

UNIT 12 | SESSION 1

SOLOMON BECAME KING

1 KINGS 2-3



CHRIST CONNECTION: Solomon asked for wisdom, and God gave it to him. When we ask God for help, He will help us. God helped us by giving us His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins.

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

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- Solomon became the new king of Israel.
- One night, God visited Solomon in a dream. Solomon asked God for wisdom.
- God was happy that Solomon asked for wisdom and made Solomon very wise so that he would know right from wrong.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS: King David told his son, Solomon, “Be brave, do what God says, and good things will happen for our family.” When David died, Solomon became the new king of Israel. One night, God visited Solomon in a dream. God said, “Ask Me for anything, and I will give it to you.” Solomon said, “I’m not sure how to be a good king. Can You help me be wise and know what is right and wrong?” God was happy that Solomon asked for wisdom and made Solomon very wise so that he would know right from wrong. When Solomon woke up, he went to the tabernacle in Jerusalem and gave gifts to God.



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 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.’ When we obey God, we can be wise, like Solomon. ”

2 DECORATE A CROWN

Cut a simple crown shape from yellow paper. Write God gave Solomon wisdom on the crown. Provide painting smocks and bowls with small amounts of various colors of washable fingerpaint in them. Guide the babies in painting gems on the crown shape by dipping a finger in the paint and putting dots on the crown. Monitor closely. Read the gospel gems as the babies paint.

SAY “ Solomon became the new king of Israel. Solomon asked God for wisdom. God gave Solomon wisdom to help him be a good king. ”

3 PLAY WITH GIFT BOXES

Gather various sizes of gift boxes and noisemakers (bells, blocks, and so forth). Place the items in the boxes (one item per box), and use tape and wrapping paper to wrap the boxes. Engage the babies’ curiosity by shaking the boxes. Allow babies to play with gift boxes as you read the gospel gems.

SAY “ What gift did God give Solomon? Yes! God gave Solomon wisdom! Wisdom helped Solomon know right from wrong. Jesus helps us know right from wrong. ”

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 2. 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 DECORATE A CROWN

Draw a simple crown shape on yellow paper. Write God gave King Solomon wisdom below the crown. Provide crayons, dot markers, or gem stickers for toddlers to decorate their crowns. Review the Bible story as the toddlers decorate their crowns.

SAY “ Who became the King of Israel? Solomon! God gave Solomon wisdom to help him know right from wrong. Jesus helps us know right from wrong. ”

3 PASS THE BALL

Encourage toddlers to sit in a circle with a playground ball. Roll a ball to a toddler and say, “God gives ____ (toddler’s name) wisdom!” Guide toddlers to roll the ball to a friend, and repeat the statement, inserting each toddler’s name into the sentence. Continue until every toddler has had a turn. If interest continues, repeat with the statement, “Jesus helps ____ (toddler’s name) know right from wrong!” Retell the Bible story as toddlers play.

SAY “ What did Solomon ask God for? Wisdom! God gave Solomon wisdom to help him know right from wrong. Can Jesus help us know right from wrong? Yes! ”

4 MAKE A WISE CHOICE

Gather toddlers and call out different choices. Encourage toddlers to show a thumbs-up sign for the wise choice, and a thumbs-down sign of the unwise choice. Choices include obeying parents, being kind to friends, throwing toys, sharing toys, taking toys from friends, helping friends, cleaning up when told, not listening, and so forth. Review the Bible story.

SAY “ Why did Solomon need wisdom? Yes! Solomon didn’t know how to be a good king. He asked God to help him know right from wrong. Does God help us know right from wrong? Yes, He does! ”

5 FIND THE CROWNS

Cut out large paper crowns in various colors, and cut each crown into puzzle pieces. Hide pieces around the room. Encourage toddlers to find the pieces. Assist toddlers in sorting the pieces by color and putting the puzzles together. Repeat as interest allows. Review the Bible story as toddlers find and work the puzzles.

SAY “ Did Solomon want to be a good king and follow God? Yes! What did Solomon ask for to be a good king? Wisdom! God helped Solomon, and God helps us. God helped us by giving us His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins. ”

SOLOMON BECAME KING

1 KINGS 2–3

CHRIST CONNECTION: Solomon asked for wisdom, and God gave it to him. When we ask God for help, He will help us. God helped us by giving us His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins.

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

1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: PUT THE STORY IN ORDER

On separate sheets of paper draw symbols to represent the story, such as a crown, a moon, a question mark, the word Wise with a check mark and an X below the word, and a gift. Mix up the papers, and then ask the toddlers to help you put the pictures in order by retelling the story. Ask toddlers if they remember what happened first. Remind the toddlers that Solomon became king, and help them find the “crown” paper. Continue until the story is complete.

SAY “When Solomon asked for God’s help, did God help Solomon? Yes! God helps us just like He helped Solomon. God helps us by giving us His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins.”

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.’ When we obey God, we can be wise, like Solomon.”

3 PLAY “WISE, UNWISE”

Tape a starting and finish line on the floor. Explain that when you say, “Wise,” the toddlers can slowly walk toward the finish line, but when you say, “Unwise,” toddlers should freeze in place. Allow toddlers to start again when you say, “Wise.” Play, calling out, “Wise” and “Unwise” until everyone has reached the finish line. Review the Bible story as toddlers play.

SAY “God gave Solomon wisdom to help him know right from wrong. How do we know right from wrong? Yes! When we ask God for help, He will help us. God helped us by giving us Jesus.”

4 WRAP GIFTS

Provide small boxes, wrapping paper, and tape. Allow toddlers to wrap and decorate the gift boxes. Assist toddlers as needed. Retell the Bible story as the toddlers wrap.

SAY “God visited Solomon in a dream. When Solomon woke up, where did he go? Yes, Solomon went to the tabernacle in Jerusalem. What did he do there? That’s right! Solomon gave gifts to God. God gave us the gift of His Son, Jesus, to rescue 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.