

The Great Wisdom Of Solomon; Queen of Sheba's Visit

1 Kings 3:16-28



Old Testament 6
Part 2: David and Sons

SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 6 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1 Kings 3:16-28; 4:20-34; 10:1-13,23-24; 2 Chronicles 9:1-28

MEMORY WORK:

“A good name is to be chosen rather than riches” (Proverbs 22:1).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- [“Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”](#)
- [“Read Your Bible, Pray Everyday”](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [King David and His Sons Bible fact cards](#) (provided under “O.T. 6 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- “Summary of the Bible” from “[Kids Prep](#)” CD by Jeff Miller
- Have one of the teachers (or another lady from your congregation) dress up as the Queen of Sheba and describe what she saw while visiting Solomon
- Play Money
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- “God Gives Solomon Wisdom” pictures: <http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/solomon-wisdom/>

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

Money and popularity will not make me happy in the long run or acceptable to God.



LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Last week, we studied about King David's son who became king after him. What was his name? (King Solomon) What did King Solomon ask the Lord to give him? (knowledge, wisdom, and understanding) The Lord blessed him with these things and much more. We are going to learn more about King Solomon today. We are going to learn about how having lots of money doesn't mean you will be happy. Following God and sharing with others will help you have a happy life. If we want to be smart and have wisdom about the Bible, we need to study the Bible. We will learn more and more when we study our Bible.

INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Who became King after David? What did he ask of God? What did God give to him besides what he requested?

Discuss celebrities that seem to "have it all" (attractiveness, money, fame, popularity) but who have trouble or make very unwise choices. Sometimes we look at people who have more money than we do and think they have an easy life with lots of friends and possessions. Today, we're going to learn how Solomon had lots of things, but those things still did not make him happy. Let's see if he learned what truly makes a person happy.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Remind the children about God speaking to Solomon in a dream and what Solomon requested. Solomon's great wisdom and his tremendous wealth made him very famous, even in faraway places.
 - Solomon knew more about plants and animals than anyone. He wrote 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs (1 Kings 4:32). He wrote the books of Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, and at least two Psalms (72 and 73).
 - There was so much gold in Solomon's kingdom that silver was not even considered valuable; it became "as common as stones in Jerusalem" (1 Kings 10:21,27). He had 300 large shields made of gold. His throne, made of ivory, was completely covered with gold. On each of the six steps up to his throne, there were 12 lions; there was nothing else like it in the entire world. Gold and silver, ivory, apes, and baboons (or peacocks) were brought to Solomon every three years.
2. Solomon's influence and power as King of Israel grew steadily. With his massive army, Solomon extended his kingdom northeastward to the Euphrates River and southward to the border of Egypt. The leaders of other nations came to visit King Solomon to hear his wisdom and see his great wealth. His wealth grew even greater as these visiting leaders brought him expensive gifts.
3. After Solomon had been King of Israel for about 20 years, the Queen of Sheba came for a visit. Not much is known about this queen except that she came with the specific purpose of testing Solomon "with hard questions." She brought an impressive caravan of gifts for the wise king: 1 Kings 10:2,10 and 2 Chronicles 9:1,9 say that she brought him many gifts on camels specifically, and that she brought an abundance of spices, gold, and precious stones.

4. Solomon showed the queen everything in Jerusalem and “answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for the king that he could not explain it to her.” The queen was overwhelmed by everything she saw and the great wisdom she heard from Solomon. She admitted to him that everything she had heard was true, but she had not believed it. After she saw everything for herself, she said that not even half had been told her. Solomon gave the queen many gifts before she left to return to her own home.
5. Solomon impressed the Queen of Sheba and numerous others with his knowledge about many things and with his great wealth. Solomon was a very intelligent man. But all the gold and wealth that Solomon had did not make him happy or help him become closer to God. [With older kids, discuss Ecclesiastes: Solomon’s search for happiness in spite of his wealth and wisdom and his acknowledgement at the end of the book of what truly brings happiness.]
6. Sometimes Solomon did not use his money to help people. There were many poor people that he made work very hard. He made the people pay heavy taxes to support his many building projects and all the other things that so impressed the Queen of Sheba. We need to remember that God wants us “to do good, to be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share” (1 Timothy 6:18). [With older children read 1 Timothy 6:9,10,17-19.]

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer key](#).

Ages 2-5:

- “[Solomon Becomes King Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- A Penny for Your Thoughts: Give each child several coins. Talk with the children about how they could use their money to please God (one for a piece of candy, one to help someone, one to buy Bibles, one to save, one to give in the collection plate, etc.).
- “What Comes Before and After?” Game: Write the books of the Bible on 2½ x 1½ inch cards (one book per card). Shuffle them. Let each child draw a card and tell what book comes before and/or after the book on the card.
- On cardstock, poster board, or cardboard squares (9” x 12”) write, “A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches” (Proverbs 22:1). Punch 2 holes in the middle, top of the squares and put a ribbon through the holes so their squares can be hung. Above the verse, spell each child’s first name using foam letter stickers or paper cutout letters. Let the children decorate their squares with shiny stickers, gems, etc.
- Sharing Is Fun: Sit on the floor and tell the children you have a ball that you want to share with them. As you roll it to one child after another, and encourage them to do the same, talk to them about how important it is—and how much fun it is—to share. [Send a note home and ask parents



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the following relevant articles by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site:

- “[Biblical Wisdom Still Relevant](#)”
- “[Snake in a Bottle](#)”
- “[The Cost of Anger](#)”

to send something with the child on Wednesday night to share with the class (stickers, a small snack, pencils, etc.).]

1st-2nd Graders:

- “Pass the Facts” game (like “Gossip”): Whisper in the first student’s ear a fact or two about the lesson. He/she will pass the information on to the next student (whisper in his/her ear), and that student will pass it on to the next, until every child has heard the information. Ask the last student to tell everyone what he heard; make sure all the information is correct at the end.
- “What Comes Before and After?” Game: Write the books of the Bible on 2½ x 1½ inch cards (one book per card). Shuffle them. Let each child draw a card and tell what book comes before and/or after the book on the card.
- [“1 Kings 3:16-28 Fill in the Blank Activity”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- [“Wisdom of Solomon Word Search”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Have the children read *Solomon: The Wise King*, by Joy Melissa Jensen, Famous People of the Bible series, Scandinavia Publishing House

3rd-4th Graders:

- “Pass the Facts” game (like “Gossip”): Whisper in the first student’s ear a fact or two about the lesson. He/she will pass the information on to the next student (whisper in his/her ear), and that student will pass it on to the next, until every child has heard the information. Ask the last student to tell everyone what he heard; make sure all the information is correct at the end.
- “What Comes Before and After?” Game: Write the books of the Bible on 2½ x 1½ inch cards (one book per card). Shuffle them. Let each child draw a card and tell what book comes before and/or after the book on the card.
- [“1 Kings 3:16-28 Fill in the Blank Activity”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- [“Wisdom of Solomon Word Search”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- *The Wise King: A Puzzle Book About Solomon*, by Ros Woodman, Christian Focus Publications
- *Israel’s Golden Years: King David and King Solomon—from Samuel, Kings & Chronicles*, David C. Cook, Chariot Books (DISCLAIMER: skip pp. 26-27)
- Have the children read 1 Kings 4; 10; 2 Chronicles 9

SONGS:

“READ YOUR BIBLE, PRAY EVERYDAY” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Talk about how we can become wise when we read and study our Bible)

If you read your Bible and pray everyday, you’ll grow, grow, grow. (REPEAT)

Grow, grow, grow, grow,

Grow, grow, grow.

If you read your Bible and pray everyday, you’ll grow, grow, grow.

(Make hand movements as if reading, praying, and like a child growing.)

If you neglect your Bible and forget to pray, you'll shrink, shrink, shrink.
(Make hand movements as if closing Bible, head gesture saying "No," and like a child shrinking.)

(REPEAT)

Shrink, shrink, shrink, shrink,
Shrink, shrink, shrink.

If you neglect your Bible and forget to pray, you'll shrink, shrink, shrink.
(Make hand movements as if closing Bible, head gesture saying "No," and like a child shrinking.)

So read your Bible and pray everyday, and you'll grow, grow, grow.
(Make hand movements as if reading, praying, and like a child growing.) (REPEAT)

Grow, grow, grow, grow,
Grow, grow, grow.

So read your Bible and pray everyday, and you'll grow, grow, grow.
(Make hand movements as if reading, praying, and like a child growing.)

"SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

[See Internet for words and tune]

*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE "SUGGESTION" BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



Wise King Solomon and Two Mothers



1 Kings 3:16-28



Old Testament 6
Part 2: David and Sons

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Old Testament 6 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1 Kings 3:16-28 [1 Chronicles 28:5-9,20]

MEMORY WORK:

“A good name is to be chosen rather than riches” (Proverbs 22:1).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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PERSONAL APPLICATION:

Money and popularity will not make me happy in the long run or acceptable to God.



INTRODUCTION:

Review [O.T. 6 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under “O.T. 6 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

- Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [O.T. 6 Review Questions](#) for example questions.).
- Continue to name famous people (sports figures, actors, etc.) who have great sums of money, fame, and power, but do not live according to biblical principles. Use examples of people in the Bible who were not rich, and many times were very unpopular, but were right with God, because they did what pleased Him. Talk about people who win the lottery, but often have serious problems because of getting so much money.
- Talk more about wisdom. It is described in James 3:13-18. You can be the smartest person in the world, like Solomon was in Old Testament times, and still not be wise.
- Sharing is Fun [for preschoolers]: Remind the children how important it is—and how much fun it is—to share. Let the children share what they brought to class (in response to the notes you sent to their parents Sunday). Make sure that you have extras for children who forgot to bring anything.

OLDER CHILDREN:

1. Sometimes people came to Solomon (or were brought to him) to have arguments or disputes settled. 1 Kings 3 tells us about two women who came to Solomon to make a very important decision. The two women lived together in the same house. They each had a brand new baby. One night one of the babies died. The mother of the dead baby got up during the night and took the baby of the other woman, putting the dead baby in its place.
2. The next morning, when both women got up, the woman whose baby was really alive was horrified to discover a dead baby in her bed. She confronted the other woman, but that woman insisted the live baby was hers. So the two women went before wise King Solomon to tell their story and seek some help.
3. After hearing the story, and the way the two women were both insisting that the live baby was their own, he told one of his soldiers to take his sword and cut the baby in half, and then give half to each of the women. It was a horrible suggestion, but the real mother immediately shouted, “Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him.” The other woman, whose real son had died, said, “Let him be neither mine nor yours, but divide him!” Then Solomon knew immediately who the real mother of the baby was.
4. Solomon didn’t intend for the baby to be killed or divided in half. He was wise enough to know that a loving mother would not let her baby be harmed. The news about Solomon’s great wisdom in this incident spread far and wide, and he became even more famous.
5. Read James 3:17 for a description of wisdom; discuss how Solomon displayed these characteristics to make a wise decision between the two mothers.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning’s lesson.

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