



*June 18, 2017*

Dear Teacher,

This week we transition from the reign of David to the reign of Solomon. The story unfolds three promises - one immediate, one gradual, and one continual. The immediate promise is for wisdom and prosperity for Solomon, which God gave freely to him. The gradual promise is that Solomon would be able to build the temple, which took some time, but was accomplished. The continual promise is that David's sons would rule from his, David's, throne. This last promise is one that we ultimately see fulfilled in Christ. This story shows that God always keeps His Promises!

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

## **Morning Overview**

**Lesson:** *Summer Recap: Solomon*

**Lesson Objective:** To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 1-3, 5-6; 1 Chronicles 28-29; 2 Chronicles 7-9 (selected portions)

**Story:** Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 76-77 (Pages 164-168); The Beginner's Bible, Pages 196-200; The Gospel Story Bible, Pages, 120-121.

### **Teaching Summary:**

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God had given His people a king in the shepherd, David, and now David's son, Solomon would be king.
- Solomon is given wisdom and a heart of understanding.
- God was pleased to give this to Solomon, and he gave Solomon this and many other blessings.
- Solomon was also given the promise to build God's temple so Israel could worship Him.
- God kept His Promises to David and to Solomon.

## 9:30am Sunday Schedule

For the Sunday Schedule, please see "Sunday Schedule for Preschool" found in Handbook on the teacher's table

### Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 166, 165, 164)

*Craft:* Scroll

*Supplies:* Construction paper, popsicle sticks, Wisdom sticker, tape

*Instructions:*

1. Place Wisdom sticker in center of construction paper
2. Tape popsicle stick to short ends of construction paper
3. Roll ends over popsicle sticks to form scroll
4. Color/Decorate if desired



**Snack**

## 11am Sunday Schedule

*Craft:* Solomon's Temple

*Supplies:* Cardstock temple, 2 pillars, glue/tape, crayons/markers

*Instructions:*

1. Color temple (gold crayons provided)
2. Fold bottom of temple on dotted line
3. Tape or glue pillars to temple on either side of doors



**Story:** Kings: Solomon

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Now, I really can't do this, but suppose just suppose I could give you anything you wanted –just one thing! What would it be? (Go around in the circle asking the children what they'd like if you could give them anything). In our story this very same thing happens! God asked King Solomon "What do you want more than anything?" Listen closely to our story today and let's find out what King Solomon wanted...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

**Questions for Review**

**Scripture Memory (Nehemiah 1:5)**

**Catechism Questions (1-18)**

**Sing Songs (optional)**

**Free Play**

### Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What were some of the things David had prepared to build God's house?
- What did King Solomon ask God to give him?
- What else did God give him?
- What did Solomon use to build God's kingdom?

Questions for Older Children:

- Why did Solomon want God to give him wisdom?
- How did God keep His promise to David?
- How did God keep His promise to Solomon?

### Scripture Memory for Summer:

O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments. (Nehemiah 1:5)

### Story

#### **Review**

Boys and girls, this past year we learned about King David and his son Absalom. We learned that Absalom wanted to be king instead of David, but that's not what God wanted. King David returned to being king after a big battle with Absalom. This week we learn who will be king after David. And this king would have the chance to ask anything from God he wanted. And you know what? This king asked for something more valuable than silver, gold or all the jewels in the world (Proverbs 3:15; 8:11; 16:16). Let's find out who this king is and what God gave him.

#### **Solomon Becomes King**

The kingdom of Israel was peaceful, there were no wars to be fought, and King David had grown very old. He could hardly see and walk. Much of his day was spent laying down and resting. Soon King David would pass away and a new king would need to rule. Some people thought David's son Adonijah [**pronunciation:** aa-doe-nigh-ja] would be king, and others thought it would be his son Solomon. David decided that Solomon would be the king. So, David had Solomon anointed to be the next king.

Before King David died, he called a great meeting with all the leaders of Israel. He told them that God had chosen Solomon to be king and to build God's temple (a place where God would be worshipped). David reminded Solomon and all the leaders of Israel to remember the Lord, to trust Him and to obey His commands. David then turned towards Solomon, with everyone looking, and said to his son, "And you, Solomon, my son, know the Lord, the One I serve, and serve Him with all your heart, with all your mind, and with all your strength." David then handed Solomon a scroll, which were the plans for building the temple. David told Solomon that God would help him build it. Then David said to all the people, "Solomon, my son, whom God has chosen, is still young, and the work is great, for the house is not for man, but for the Lord God. I have prepared gold and silver and brass and iron and wood and marble and precious stones. Who will help my son, Solomon, build this great temple for God?" All the people offered to help Solomon build the temple. Many people brought gold, silver and iron to help build the temple. After everyone brought forward these gifts, the people worshipped the Lord with prayers, singing and sacrifices.

David, known as "a man after God's own heart", soon passed away. King David loved God very much. The Bible says "he died at a good old age, having enjoyed long life, wealth and honor." And then his son Solomon took his place as King of Israel. Now it was Solomon's job to be the king and it was a big job to have!

#### **Solomon's Dream**

During his reign King Solomon had a dream. But this dream wasn't like dreams that we might have. In this dream God spoke to Solomon. "Ask for whatever you want me to give you," God said to Solomon. God was asking Solomon what he would like to have. Can you imagine that?

Solomon could have said so many things. He could have said that he wanted lots of money and jewels, horses or livestock, or maybe a big palace. Solomon could have asked for a long healthy life and to live to be a hundred years old. But Solomon's answer was very different than any of these things. First, remembering all the great and

wonderful things God had done, Solomon said to the Lord, “You have shown great kindness to my father David and great kindness by allowing me, his son, to be the king of Israel. Now, O Lord my God, you’ve made me your servant-king in place of my father David. But I do not know how to carry out my duties.”

You see Solomon knew what a big job he had. When he thought of what it meant to be the king of Israel, to rule and lead the country, it may have made him a little scared or nervous. The kingdom was so big that it was too hard to count all the people. Solomon knew it was his job as the king to keep the people safe. Suppose a bad king came to fight with lots of soldiers. Every day the people would bring their problems to the king and he should be able to tell them what to do. There would be so many decisions to make. As you can see being king of Israel was a very hard job! The job was so hard that Solomon said it made him feel like a little child. A little child wouldn’t be wise enough to lead a country!

And so King Solomon said to the Lord, “I ask that you give me wisdom. Then I can rule the people in the right way. Then I will know the difference between right and wrong. Without wisdom, it is impossible to rule this great people of yours.” Of all the things Solomon could have asked for, he asked to be a wise king. A king who would know the difference between right and wrong. King Solomon could have asked anything from the Lord and he asked for wisdom to care for God’s people!

### **God’s Answer**

The Bible says, “The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked him for wisdom.” So God said to Solomon, “You did not ask for a long life. And you did not ask for riches for yourself. Since you asked for wisdom to make the right decisions, I will give you what you asked. I will give you wisdom and understanding. Your wisdom will be greater than anyone has had in the past. And there will never be anyone in the future like you.” But that was not all God would promise to give Solomon! God continued talking to Solomon, “Also I will give you what you did not ask for. You will have riches and honor. During your life no other king will be as great as you.” But then God requested something very important from Solomon, “I ask you to follow Me and obey My laws and commands. Do this as your father David did. If you do, I will also give you a long life.”

King Solomon awoke and realized that what had happened wasn’t just a dream. God was going to make King Solomon the wisest king in the whole world. King Solomon then worshipped the Lord. King Solomon had seen that God kept His promises to his father, David, and that gave Solomon confidence that God would keep His promises to him too.

The Bible goes on to describe Solomon as the wisest man to ever live! He spoke three thousand wise sayings, and he made a thousand songs. He knew all about trees, animal, birds creeping things and fish. People came from all over the world to listen to the wisdom of Solomon. During Solomon’s life, the children of Israel increased in numbers until they were as many as the sands of the seashore, just as God had promised long ago to Abraham. There was no war while Solomon was king. All the people of Israel and Judah lived in safety and peace. Solomon ruled over all the countries that his father David had conquered, and the kings of these countries brought presents to Solomon and served him.

### **Building the Temple**

During David’s reign, God told David that he would not build the temple but that his son, Solomon, would. So, after Solomon became king, with God’s guidance, he set out to build a beautiful place for God to be worshipped. God told Solomon exactly how big the temple should be, how many rooms it should have, where the rooms should be, and even where to make windows and stairways!

In preparation for building the temple, Solomon sent a message to his friend, King Hiram. King Hiram lived in a country by the sea. In his country there were beautiful mountains where large cedar trees and pine trees grew. The message to King Hiram said, “You know how my father David had so many wars that he never was able to

build a temple for the Lord. Now the Lord my God has given me peace. There is peace on all sides of my country. I have no enemies now. My people are in no danger. The Lord made a promise to my father David. The Lord said, 'I will make your son king after you. And he will build a temple for worship to me.' Now, I plan to build that temple for worship to the Lord my God. And so I ask for your help. Send your men to cut down cedar trees for me from Lebanon. My servants will work with yours and I will pay you whatever amount of money you decide."

When King Hiram received King Solomon's message, he was so pleased. He sent a message back to Solomon; it said, "I have received the message you sent me and will give you all the trees you want. My workers will cut down the trees and drag them to the sea. There they will tie the trees into bunches and place them on rafts. The trees will float down to the place where you need them. You can pay us back with food." So, King Hiram supplied King Solomon with all the cedar trees and pine trees he needed and King Solomon gave Hiram lots and lots of food. King Solomon's workers pulled the trees out of the water and cut them into logs so they could be used to build the temple.

Then King Solomon told other men to travel to quarries where there was lots of beautiful stone. The workers would dig into the ground and pull out great big blocks of stone. Just like the trees that had been cut down and made into logs, the stone also would be cut to be used in building the temple for the Lord. King Solomon used thousands of workers.

Finally, the temple was built. There were floors made from pinewood, the walls and ceiling made from cedar wood. And then everything inside the temple was covered with pure gold! The walls and floors were beautiful and shiny. Carved into the cedar wood were beautiful flowers and trees, and they were covered in gold too. Then King Solomon had workers make the furniture for the temple: a golden altar, golden tables and lamp stands and bowls and cups and spoons, all for the temple. Finally, after seven whole years, the temple was finished. Everything was built exactly as God had said it should be. The temple was very, very beautiful.

### **Dedication of the temple**

Finally came the special day of dedication. King Solomon called all the people to come and stand outside the temple. While everyone was standing outside, the priests carried a box called the Ark of the Covenant into the Temple. Inside the Ark of the Covenant were the Ten Commandments. Remember that God gave the Ten Commandments to his people so they would know how God wanted them to live. This was very important. The priests carried the Ark of the Covenant very carefully into a special room inside the temple. The room was called the Holy of Holies. But when the priests left the Holy of Holies, something incredible happened. The Bible says a cloud filled the temple. It was the presence of the Lord! God was pleased with the temple that had been built. Now he had come to live in the temple. Then King Solomon stood before the people and blessed them. King Solomon reminded the people of God's goodness. Then he knelt before them, raised his hands toward heaven and prayed, "LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below . . . But, God, can you really live here on the earth? Even the sky and the highest place in heaven cannot contain you. Certainly this house which I have built cannot contain you either."

King Solomon was very wise. He knew that as beautiful as the temple was and though it had been built exactly the way God had said, God was much greater. God had kept His promise to David that Solomon would build the temple. And now God's people could worship Him in it.