

Unit 12 • Session 1

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.

The BIBLE Story

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. However, 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.

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.

Learn the big picture question

Say • God can give us wisdom because God knows everything. In fact, that is our big picture answer! ***What does God know? God knows everything.***

Practice the key passage

Place a bookmark at James 1:5. Invite your child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. **“If any of you** (*point to those around you*) **lacks wisdom** (*point to forehead*), **you should ask God** (*make praying hands and look up to sky*).” **James 1:5** (*open palms like a book*).

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!

Coloring page

What you need: coloring sheet, 1 per child, markers or crayons

Print out the coloring/activity page for your child. Invite your child to color the one side. On the other side, encourage your child to look at the activity page. Talk about what each person on the page is doing. Ask your child to circle which job he/she would most like to do.

Say • You can choose from many different jobs when you grow up, but you cannot not choose to be a king. You have to be born a king or chosen to be a king. In today’s Bible story, a young king got to ask God for anything he wanted. What did he asked for?

Ask for anything

What you need: household items

Allow your child to ask you for anything in the room. Have your child close his/her eyes and hold out his/her hands and ask for one item from the room. Then you will give him/her that item plus something more. If your child asks for a marker, give a marker and paper. If he/she asks for a block, give several blocks.

Say • You received more than you asked for, just like Solomon! When Solomon asked for wisdom, **God gave Solomon wisdom** as well as long life, riches, and honor. God loves to give good gifts to His children. God is so kind to us!

Decorate a crown

What you need: crown template, scissors (adult use), crayons, markers or items to decorate the crown (stickers, glitter), tape

Print and cut out the crown template. Set out decorating items for your child to decorate the crown. Secure the crown with tape.

Say • Solomon asked for wisdom to be a good king. **God gave Solomon wisdom**. Solomon was a wise king who wanted to follow God’s plan, but God had a plan to send a greater and wiser king—Jesus.

Story review

Remark how God told Solomon, “Ask for anything you want, and I will give it to you.” King Solomon could have

asked for selfish things, but he asked for wisdom to lead people well. God was happy with his request. **God gave Solomon wisdom** and so much more. God gives good gifts to those who ask Him!

Ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

- Who became the new king of Israel when David died? (*his son Solomon*)
- How did God talk to Solomon? (*in a dream*)
- What did Solomon ask God to give him? (*wisdom*)
- Did God give Solomon what he asked for? (*yes, and even more*)
- Was Solomon a perfect king? (*no*)
- Who is the greatest and wisest King? (*Jesus*)
- ***What does God know? God knows everything.***