

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part One



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

Old Testament

Solomon's Wisdom

Jonathan and David were best friends. David would become king instead of Jonathan. Saul was jealous of David and wanted to kill him. God protected David. God will protect us, too.

I Kings 3

Read the Bible

READ: I Kings 3:1-14 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse:

God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by His power that is working in us.
(Ephesians 3:20 NIRV)

Begin With Prayer

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." (I Kings 3:1-5)

Goals

1. Learn that Solomon pleased God when he asked for wisdom.
2. Understand that God gave Solomon more than he asked for.
3. Recognize that Solomon was able to help the people.
4. Understand that God gave Solomon wisdom that everyone heard about.

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." (I Kings 3:6-9)

God was so pleased with Solomon's request. God was pleased that Solomon because he didn't choose a long life or riches. Because of this, God gave Solomon wisdom—AND riches and honor. (I Kings 3:10-14)

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 examples.) Smart means showing intelligence (able to learn). Wisdom is a spiritual gift (gift from God that allows a person to know how to apply the Bible to things that happen in everyday life. Usually a wise person is older and has been through lots of experiences. He knows what the Bible says and how the Bible can be used in whatever is happening.

Solomon's Wisdom – Bible Facts

1. Solomon was the son of King David.
2. God appeared to Solomon in a dream.
3. Solomon asked God for wisdom to rule.
4. God gave Solomon wisdom, riches, and honor.

Solomon loved God and thanked Him for the gifts. He went to church and worshiped God and told Him that he loved Him. (I Kings 3:15)

One day Solomon had an opportunity 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! (I Kings 3:16-21)

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 the real mother was. He ordered that the baby be cut in half and each mother would 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." (I Kings 3:22-26)

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. (I Kings 3:27)

Everyone in the kingdom heard about Solomon's wisdom. They all came to him to get advice and help. "They saw that God had given him wisdom. They knew that Solomon would do what was right and fair when he judged people." (I Kings 3:28)

Review

1. **Who was Solomon?** (Solomon was the son of King David.)
2. **What happened to Solomon?** (God appeared to Solomon in a dream.)
3. **What did Solomon ask for?** (Solomon asked for wisdom to rule the people.)
4. **What did God give him?** (God gave Solomon wisdom, riches, and honor.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus is the only Way for us to go to Heaven. Jesus showed us that He was wise, too. He died for us and came back to life three days later. He did this for everyone—including you! Would you like to trust Jesus and follow Him?

Prayer Time

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

Application

King David's son, Solomon, pleased God when he asked for wisdom. God gave Solomon more than he asked for. Solomon was able to help the people. God gave Solomon wisdom that everyone heard about. When we walk with Him, God hears and answers our prayers.

Planning for the next week:

Solomon Builds a Temple — 1 Kings 6:1-14; 8:22-66

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: I Kings 3:1-14 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

•**Teachers:** Bring a coloring picture of Solomon. Color the picture. Write the memory verse on the picture.

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 pleased that 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.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for us.
3. Ask God to help you love Him.

Memory verse for younger children

God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Ephesians 3:20

Learning Activities

- Memory verse activity** — Bring a picture of Solomon for the children to color. Color the picture. Write the memory verse on the picture.

- Test your memory** — Cut out footprints. Write key phrases about the life of Solomon. Use them as you tell the story. Solomon was the son of King David. Solomon had a dream. God told Solomon to ask for anything. Solomon asked for wisdom. God was pleased with Solomon. God gave Solomon wisdom, riches, and honor. God gave Solomon more than he asked for.

- Taste activity** — Bring sugar cookies. Bring icing and let the children decorate them with crowns.

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)

- Think about it** — Talk about how Solomon could have asked God for anything he wanted.

Encourage the children to ask God to enrich their spiritual lives.

Talk about how Solomon had to rule a kingdom. Talk about some difficult things the children have to do. Encourage them to ask God for help.

- Touch activity** — Owls are considered wise. Color pictures of owls. Write Proverbs 2:6 on the picture. “The Lord gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth.” (NIRV)

Make crowns to wear.

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.

- Run and play** — 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.

- Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to trust Him.

- Sing** — Sing “Oh, How I Love Jesus,” “I Want to Be a Worker for the Lord,” or another song related to the story.

- Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take the hearts with verse for each child. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

God is able
to do far more
than we
could ever
ask for
or imagine.

Ephesians 3:20

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Solomon

pleased

God.

Word Search

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

SOLOMON

DREAM

WISDOM

PLEASED

RICHES

HONOR

DAVID

RULE

PEOPLE

Word Search

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

SOLOMON

DREAM

WISDOM

PLEASED

RICHES

HONOR

DAVID

RULE

PEOPLE

Word Search

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

SOLOMON

WISDOM

DREAM

RICHES

HONOR

PLEASED

Word Search

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

SOLOMON

WISDOM

DREAM

RICHES

HONOR

PLEASED

Anagram

EOMR

KAS

AEIIGMN

LEAB

EEIGHNRTVY

EOPRW

DGO

OIGKNRW

AEEIHPNSS

Anagram

MORE

ASK

IMAGINE

ABLE

EVERYTHING

POWER

GOD

WORKING

EPHESIANS