

When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.

Program A-2

King Solomon Asks For Wisdom

1 Kings 3:1-28, 4:29-34, 2 Chr. 1:1-12

Samuel & Kings Series: Lesson #13

Bible Verse: Wisdom is greater than silver and gold. Proverbs 3:14

Past verses: The LORD God is very great. Psalm 104:1
I will celebrate before the LORD. 2 Samuel 6:21
Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Proverbs 3:5
A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17
The LORD is my strength. Psalm 28:7
Help one another. Gal. 5:13
The LORD looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: Wisdom is a treasure we can find in God's word, the Bible.

Prop ideas: Gold/silver jewelry, Stacks of money, encyclopedias or almanacs

Story Tellers: If you want to tell the most famous wise ruling of Solomon (See Part C) use a Teddy bear for baby. Have scissors ready to cut.

SAMPLE STORY

Everyone should tell part A. Add parts B and/or C depending on time, attention span and maturity of class.

Part A:

King David was getting very old. Before he died, God let David know that He had chosen David's son Solomon, to be the next King of Israel. (1 Chr. 29:1) Solomon was anointed King before the people of Israel. God loved Solomon very much. One night God appeared to Solomon and said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon could have asked for lots of money and riches. He could have asked to live a long time. He could have asked for his enemies to die! He could have asked God for ANYTHING! Solomon asked God for wisdom. (Wisdom is being smart and knowing the right thing to do). He wanted to know how to lead and rule God's people.

God was so pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom and not money or fame or long life. God said, "I make you wiser than any person has ever been. In fact, there will never be another person as wise as you." Because Solomon had not asked for things for himself, but had asked for wisdom instead, God gave him the wisdom but ALSO gave him what he DID NOT ask for, riches and honor. Solomon became a very wealthy king. No other king around could compare to Solomon. He was known and honored all around the world.

Part B:

Solomon was smarter than any person had ever been. People from all over the world would come to learn from Solomon. He described plant life like the cedar trees in Lebanon and the Hyssop that grows out of walls. He

taught about animals, birds, reptiles and fish. He wrote 3000 proverbs and over a thousand songs. Solomon was a very wise man.

Part C:

(For a modern twist, you could tell this part by substituting 2 children and a doll, teddy bear, model plane etc. for the women and baby. Use something valuable/ irreplaceable to children).

People of Israel would also come to Solomon to settle their differences. They knew that he was a wise and fair Judge. One time two women came before the king. The first woman told the king her story. "We live in the same house and both had baby boys born just three days apart. Her baby died during the night. She snuck into my bed, took my living baby and replaced it with her own baby. When I woke up, I saw that the baby with me was dead, but I looked closely at him and he was not my son!"

The second woman said, "That's not true! The living baby is mine. Your son is dead."

No one else had been around the house to tell which woman was lying. Who was telling the truth? Solomon knew how to tell. He said, "Bring me a sword. Cut the child in half and give one half to each woman." The first woman cried out, "No! Do not hurt the baby. Let her keep him." The second woman said, "Fine. Neither of us will have him. Cut him in two."

King Solomon then knew that the first woman was the baby's real mother. She was willing to give him up in order for him to live. Solomon gave the baby to her. Everyone saw that Solomon had wisdom from God to give justice.

TEACHER EXTRA: Bring fish, birds, reptiles or small mammals –show various plants

FYI

First Session Classes will be:

Playing "Commandment Matching" Game

Eating a Treasure Snack

Color Treasure Chest & Glue Gold & Silver Coins

TREASURE SAND SEARCH

Materials: Pan or tub filled with sand
Treasures (Coins, shells, rocks, small toys)

Do: Bury treasures in the sand. Let children take turns searching for treasures.

Talk about: Did you know that wisdom is more valuable than any treasure we could find? The Bible tells us that it is more valuable than silver, gold or rubies! Solomon asked God for wisdom. You can dig for God's treasures (wisdom) by listening to His Word (the Bible).

READ BOOKS

TEACHER EXTRA: Bring your favorite children's books from home. Children's Bibles, or Bible Storybooks are great choices. Nature books can be related to Solomon's knowledge of plants & animals.

Materials: Books (In room)

If your room is short on books, ask your coordinator to borrow some from the resource room behind the new Joyland Desk.

Do: Place a chair or floor pillow in an area away from the other toys/play areas. Lay books out to get children's interest, or sit down with a book and wait for them to come to you.

Talk about: God teaches us His wisdom and commandments in the Bible. There are other books that may teach us about God, too. (If the book you have read has a moral or lesson, tie it to God's commands, wisdom or love). Solomon was so wise and full of knowledge that he taught many people.

GOLD COIN TOSS

Materials: Gold coins
Container (Coffee can, margarine tub, box)
Masking tape (In room)

Do: Mark a standing spot on the floor with masking tape. Place the container a few feet away. Let children take turns tossing the coins into the container. (3 to 5 coins per turn) See if they can recite a Bible verse before their turn or state a Bible fact from recent stories.

Talk about: The bible verses and truths we learn are more valuable than gold or silver coins. God was so pleased that Solomon asked for wisdom to rule the people that God gave Solomon wisdom AND great riches.