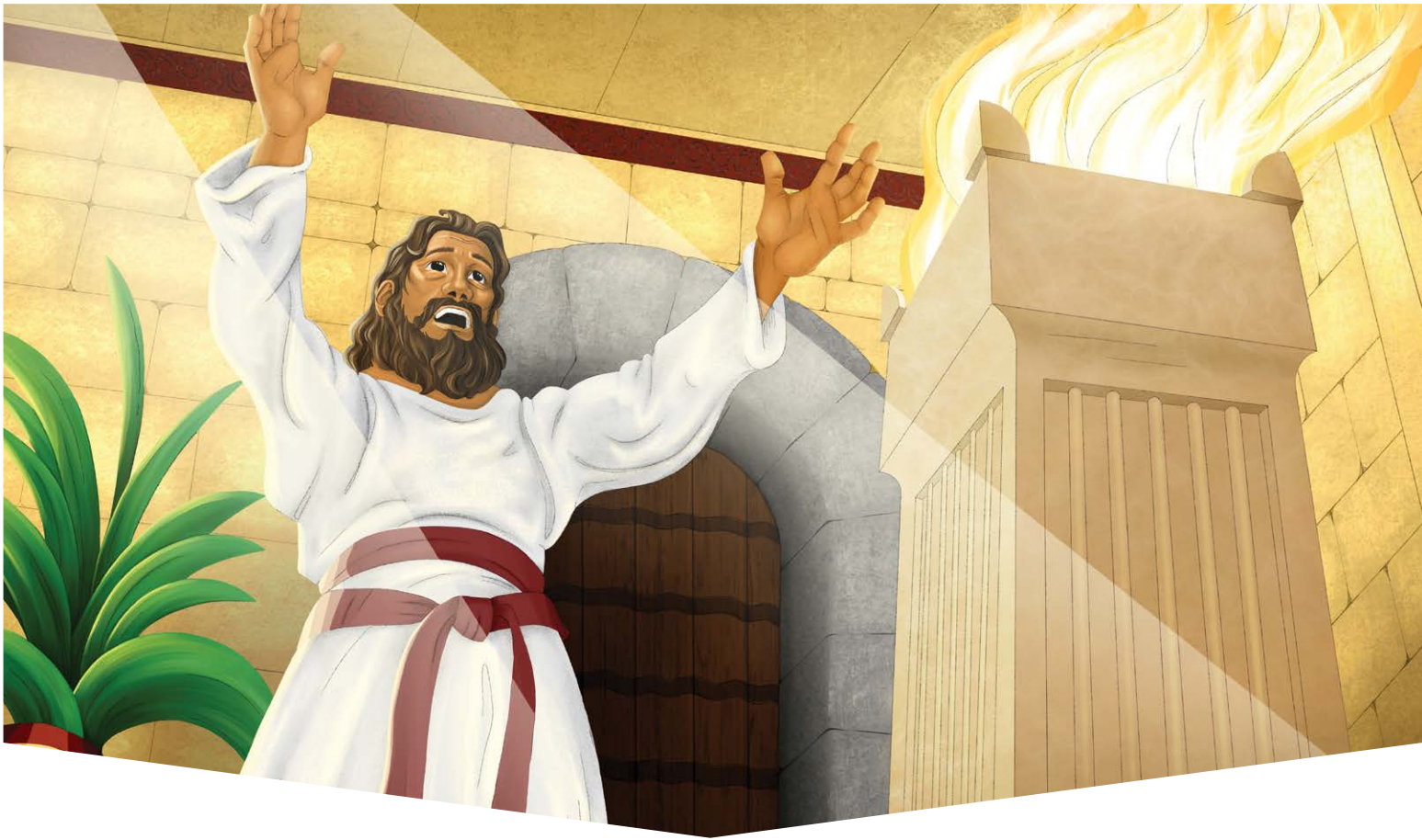




UNIT 12 | SESSION 1

GOD GAVE SOLOMON WISDOM

1 KINGS 2-3

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is the wisest King of all.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: The Lord is a kind and loving God. Exodus 34:6

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- God chose David's son Solomon to be king after David.
- Solomon asked God to make him wise.
- Jesus is the wisest King of all.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

God chose David's son, Solomon, to be king after David. David gave Solomon special instructions. David said, "Be strong and brave. Obey God, and you will be a good king."

Solomon became the king of Israel. One night, God talked to Solomon in a dream. God said, "Solomon, ask for anything you want and I will give it to you." Solomon said, "God, please make me wise. Help me obey You." God told Solomon, "I am happy you asked for wisdom. I am going to make you more wise than anyone who has ever lived." God also said, "I will also give you a long life, riches, and honor." Then Solomon woke up. He thanked God and praised Him.



BABIES ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to 1 Kings 2. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage phrase card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “The Farmer In the Dell”:

“The Lord is a kind God.

The Lord is a kind God.

I’ll clap my hands and praise His name.

The Lord is a kind God.”

SAY “ The Lord is a kind and loving God. God chose David’s son, Solomon, to be king. Solomon asked God to make him wise. Jesus is the wisest King of all. ”

2 DECORATE A CROWN

Draw a simple crown on heavyweight paper. Prepare one per child. Print Jesus is the wisest King of all on each sheet. Provide stickers and large crayons. Assist babies in decorating their crowns as you retell the Bible story. Ensure no child puts anything in his mouth.

SAY “ Many kings wear crowns. God chose Solomon to be the king of Israel. Solomon asked God to make him wise and help him obey God. Solomon obeyed God and was a good king. Jesus is the wisest King of all. We can obey God too. ”

3 PRETEND TO DREAM

Gather blankets and pillows for babies or use comfort items from their bags. Sing a bedtime song, yawn, and stretch as you pretend to go to sleep. Then pretend to wake up with joy and praise, just like Solomon. Become animated and energetic when waking to keep babies engaged. Review the Bible story.

SAY “ God spoke to Solomon in a dream. God speaks to us through the Bible. We can thank and praise God for giving us rest. ”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s big picture card. Repeat the Christ connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



TODDLER ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible story picture as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 2. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the key passage phrase card and guide toddlers to say it with you. Pray for the toddlers.

2 MAKE A CROWN

Cut a simple crown template from heavyweight paper (one per child). Provide decorating supplies such as washable markers, crayons, stickers, or jewels. Monitor and assist toddlers as they decorate to ensure safety. Review the Bible story. Add paper strips as necessary in order to accurately size and tape the crowns for each toddler's head.

SAY “Look at your beautiful crowns! A king wears a crown. God chose Solomon to be the king of Israel. He was a wise king, but Jesus is the wisest King of all.”

3 TAP A BEAT

Gather toddlers in a circle, arm's length apart. Demonstrate how to tap your knees with your hands to each syllable in the sentence, “Help me obey You.” Call out ways to tap the rhythm for toddlers to obey. Speak the sentence in rhythm while tapping on their heads, shoulders, nose, and feet. For added difficulty, guide them to tap their heads for a beat, shoulders for a beat, and so on. Explain how obedience can be fun. Review the Bible story.

SAY “Solomon wanted to be a good king. He asked God to make him wise. We can be wise when we obey God. You can ask God to help you obey Him too.”

4 PLAY KING

Provide a chair for a throne, fabric for a sash, crowns, a pillow, and a blanket. Allow toddlers to use materials creatively to play out the Bible story. Retell the Bible story as toddlers play.

SAY “Solomon was the king of Israel. God made Solomon king. Solomon was a wise king, but Jesus is the wisest King of all.”

5 EXPLORE RICHES



Place bins filled with toy money, large plastic coins, large shiny objects, and large jewels on towels on the floor. Cover the objects with sand, rice, or shredded paper. Be mindful of the size of the objects to prevent choking hazards. Encourage the children to dig for the riches.

SAY “Solomon asked for wisdom from God, but God said that He would give Solomon wisdom and riches! What riches did you find in our bin? We can thank and praise God for loving us.”

GOD GAVE SOLOMON WISDOM

1 KINGS 2-3

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is the wisest King of all.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: The Lord is a kind and loving God. Exodus 34:6

1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: I SPY

Encourage the children to sit in a group. Hold up the Bible story picture. Help the children spy different objects and colors. Encourage children to tell you what they see. Provide an opportunity for each child to share. Review the Bible story, pointing to the things they spied.

SAY “ This is King Solomon [point to Solomon]. God chose him to be the king of Israel. Solomon was a wise king who obeyed God. ”

2 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “The Farmer In the Dell”:

“The Lord is a kind God.

The Lord is a kind God.

I’ll clap my hands and praise His name.

The Lord is a kind God.”

3 LETTER TRACE

Print a large letter J in the middle of a piece of heavyweight paper (one per child). Then, print Jesus is the wisest King of all at the bottom of each paper. Provide painting smocks or bibs and washable ink pads or paint and sponges for toddlers to dot paint onto their papers. Have baby wipes handy for easy cleanup. Encourage children to trace the letter with their fingers as you read the Christ connection. Review the Bible story.

SAY “ God chose Solomon to be the king of Israel. He was a wise king, but Jesus was the wisest King of all. The name Jesus starts with the letter J. ”

4 BUILD A CASTLE

Provide foam or cardboard blocks. Encourage toddlers to listen to the story again as they build a castle for King Solomon. Review the details, allowing toddlers to build as time permits.

SAY “ God chose Solomon to be the king of Israel. Solomon was a wise king. ”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church’s security procedures. Give parents today’s big picture card to reinforce today’s Bible story, Christ connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.