

Children's Teacher's Lesson

Old Testament

Solomon asks for wisdom

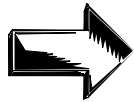
1 Kings 3:1-28

Younger Verse

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. Revelation 3:20

Older Verse

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me. Revelation 3:20



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember always to include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

How many of you wish you could be Aladdin so you could get anything that you asked for? What would you ask for if you had 1 wish? Today's lesson is about a man who got his wish—from God! Listen and see what he asks for.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

David was a wonderful king. When he died, one of his sons, Solomon, became king. Now, Solomon was a young man and he didn't feel very confident about being the king.

One day he went to sacrifice some of his animals to God. This was a way that he could tell God how much he loved Him. That night something happened...

While Solomon was asleep, he had a dream. In his dream God asked him a question. God said, "Ask for anything you want. I will give it to you."

Wow!! Can you believe it? Solomon could ask for ANYTHING he wanted.

Solomon answered, "God I am like a child. I do not have the wisdom I need to run the kingdom. I ask that you give me wisdom to rule Your kingdom."

God was so pleased with Solomon's request. God was proud of Solomon because he didn't choose a long life or riches. Because of this, God gave Solomon wisdom—AND riches and honor.

What does it mean to be wise? (see if the kids know) Is it the same thing as being smart? (This is a hard concept for kids to grasp. Teachers, you may need to use

Lesson Goals

Explain what wisdom is
Tell why Solomon would want to be wise
Share some wise choices we can make

examples.) Smart means that a person knows lots of information/facts. Wisdom means that a person knows what to say and how to act in different situations. Usually a wise person is older and has been through lots of experiences. He knows what to do.

Solomon loved God and thanked Him for the gifts. He went to church and worshiped God and told Him that he loved Him.

For older kids

One day Solomon had a chance to test his wisdom. Two women came to him for help. Both the women had babies. One of the babies died. One mother switched babies with the other mother in the night. The next morning the mother woke up and found a dead baby beside her. She looked at the baby and knew it wasn't her baby! She saw that the other woman had switched the babies!

They told Solomon the whole story. Both the mothers argued that the baby was their baby. Who was right? How would Solomon know who was telling the truth?

Solomon had a test to see who was the real mother. He ordered that the baby be cut in half and each mother receive half the baby. (He was not really going to cut the baby in half; he wanted to see what the women did.) One mother screamed No! No! Don't hurt the baby. Give the baby to the other woman. The other mother said, Yes! Let's split the baby in half.

Who do you think was the real mother? It was the one who cared for her baby. She did not want it to die. Sure enough, Solomon knew that she was the mother, so he gave her the baby.

Everyone in the kingdom heard about Solomon's wisdom. They all came to him to get advice and help.

Solomon could tell who was telling the truth. He knew the right thing to do. God tells us that Jesus is the Truth. Jesus is the only Way for us to go to Heaven. Jesus showed us that He was wise too. He helped people and told them things about God that they had never known. He always said the right thing. The best thing of all is that Jesus loved us. He died for us and came back to life 3 days later. He did this for everyone—including you! You have a choice. Would you like to trust Jesus and follow Him. If so, please talk to us after the prayer time.

Learning Activities

Use activities that will help the children learn and have fun too!

Memory Verse Activities

Have fun trying the "Backpack Memory Verse Activity." It will be a fun way to help the kids remember the verse.

Prayer Time

Pray for wisdom today. Ask God to help the kids and you make wise decisions and do what is right. Say a prayer of thanksgiving too!

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring some goodies for everyone to munch on.

Planning for Sept. 12th
Solomon builds a church temple
1st Kings 6:1-14; 8:22-66

Preschool Lesson
For
Solomon asks for wisdom

Teachers: Use only verses 4-15 for smaller kids

David was a wonderful king. When he died, one of his sons, Solomon, became king. Now, Solomon was a young man and he was not sure how to be the king.

One day he went to church to tell God how much he loved Him. That night something happened...

While Solomon was asleep, he had a dream. In his dream God asked him a question. God said, "Ask for anything you want. I will give it to you."

Wow!! Can you believe it? Solomon could ask for ANYTHING he wanted.

Solomon answered, "God I am like a child. I do not have the wisdom I need to run the kingdom. I ask that you help me be smart to rule Your kingdom."

God was so pleased with Solomon's answer. God was proud of Solomon because he didn't choose a long life or riches. Because of this, God gave Solomon wisdom—AND riches and honor.

Solomon helped many people with the understanding that God gave him. He loved God very much.

Let's pray and ask God to help us do things His way and love others.

Hands-On Activities For Solomon asks for wisdom

Bring compasses or maps for the class to see. Share what each do: help travelers find their way to certain locations. Ask what would happen if you did not have a compass or map. Explain that God is our compass or map to help us through our life. He will be our guide. God's wisdom will help us make right decisions and help us do things God's way.

Make Sandy treats. Bring vanilla pudding, zipper bags and vanilla wafers (or graham crackers) Let the kids crush the wafers in a zipper bag and pour on top of the pudding. Now you have sandy treats to enjoy. In 1st Kings 4:29, the Bible says that Solomon's wisdom was greater than the grains of sand on the seashore. Make these snacks and remind the kids how important it is to do things God's way. (snack idea courtesy of Gospel Light)

Make a wisdom tree by cutting paper using the paper in the packet.

Make a heart pin. Color a heart shape and tape a safety pin to the back. Share how God loved Solomon and how He loves everyone.

Make crowns to wear. You may use the enclosed pattern or have the kids make their own.

Solomon was very wise. Make up case scenarios and let the kids decide what should happen.

Backpack Memory Verse Activity

Needed items:

Backpack or paper sack

1 item for each word of the verse (or group of words)

(the items could be things like compass, map, water, trail mix, socks, rope, flashlight and other things that a person would take on a hiking trip)

Print each word of the verse on a piece of paper and tape to the items.

Explain how a compass helps hikers find their way and not get lost. Share how **wisdom** from God helps us stay on His right path for our lives.

Let the kids line up and run to the backpack. The person must reach into the pack and pull out the item with the first word of the verse on it. The next person must run and pull out the second word. The third person pulls out the third word etc. until the whole verse is displayed on the floor. Share how Jesus is the one talking. Explain how He wants to come into our heart and live with us forever. Share how they can ask Jesus into their hearts too!

(activity courtesy of Gospel Light)
