

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA VISITED SOLOMON

1 KINGS 10



CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is the King of everything who came to show us how to live and to save us by dying and coming back to life.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Obey the LORD and do what is right. Proverbs 3:7

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- The queen of Sheba visited King Solomon and brought gifts of spices, gold, and shiny rocks.
- Solomon talked to the queen and answered all her questions.
- The queen praised God for King Solomon's wisdom to do the right thing. We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS: The queen of Sheba heard King Solomon was wise, so she came to meet him. She brought gifts—camels with spices, gold, and shiny rocks. She talked to Solomon, and he answered her questions. She was surprised by his wisdom, his palace, the food, and all his servants. The queen said, “You are very wise and rich. Your people must be happy. Praise God for making you king and giving you wisdom to do the right thing.” She gave Solomon gold, more spices, and precious stones. She also gave him wood to make steps for the temple and the palace and to make instruments like harps. Then the queen went home with her helpers.



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 10. Show the Bible Story Poster 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 “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

“Obey the LORD, and do what’s right,
Do what’s right, do what’s right.
Obey the LORD, and do what’s right.
That’s what God says to do.”

SAY “ Our key passage phrase says, ‘Obey the LORD and do what’s right.’ We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

2 DROP THE COINS

Provide a clean, empty chip canister with a slit cut in the lid large enough for a toy coin to slide through. Provide medium- to large-size toy gold coins, and encourage babies to slide the coins into the slot on the top of the canister. Allow babies to listen for the sounds of the coins as they move around and drop into the canister. Remove the lid to empty the canister and replay. Monitor safety, ensuring no baby puts any coin into his mouth.

SAY “ The queen of Sheba visited King Solomon and brought gifts of spices, gold, and shiny rocks. The queen praised God for King Solomon’s wisdom to do the right thing. We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

3 SPOT THE ROCKS

Provide medium- to large-size shiny rocks. Hide the rocks in visible places throughout the room for the babies to spot. Hold babies in leaders’ arms, and allow babies to spot the rocks. For more mobile babies, allow babies to crawl to the rocks to find the rocks. Say the first gospel gem as the babies play. Rehide and replay as interest allows. Monitor safety when allowing babies to move around the room. Ensure no baby puts any rock in her mouth.

SAY “ The queen of Sheba visited King Solomon and brought shiny rocks as a gift to King Solomon. The queen praised God for King Solomon’s wisdom to do the right thing. We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

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.



LEARNING Activities

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

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 10. Show the Bible Story Poster 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 PAINT GOLD COINS

Provide painting smocks, yellow or gold washable paint, and round sponge brushes. Guide toddlers to dip the brushes in the paint and stamp them on their papers to create gold coin shapes. Review the Bible story as the toddlers paint "coins."

SAY “ The queen of Sheba visited King Solomon and brought him valuable gifts. What did the queen like more than Solomon’s wealth? Yes, Solomon’s wisdom! The queen praised God for giving King Solomon wisdom to do the right thing. ”

3 PLAY AN INSTRUMENT

Provide an assortment of noisemakers and toy instruments. Allow toddlers to explore and use the instruments. Use an electronic device to play upbeat worship music. Encourage toddlers to listen and play along. Retell the Bible story as the toddlers play.

SAY “ The queen of Sheba visited King Solomon and brought gifts including wood to make instruments. The queen praised God for King Solomon’s wisdom to do the right thing. We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

4 NAME THINGS WE CAN PRAISE GOD FOR

Gather toddlers in a circle. Retell the story. Remind toddlers that the queen of Sheba praised God because of Solomon’s wisdom. Ask the toddlers what they can praise God for. Affirm each toddler’s answer by saying, “Yes! We can praise God for ____ (toddler’s answer)!” Continue until each toddler has had a turn. Be prepared with example answers.

SAY “ The queen asked Solomon many questions. She praised God for King Solomon’s wisdom to do the right thing. We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

5 SORT COINS

Provide different colors and sizes of toy coins and muffin tins or bowls for sorting. Show toddlers the difference in the coins (color, size, texture, and so forth), and assist them in sorting the coins. Review the Bible story as the toddlers sort the coins. Monitor safety when working with small items, such as coins, around toddlers.

SAY “ The queen saw Solomon was very wise and rich. She praised God for making Solomon king and giving him wisdom to do the right thing. Solomon is wise, but who is wiser than Solomon? That’s right! Jesus, God’s Son, is wiser than Solomon. Jesus is the King of everything. ”

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1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: PAINT ROCKS

Provide medium- to large-size smooth stones (one per toddler) and washable paint. Provide painting smocks, and allow toddlers to paint the rocks. If desired, provide gem stickers, googly eyes, and other items to decorate the rocks. Tell the Bible story as the toddlers work.

SAY “ The queen of Sheba gave Solomon many gifts, including shiny rocks and precious stones. God’s gift to us is Jesus. Jesus is the King of everything who came to show us how to live and to save us by dying and coming back to life. ”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

“Obey the LORD, and do what’s right,
Do what’s right, do what’s right.
Obey the LORD, and do what’s right.
That’s what God says to do.”

SAY “ Our key passage phrase says, ‘Obey the LORD and do what’s right.’ We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

3 MAKE A HARP

Hot glue four craft sticks together to make a square (one square per toddler). Allow toddlers to decorate their squares using washable markers or crayons. Loop rubber bands (three per toddler) over the square to make a “harp.” Monitor safety, ensuring that only leaders stretch rubber bands to make the harps. Review the Bible story as the toddlers decorate.

SAY “ The queen of Sheba visited King Solomon and brought gifts including wood to make instruments, like harps. The queen praised God for King Solomon’s wisdom to do the right thing. We can praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. ”

4 LOOK AT BOOKS ABOUT ROCKS

Gather age-appropriate books on rocks. Allow toddlers to look at and explore the beautiful rocks found in nature. If desired, bring in rocks or precious stones and nonbreakable magnifying glasses for the toddlers to inspect the rocks.

SAY “ The queen gave Solomon valuable gifts including shiny rocks and precious stones. Who is God’s gift to us? Yes! God’s gift to us is Jesus, and He saves us from our sin. ”

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.