

Unit 1. God Loves Us

Lesson 1.5 God Gives Us Wisdom: King Solomon

Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

Scripture Reference: 1 Kings 3:16-28

Group Activity: Draw, Show, Share

Supplies Needed: Poster boards, crayons, pencils, markers

Video: [Solomon The Wise | Stories of Solomon](#)

Supplemental Activity: Role-Play

Supplies Needed: King's Crown, printouts with short scenarios (for group discussions)

Words of the week:

թագաւոր - ta-ka-vor - king

իմաստութիւն - ee-mas-doo-tyoon - wisdom

արքայութիւն - ar-kay-oo-tyoon - kingdom

Objective and Moral Character Focus:

The children will understand that God gives wisdom to those who ask, pray, and follow His guidance. Prayerfulness is a beautiful way to connect with God and ask for guidance, strength, and wisdom.

Memory Verse:

**“For gaining wisdom and instruction;
for understanding words of insight.”**

- Proverbs 1:2

Lesson

Lesson Opening & Creating Interest:

Open with prayer:

Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

Lesson Body:

Q: What is a king?

Q: Do you know any kings?

There are a few countries that have kings and queens nowadays, but a long time ago almost all the nations had kings. Kings ruled the nation through times of war and peace, prosperity and difficult times. Israel had many kings; good, bad, jealous, just, wise and not so much.

King Saul was the first king the Jews had and after him came David. David, who was a shepherd boy, became king and led his nation justly, fully and wisely. He ruled for nearly 40 years. He won many wars, created a strong kingdom, conquered Jerusalem and made it his capital city. After he passed his son, Solomon, became the king. One day in a dream God talked to Solomon and told him to ask for anything he wants. Solomon was grateful for the empire his father left him and was praising God for that. He also knew that without God's help he could not rule his large kingdom, so he asked for knowledge and wisdom, to know what was right and wrong. God saw they Solomon wasn't selfish and granted what he asked for. God generously blessed Solomon with what he asked and even more. Solomon became the wisest and richest king. God also gave him a long life. During his life Solomon used his wisdom and helped many people who would come to him for advice or seeking justice. One of the famous stories about king Solomon is the Judgement of Solomon about two women and a little baby (1 Kings 3:16-28).

Once, two women who lived in the same house came to King Solomon with a problem. Each woman had a newborn baby. One night, unfortunately one baby died. The mother of that baby was so sad, that she switched the babies and pretended that the other woman's baby had died instead of hers.

When the second mother woke up, she saw the dead baby beside her in the bed. At first, she thought it was her baby, but later she realized she was tricked and wanted her a baby back.

The two women went to King Solomon with this problem. The second woman explained to the king what had happened and demanded her baby back. The first mother argued that the baby was hers. And the fight went on and on until King Solomon made a clever decision.

The king came up with an idea that would help them in finding the truth. He ordered one of his servants to bring him a sword, and then said, "I command to cut this baby in half. This way each mother will receive a part of the child and stop fighting."

The first woman agreed and said that the king's decision was fair, but the other mother, the true mother, threw herself down at the king's feet and begged him to spare the child's life. She said, "No, please don't cut my baby in half! I would rather give my baby to the other women than have the baby die."

Solomon knew that a mother's love for her baby is so great that she would never want it hurt. He gave the baby to its true mother. Everyone saw Solomon was wise and knew that God had given him special wisdom.

We also can ask God for wisdom by talking to Him and praying the wisdom prayer every day. Start our day with this beautiful prayer and asking for God's guidance.

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Discuss and Explain

Ask: There is knowledge and there is wisdom. Do you know what the difference is between knowledge and wisdom?

Explain: Knowledge is when you have lots of facts or knowing how to do things. For example, knowing that $2 + 2$ equals 4 or knowing how to tie your shoes. Wisdom is about making good choices and knowing the best way to use what you know. For example, if you know how to share, wisdom is when you actually share with a friend who is sad or doesn't have a toy or a book.

So, **knowledge** is what you know, and **wisdom** is using that knowledge to make good and kind choices.

Video: [Video: Solomon The Wise | Stories of Solomon](#)

Q: Have you ever made a wise choice to help a friend or sibling, like sharing or helping?

Q: What do you think wisdom looks like? Let's find out by doing a group activity.

Group Activity: Draw, Show, Share

Directions:

- Divide children into groups.
- Distribute poster boards and drawing utensils to each group.
- Ask them to discuss in their group what wisdom looks like to them.
- Ask them to draw their version of wisdom (they might draw King Solomon, someone making a kind decision, or something that represents being fair or kind).
- Encourage them to share their drawings and explain what wisdom means in their picture.

Supplemental Activity: Role-Play

*If time permits, give this activity 10-15 minutes

Directions:

- Put the crown on one child to make them “King Solomon.”
- Present students with simple scenarios (e.g., two kids want the same toy, or a friend is sad).
- Let them reenact those scenarios.
- Have the “King” decide the wise thing to do, with guidance if needed.
- After each scenario, ask why the choice was wise, and how it made everyone feel.
- Use included scenarios to encourage children to think about the best and fair choice that will make everyone feel happy and cared for.

Scenario 1: The Last Cookie

Two friends, Mia and Sam, see there is only one cookie left on the plate. Both want it, but neither wants the other to feel sad.

Wise Solution: They decide to split the cookie in half, so each gets a piece.

Scenario 2: The Broken Toy

Ben accidentally breaks his sister's favorite toy. He knows his sister will be sad if he doesn't tell her, but he's also worried she might be upset with him.

Wise Solution: Ben decides to be honest and tell his sister what happened, and then they can try to fix it together.

Scenario 3: The Left-Out Friend

Two kids, Ava and Leo, are playing a game at recess. Another friend, Lily, walks up and wants to join, but they're worried she might mess up their game.

Wise Solution: They decide to let Lily join and explain the rules so she can feel included.

Review

Memory Verse Review:

“For gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight.” (Proverbs 1:2)

Lesson Review:

Questions:

1. Who was Solomon’s father? (King David)
2. What did Solomon ask for from God? (Wisdom and knowledge)
3. Who was the first king of the Jews? (King Saul)
4. What did the mother of the child who died do in the middle of the night? (She switched her dead baby with another, living baby)
5. What did King Solomon decide to do to find out which mother the living baby belonged to? (He was going to cut the baby in half and give half to each mother. The lying mother was alright with this decision, but the true mother loved her baby so much she did not want it harmed. This is how he knew she was the baby’s true mother)

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Life Application:

What are we going to do with what we have learned today?

- Wisdom is more than knowledge; it’s about making good, kind choices.
- King Solomon was a wise king who used wisdom to solve difficult problems.
- Children can practice wisdom in their everyday lives by thinking about what is fair and kind.

Close with prayer:

O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.