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people. In fact, God made Solomon wiser than anyone who had ever lived. God also gave him the things he had not asked for—riches and honor and power. **God is so generous!** And if Solomon would obey God, God promised to give him a long life, as well.

- How did Jesus demonstrate wisdom?

[CG: Question 2](#)

**Jesus completely trusted God.** Jesus surrendered His own life to die on the cross for our sin. Sometimes God asks us to do things without revealing to us all the details. We can ask God for wisdom as we follow Him in obedience.

## CHRIST CONNECTION

*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.*



## MISSIONS MOMENT

[Video: "Going West" \(Part 1\)](#)

Our culture tells us to be comfortable and stay safe, but sometimes God may ask us to step away from what we know in order to share Jesus with more people. Like the Mandrell family, many families from our church are leaving what is comfortable to start a new campus in Garner in just a few weeks. Remember to pray for the Mandrells and the families going to Garner. Ask God to give them wisdom and ask God to give you wisdom as you think about how He might want to use you to share Jesus with others.

Let's look at our **Big Picture Question: What does God know? God knows everything about the past, present, and future.**

[CG: Big Picture Question](#)

## PRAY

God, thank You for Your Word. All knowledge and wisdom is found in You. We look to You for wisdom and power to follow You. Thank You for generously giving us everything we need. We love You. Amen.

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## THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.



**GOD RULES.** Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



**WE SINNED.** Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



**GOD PROVIDED.** Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



**JESUS GIVES.** Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



**WE RESPOND.** Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.





### APPLY the Story

#### Big Picture Question

What does God know? God knows everything about the past, present, and future.

God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people. Jesus is greater than Solomon. We can ask Him for wisdom, and He will give us wisdom.

- What is wisdom, and how do people become wise?
- What are some ways you can grow in wisdom?

Distribute Bibles. Guide kids to open their Bibles to 1 Kings 3. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Kings 3:7,9. God told Solomon to ask for anything he wanted. Solomon wanted to be a good king, so he asked for something better: wisdom to lead God's people well. Choose another volunteer to read aloud 1 Kings 3:7,9 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

#### 1. Why do you think Solomon asked for wisdom instead of something else?

*Instruct kids to discuss their ideas. Prompt them to consider that a person usually asks for something he lacks. If Solomon asked for wisdom, he probably didn't believe he was wise enough to lead God's people on his own. Wisdom comes from God. Apart from Him, we are foolish. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Eccl. 7:19.)*

#### 2. How is Jesus greater than Solomon?

*Point out that in the New Testament, Jesus said He is greater than Solomon. (See Matt. 12:42.) Emphasize that Jesus is God, and God knows everything about the past, present, and future. The Bible says all wisdom and knowledge is found in Jesus. People went to Solomon for wisdom, but Jesus came to us. We can look to Him for everything we need to know. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Col. 2:3.)*

#### 3. Why do you think people sometimes refuse to seek wisdom from God?

*Guide kids to discuss the humility required to listen to and accept the counsel of others. Pride often makes us depend on ourselves rather than on God or others. Listening to instruction might mean acknowledging you were wrong. Some people might refuse wisdom because they prefer what is wrong or selfish. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Prov. 28:26.)*



## APPLY the Story

### KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

*Supplies: 2 playground balls per group, Bibles*

Instruct kids to open their Bibles to James 1:5. Lead the kids to read the key passage together. Lead kids to form two circles. Give one player in each circle a ball. The player holding the ball should say the first word of the key passage and pass the ball to her left. The next player will say the second word, pass the ball to the left, and so on until the group says the entire verse and reference. Play a second round, challenging the two groups to race each other.

Remind kids that if we want wisdom, we can ask God and He will give us wisdom!

### PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, asking God to fill kids with wisdom to live in a way that honors Him.