



## SOLOMON ASKED FOR WISDOM: FOLLOW-UP FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** 1 Kings 2–3

**STORY POINT:** God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people.

**Key Passage:** James 1:5a / James 1:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What does God know?

God knows everything about the past, present, and future.

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### WISHES

Prompt your child to talk about what they might wish for if they were given one wish.

**SAY:** It can be fun to imagine wishes coming true. But the Bible teaches that good gifts come from God, not from wishing! When we want something, we can ask God for it. If what we want is best for us, we can be sure God will give it to us. If not, we can be sure He will give us what is best for us. Today we will learn about a time God offered a man the chance to ask for anything. What do you think he asked for?

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### TRAIN FOR A CHALLENGE

Talk about how athletes prepare for competitions. Then practice “training” for challenges by running in place for several minutes. Take breaks and then encourage children to try running in place faster or for a longer time. You may also try jumping (higher), lifting (more) weights such as books, or other physical challenges.

**SAY:** When athletes compete in races or games, they work hard before the competition to get ready. They know their bodies need to be strong and healthy to complete the challenge. In our Bible story today, a young king knew he was not ready yet for the challenge of being king. What do you think he needed to be a good leader?

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### WHEN YOU GROW UP

Provide your child with paper and pencils, markers, crayons, or colored pencils. Invite them to draw pictures of themselves as grown-ups. Ask them to add details to help show what job they hope to have. For an older child ask

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them to write down how they see themselves as an adult including in detail what job they hope to have. When your child is done discuss the skills and traits needed for the jobs they hope for.

**SAY:** No matter what job you have, wisdom is a great attribute to have. Wisdom is the ability to use knowledge in the best way. Where do you think wisdom comes from?

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### KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Read the key passage together as a family multiple times. Then, instruct everyone to sit in a circle. Say the first word of the key passage, then toss a ball to your child. Challenge them to say the second word before passing the ball to another person in the circle to say the third word. Continue passing the ball and saying words of the passage until everyone has had a chance to say at least one word and to say the complete key passage at least once.

**SAY:** Our key passage teaches us that God isn't surprised when we lack wisdom. He wants to give us wisdom, and He will do so when we ask for wisdom from Him. God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people, and God will give us wisdom when we ask.

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### DISCUSSION & BIBLE SKILLS

Distribute a Bible to each child. Help them find 1 Kings 2–3. Ask your child if they can tell you which division 1 Kings is in. (Old Testament History) Remind your child that the ways we organize Scripture—division, book order, chapter, and verse numbers—are things people have done to help us find and study Scripture passages more easily.

**Ask the following questions. Lead your family to discuss:**

1. **What did David tell Solomon about God?** (to obey Him; that He would keep His promises; 1 Kings 2:3-4)
2. **What did Solomon ask God for?** (wisdom to lead, 1 Kings 3:9)
3. **What did God give Solomon?** (wisdom as well as riches and honor, 1 Kings 3:12-13)
4. **What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom?** Guide kids to discuss the nature of knowing information versus knowing how to use information in the best way. Remind them that if a person knows the right things but still does the wrong things, he is not wise. Talk about God's perfect knowledge and perfect wisdom.
5. **Why does God want us to have wisdom?** Guide kids to see that behaving wisely glorifies God and benefits us. When we behave foolishly, we dishonor God and hurt ourselves. God wants us to glorify Him, and He loves us and doesn't want us to be hurt. Wisdom leads us to Jesus. When we love and obey Jesus, God is glorified.

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6. **Ultimately, wisdom comes from God. What are some ways God gives us wisdom?** Guide kids to see that we can gain wisdom by studying God's Word, by spending time with other believers, by praying to God, and by listening to the Holy Spirit's guidance. Remind kids that the wisest decision we can make is the decision to put our faith in Jesus to save us.

**SAY:** God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people. God wants all of us to be wise. The wisest thing we can do is admit that we need Jesus to save us from sin and trust in Him to forgive us, make us new, and give us life with God forever.

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### LUMP OF DOUGH

Provide each member of the family with a small lump of play dough. Select one person to lead everyone in molding their lump of play dough. They will explain what the kids are making and how to make it. After they have finished leading the kids, let the group compare their different creations. Did they all look similar? Were any identical?

**SAY:** It can be difficult to lead others, even in something as simple as how to mold play dough. Solomon became king, which meant he was responsible for leading all the nation of Israel. God gave Solomon wisdom to lead His people. When we ask for wisdom, God gives it to us generously.

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### JOURNAL & PRAYER

Distribute a piece of paper and a pencil. Guide your child(ren) to think about and answer the questions listed below:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Discuss with your children as they write, invite them to share their ideas.

Then pray, asking God to fill your child with wisdom to live in a way that honors Him.

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