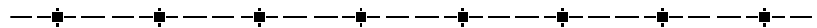


# Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

# Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners  
Adaptable for all ages including adults

# Old Testament

**A Wise King  
Makes Foolish Choices**  
  
Solomon

I Kings 3-11

**A Wise King  
Makes Foolish Choices**  
I Kings 11:1-11

**Memory Verse:**  
  
Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.  
**(James 3:13 NIV)**

**Lesson Goals:**

1. Understand that God gave Solomon wisdom, riches, and honor.
2. Understand that Solomon sinned against God.
3. Learn that God warned Solomon about disobedience.
4. Recognize that sin (disobedience) has consequences.

Last week we learned that King David disobeyed God. In doing so, David destroyed a family. God sent Nathan, the prophet, to confront David. David repented of his sin. God forgave David, but his sin still had consequences.

**Read the Bible**  
  
**READ: I Kings 11:1-11 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

**Begin With Prayer**  
When Solomon became king over Israel, God appeared to him. God told Solomon to ask for whatever he wanted. (I Kings 3:5) Solomon answered, ... "So give me a heart that understands. Then I can rule over your people. I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong. Who can possibly rule over this great nation of yours?" (I Kings 3:6-9 NirV)  
God was very happy that Solomon asked for wisdom to lead the people. Solomon could have asked for many things. (I Kings 3: 10) What do you think you would ask for, if God told you to ask for whatever you wanted? God told Solomon that even though he didn't ask for it, He would give him riches, honor, and a wise and understanding heart. (I Kings 3:11-13) Then God said, "Live the way I want you to. Obey my laws and commands, just as your father David did. Then I will let you live for a long time." (I Kings 3:14)  
At first King Solomon loved and served God, but then the Bible says that he disobeyed God. King Solomon married many women including the daughter of the Pharaoh of Egypt. He married women from Moab, from Ammon, from Edom, from Sidonia, and other places. God had told the Israelites not to marry women from other nations because they would turn their hearts to serve other gods. (I Kings 11:1-2; Deuteronomy 7:3-4) But Solomon did it anyway. He had 700 wives from royal families and 300 girlfriends. Those women led Solomon to serve their gods, just as God had said it would happen. (I Kings 11:1-3) As Solomon grew older, he worshipped Ashtoreth, Molech, Chemosh and other gods. Solomon not only worshipped other gods, he built places so that his wives could worship their gods. Solomon did evil before God. (I Kings 11:4-7)  
[Teacher: Be sensitive about how much information you share with your children.]  
"He didn't follow the Lord his God with all his heart. So he wasn't like his

### Solomon — Bible Facts

1. Solomon was the king of Israel.
2. God told Solomon to ask for whatever he wanted.
3. Solomon asked for wisdom to rule Israel.
4. God gave Solomon riches, honor, and wisdom.
5. Solomon disobeyed God.

father David.” (I Kings 11:4 NIV) The Bible says that God became angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from God. Solomon disobeyed God. (I Kings 11:1-2,9) His sin brought consequences. Solomon allowed his wives to turn his heart away from God. (I Kings 11:9-13) God had appeared to Solomon two times. God had commanded Solomon not to serve other gods, but Solomon did not obey. (I Kings 11:9-10)

“So the Lord said to Solomon, ‘You have chosen not to keep my covenant. You have decided not to obey my rules. I commanded you to do what I told you. But you did not do it. So you can be absolutely sure I will tear the kingdom away from you. I will give it to one of your officials.’” (I Kings 11:11 NIV)

Solomon made foolish choices. He was considered the wisest man in his time, but he disobeyed God. All of Solomon’s wisdom, all of his riches, all of his power did not help him do the right thing.

The Bible says that God sent His Son, Jesus, to help us do the right things. God wants us to love and obey Him. The Bible says that his commands are not difficult to follow. (I John 5:3) Sometimes we choose to do wrong. We can ask Jesus to help us do what is right. (Philippians 2:13)

### Review Questions

1. **Who was Solomon?** (Solomon was the king of Israel.)
2. **What did God say to Solomon?** (Ask for whatever you want.)
3. **What did Solomon request?** (Solomon asked for wisdom to rule Israel.)
4. **What did God do?** (God gave Solomon riches, honor, and wisdom.)
5. **What did Solomon do next?** ? (Solomon disobeyed God: married many wives, worshipped other gods, built places of worship to other gods, allowed his wives to turn his heart away from God.)

### Do you know Jesus?

God sent Jesus to help us do what is right. Jesus did what was right. He never sinned nor disobeyed God. Jesus was willing to die on the cross for our sins. Because He died on the cross and rose from the dead, we can have a personal relationship with God. Do you know Him? Would you like to invite Him to be a part of your life?

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us do what is right.
3. Ask God to help you obey Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to follow God.

### Application

God gave Solomon wisdom, riches, and honor. God told Solomon that if he would serve and obey Him, he would have a long life. But Solomon sinned against God. God warned Solomon about disobedience. But Solomon disobeyed. He married many wives from other nations, worshipped other gods, built places of worship to other gods, allowed his wives to turn his heart away from God. His disobedience had consequences. God allowed the kingdom of Israel to be divided because of Solomon’s sin. God wants us to do what is right. He sent Jesus to help us. If we ask Him to help us do right, He will. (Philippians 2:13)

**Planning for the next week:  
Adonijah (A Son Tries to Usurp the Throne) — I Kings 1**

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: I Kings 11:1-11 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

(Bring coloring pages of treasure boxes. Have the children use glitter or glitter glue to color the pages. Decorate your room with treasure boxes.)

When Solomon became king over Israel, God appear to Solomon. God told Solomon to ask for whatever he wanted. (I Kings 3:5) Solomon answered, "... give me a heart that understands. Then I can rule over your people. I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong." (I Kings 3:6-9 NIV)

God was very happy that Solomon asked for help to lead the people. Solomon could have asked for many things. (I Kings 3: 10) What do you think you would ask for, if God told you to ask for whatever you wanted?

God told Solomon that even though he didn't ask for it, He would give him riches, honor, and a wise and understanding heart. (I Kings 3:11-13)

Then God said, "Live the way I want you to. Obey my laws and commands, just as your father David did. Then I will let you live for a long time." (I Kings 3:14)

God sent Jesus so that we can know how to love and obey Him. God wants us to do what is right.

### **Prayer Time**

- 1. Take a moment to listen to God.**
- 2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us do what is right.**
- 3. Ask God to help you obey Him.**
- 4. Pray for friends and family members who need to obey God.**

**Did you know?** Preschoolers can learn about what real treasures are.

Consider this: Create treasure boxes out of shoe boxes. Cover the boxes in gold and silver aluminum foil. Glue gems on the box top. Write the words, "Obey God," "Love God," "Do what is right," etc. Talk about the things that God wants from us.

## Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Write the Bible verse on cardstock. Create a puzzle that the children can cut. Make copies for each child. Have the children cut out the puzzle. Then, have the children put the puzzle together and practice the verse.
- **Test your memory** — Write the numbers 1-10 on cardstock or construction paper. On the back write facts about the story. Fact #1—Solomon was a king, Fact #2—Solomon was an Israelite, Fact #3—Solomon was the third king of Israel, Fact #4—God warned Solomon about disobedience, Fact #5—God told Solomon about the benefits of obedience, Fact #6—God told the Israelites not to marry people of other nations, Fact #7— Solomon married women from other nations, Fact #8— Solomon built places of worship for other gods, Fact #9—Solomon worshipped other gods because of his wives, Fact #10—Solomon had 1,000 wives (700 wives and 300 concubines). Use the cards as you tell the story.
- **Taste activity** — Bring heart shaped candy. Talk about how Solomon was wise but his wives turned his heart against God.
- **Think about it** — Solomon asked God for wisdom. Read James 3 and talk about wisdom that comes from God.

Solomon was the wisest man in his time, but he disobeyed God over and over again. Talk about walking in obedience to God.

God appeared to Solomon twice. Solomon had riches, honor, and wisdom. But Solomon chose to disobey God. Talk about the importance of making rich choices.

- **Touch activity** — Create treasure boxes out of shoe boxes. Cover the boxes in gold and silver aluminum foil. Glue gems on the box top. Write the words, “Obey God,” “Love God,” “Do what is right,” etc. Talk about the things that God wants from us.

Bring coloring pages of treasure boxes. Have the children use glitter or glitter glue to color the pages. Decorate your room with treasure boxes.

- **Run and play** — Play “Simon Says.” Talk about the importance of doing what God says.
- **Listen** — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that God wants us to obey Him.
- **Sing** — Sing “Obedience,” “Trust and Obey,” or other songs related to the story.

## Memory Verse

Who is wise and  
understanding  
among you?

Let him show it  
by his good life,  
by deeds done  
in the humility  
that comes  
from wisdom.

JAMES 3:13 NIV

## Word Art

Trace the letters.

God

warned

Solomon

about sin

but he

disobeyed.

# Word Puzzle

R T D E P P I H S R O W  
H I E E R M O D S I W H  
S X C S Y I R S O A O N  
E C T H E E A S T N A S  
N O M I E O B N O T I D  
I S A M P S O R H N V E  
B E N B E M S A N E P R  
U O E N O F N E R I A D  
C D R L V E D I V C D N  
N M O D F G R S D I J U  
O S R R P O L A O T W H  
C O N S E Q U E N C E S

SOLOMON

WIVES

CONCUBINES

RICHES

HONOR

HUNDREDS

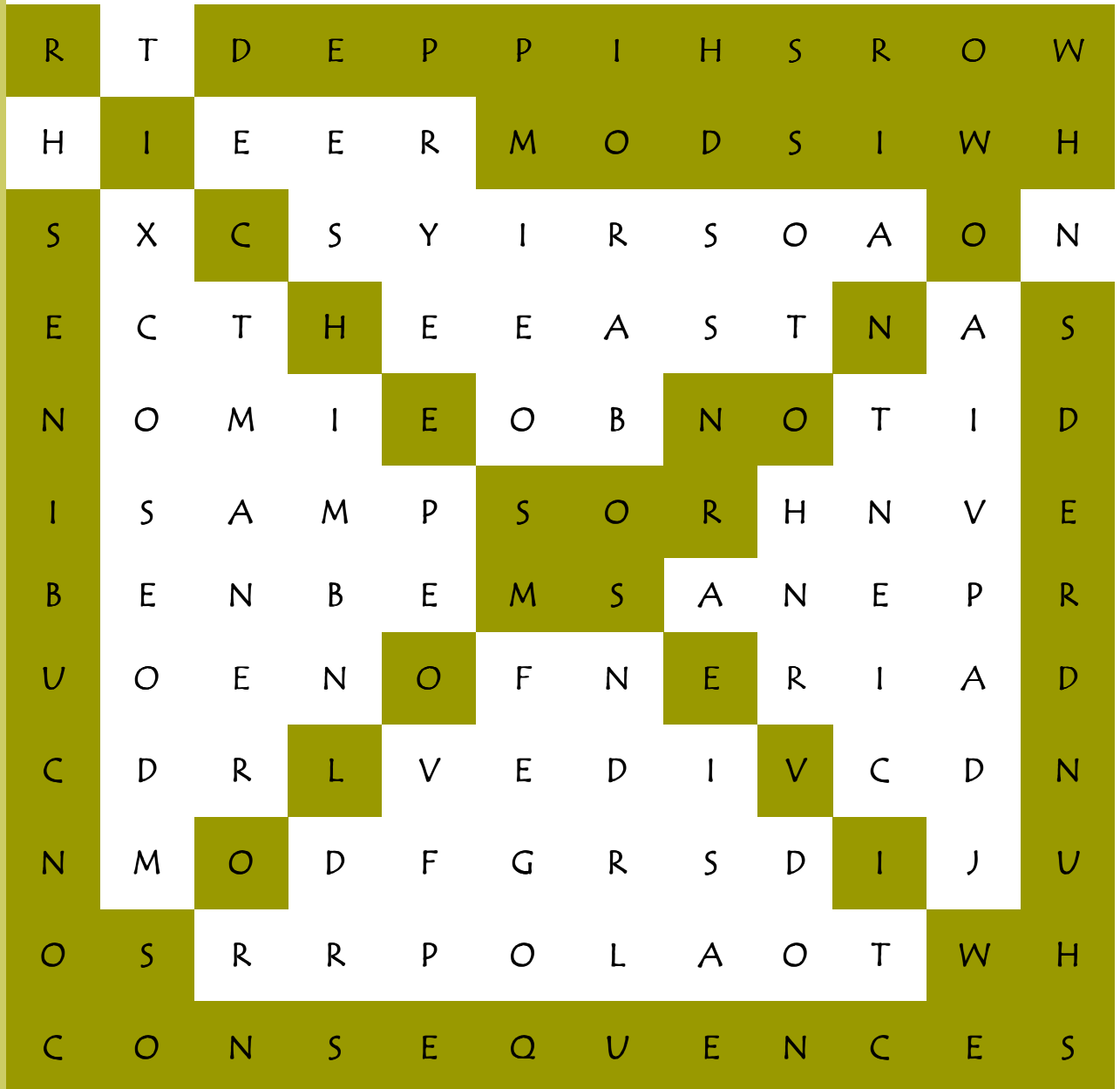
WORSHIPPED

WISDOM

CONSEQUENCES



# Word Puzzle



SOLOMON

WIVES

CONCUBINES

RICHES

HONOR

HUNDREDS

WORSHIPPED

WISDOM

CONSEQUENCES

## Word Puzzle For Younger Children

F Q N K B N W A R N E D  
P D B H O N O R J S V W  
J M P C K N F I D O L S  
S G N R I C H E S S C H  
R F P B N J F J P W R S  
D H S S O L O M O N K L  
F C R K P B T M L F G W  
G B L W I S D O M E R D

SOLOMON

WISDOM

WARNED

RICHES

HONOR

IDOLS

# Word Puzzle For Younger Children

F Q N K B N W A R N E D  
P D B H O N O R J S V W  
J M P C K N F I D O L S  
S G N R I C H E S S C H  
R F P B N J F J P W R S  
D H S S O L O M O N K L  
F C R K P B T M L F G W  
G B L W I S D O M E R D

SOLOMON

WISDOM

WARNED

RICHES

HONOR

IDOLS

## Anagram

1. EIWS -

2. GNNNDDTSREUIA -

3. WHSO TI -

4. EIFL DGOO-

5. EEDDS -

6. YIIUTLMH-

7. MDSWOI -

8. AEMJS -

## Anagram

1. EIWS – WISE
2. GNNDDTSREUIA – UNDERSTANDING
3. WHSO TI – SHOW IT
4. EIFL DGOO – GOOD LIFE
5. EEDDS – DEEDS
6. YIIUTLMH – HUMILTY
7. MDSWOI – WISDOM
8. AEMJS – JAMES