

# DAY 1

Solomon turned away from God • 1 Kings 11:1-8

### READ

1 Kings 11:1-8

### EXPLAIN **②**

The truth of 1 Kings 11:1-8

The trouble begins when you chose to ignore God's commands (1 Kgs 11:1-2). God commands you to love Him with an undivided heart (Deut 6:5), and cling to Him, for He is your life (30:20). To help Israel do this, God commanded them not to marry the idolatrous inhabitants of the land (7:3-4). God also commanded the king not to take many wives (17:17), for these would turn his heart away from God. But Solomon did not listen. He loved his wives more than God and clung to them instead of God (1 Kgs 11:2). When Solomon ignored God's command, the results were exactly as God predicted: his wives turned his heart away from God (11:3). This is where sin always starts, in the heart (Mark 7:21-23). The sin in Solomon's heart grew into open idolatry (1 Kgs 11:4). He worshiped other gods, which was evil in God's sight (11:6). God demands exclusive worship, because He is a jealous God (Exod 20:3, 5). He is different from all other so-called gods (Isa 40:18, 25; 26:5). He is holy (Isa 6:3). He alone is worthy of worship.

### ASK 🔞



- 1. What did Solomon have a lot of? He had a lot of wives. 1,000 of them.
- 2. What did his wives do to his heart? They turned his heart away from God.
- 3. Why was Solomon's idolatry evil in God's eyes? It was evil because God is the only one who is to be worshiped.
- 4. Should Solomon have known better? Yes. God had appeared to Solomon twice, giving him wisdom and clear instructions.

### DISCUSS 5



- 1. What are some rules your parents have for you? How are these rules a blessing for you? Do you see God's commands as a blessing to keep you close to Him?
- 2. We give undivided attention to what we love. Are there any activities you give undivided attention to? How do you feel when someone gives you divided attention?

# DAY 2

### God punished Solomon • 1 Kings 11:9-25

### READ |

1 Kings 11:9-25

### EXPLAIN **②**

The truth of 1 Kings 11:9-25

God was right to be angry with Solomon for rejecting His commandments (1 Kgs 11:9-10). God had loved Solomon from birth (2 Sam 12:24), David had taught him wisely (1 Kgs 2:1-4), and God had appeared to him twice, giving him great wisdom and clear instructions (1 Kgs 3:5–14; 9:1–9). Solomon had every advantage, but he threw it all away. So God disciplined Solomon: He punished him in love in order to correct and restore. He would tear the kingdom away from Solomon (11:11), just as He had warned (9:6-8), but He would still honor His covenant with David. He honored the covenant, first, by not taking the kingdom away during Solomon's reign, for He had promised not to reject him (2 Sam 7:15). Second, He would not remove the entire kingdom from David's line, because He had chosen David and Jerusalem (1 Kgs 11:12-13; cf. 2 Sam 7:16). Third, God kept His promise to discipline Solomon with the blows 2. Have you ever lost special privileges because you of men (2 Sam 7:14; 1 Kgs 11:14-25). In this way God faithfully loved and faithfully disciplined at the same time.

## ASK 🔞

- 1. What advantages did Solomon have? God's love, wisdom, and instruction, and David's teaching.
- 2. How did God punish Solomon? God promised to take much of the kingdom away, and He brought enemies to fight against him.
- 3. Who did God use to discipline Solomon? Hadad in the south and Rezon in the north.
- 4. Did Solomon's sin cancel God's covenant with David?

No. God promised to discipline, but not to reject.

### DISCUSS S



- 1. God acted like a father to Solomon. Parents: how can you imitate God by both loving and disciplining your children? Children: are you thankful for discipline, or would you like it better if your parents excused your sin (Prov 13:24; Heb 12:5-6)?
- did not obey? Has your sin ever hurt others too? Who else was hurt by Solomon's sin?

DAY 3

God replaced Solomon • 1 Kings 11:26-43

### READ 📖



1 Kings 11:26-43

### **EXPLAIN ©**

The truth of 1 Kings 11:26-43

Solomon failed, but God did not. Because Solomon failed, God brought a third enemy, an enemy from within (1 Kgs 11:26), who would divide Israel. God promised to tear ten tribes from Solomon's son and give them to Jeroboam because of Solomon's idolatry (11:29-37). In the end Solomon died and his glory faded away (11:40-43). But God's promise to restore

David's line will never perish (11:39). From the broken stump of the once glorious line a shoot would grow once again (Isa 11:1). Solomon was a failed prince of peace, but Jesus, the Son of David, is the true Prince of Peace. Jesus proved faithful to the very end (Psalm 22; Luke 23:46), and His heart belonged fully to the Father (Matt 26:39; John 4:34). At His first coming He made righteousness available by paying the price of sin (Rom 3:24-26), and at His second coming He will establish His righteous rule as He reigns from Jerusalem over the entire earth (Isa 2:1-4). Solomon failed. We all fail. But Jesus did not. He is our hope.

# ASK 🔞

- 1. What did Ahijah do to show that God was going to take Solomon's kingdom away? Ahijah ripped a new robe into 12 parts. Jeroboam would get ten of them.
- 2. Why did God leave one tribe for Solomon's son? To show His love for David and to keep His promise to David.
- 3. How does God's promise that David's house will not be humbled forever come true? It comes true in Jesus Christ, the Son of David. He is the sinless, victorious, eternal king.

### **DISCUSS** S



- 1. God used other men (Hadad, Rezon, and Jeroboam) to discipline Solomon. How does this reveal God's sovereign power over all the earth?
- 2. How did God have mercy on Solomon in the midst of judgment?

# DAY 4

God's commands are a wall of protection • Psalm 119:161-168

### READ



Psalm 119:161-168

### **EXPLAIN ©**

#### The truth of Psalm 119:161-168

God's commands are for your good. When Solomon ignored God's command, the results were exactly as God predicted (1 Kgs 11:3). How foolish! God's commands are a wall of protection for your own good, not an obstacle to your happiness. When you choose to climb over the wall, you fall into disaster. His commands keep you on the right path and protect you from great evil (Prov 4:11-19) So stand in awe of God's word, even when life is hard (119:161). Rejoice over God's word, like one who finds great treasure (119:162). Love God's law and hate anything that contradicts it (119:163). Remember God's law all day long and continually praise Him for it (119:164). Don't just say you love it: if you love God's law you will also keep it, because God knows your ways and He knows what is best (119:167–168). If you do this, you will find peace because God's law keeps you from stumbling (119:165). You will have hope of salvation instead of fearing judgment (119:166).

### ASK 🔞



- 1. What happens when you ignore or disobey God's commandments? We fall into disaster.
- 2. What happens when you keep God's commandments? We have peace, for God's commands protect us from
- 3. When you see how good God's law is, what is the right response? To love God's law, praise God for His law, and keep God's law.

### **DISCUSS**



- 1. Can you think of any rules at your house that protect you from harm? The last time you chose to disobey a rule, did it lead to happiness or sadness?
- 2. In today's Bible passage, the Psalmist proclaims his love for God's word. Do you love God's word? If so, how is this love seen in your life?

### READ 📖

Hebrews 12:3-11

### **EXPLAIN ©**

The truth of Hebrews 12:6

Discipline hurts, doesn't it? When God disciplined Solomon, it brought great trouble to Solomon and to all Israel. But discipline is also a good thing. First, it shows that God is faithful (2 Sam 7:14). Second, it shows that God is loving. If you are God's child, God disciplines you because He loves you (Heb 12:6). But why would God cause pain to someone He loves? Is it because He is condemning you for your sin? No, because all your sins past, present, and future—are already forgiven (Rom 8:1). Then why does He discipline? First, God disciplines the one He loves in order to correct. He allows straying believers to experience hardship in order to draw them back to Himself. Second, God disciplines His children in order to prevent future sin—like Paul's "thorn in the flesh" that kept him from exalting himself (2 Cor 12:7). Third, God teaches His children through discipline, using hardships to deepen their faith and reveal His character, as He did with Job. Be thankful that God is a true Father, who disciplines you because He loves you.

# ASK 🔞



- 1. Who does God discipline? Those He loves.
- 2. Why does God discipline believers? To correct sin, prevent sin, and teach believers.
- 3. Is God's discipline of believers the same as His punishment of unbelievers? No. There is no condemnation for those who have trusted Jesus for salvation.

### DISCUSS S



- 1. Parents: How consistent have you been to discipline your children? What does this show about your love for them? Do your children know you love them in the midst of discipline?
- 2. Children: Is discipline enjoyable? Can you explain why it is good even though it is painful?

### **NEXT WEEK**

**God punishes Jeroboam** 

1 Kings 12:1-33; 14:1-18



# God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43

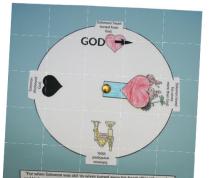


God demands exclusive worship.





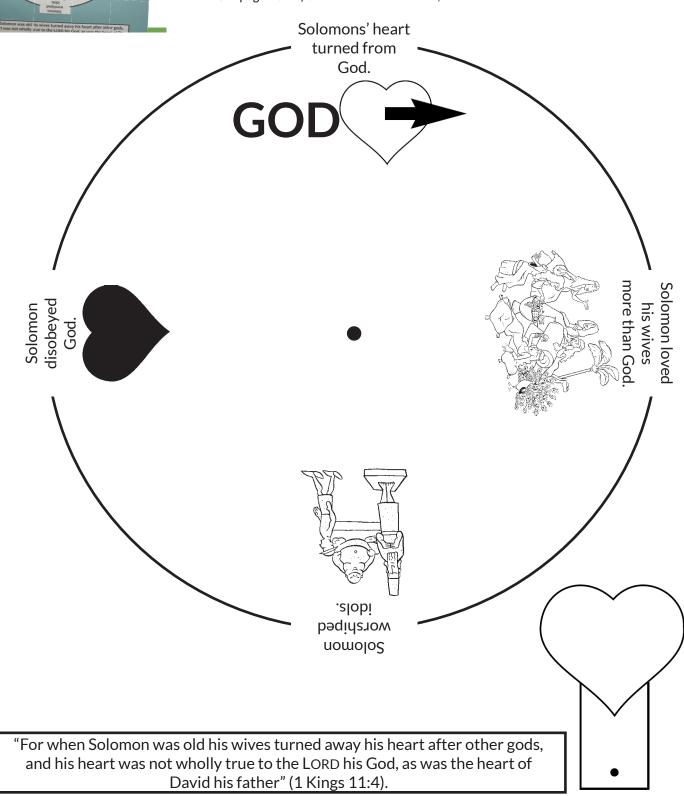
God disciplines those whose hearts turn away from Him.



God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43

# Solomon's Heart Turned

See page 132 of the Teacher Book Year 2, Book 2







# Life of Solomon Review Book

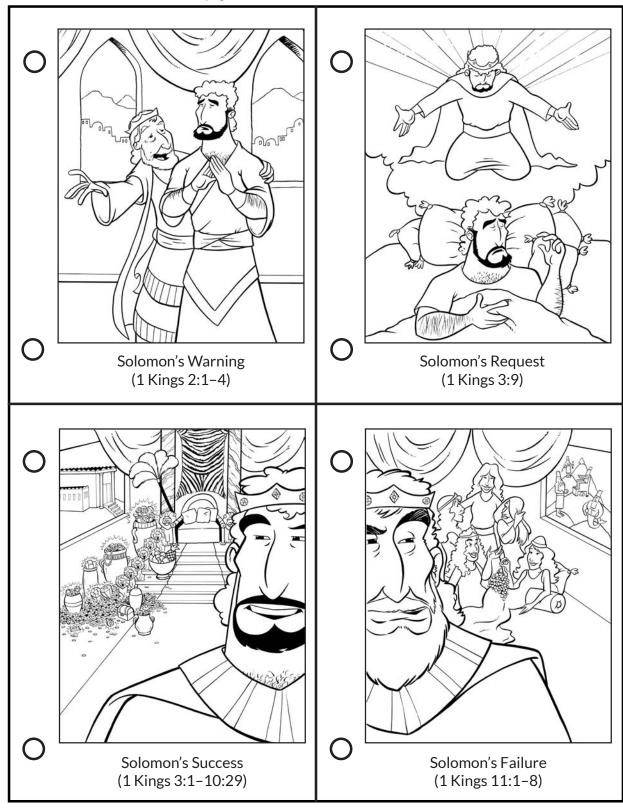
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# Life of Solomon Review Book

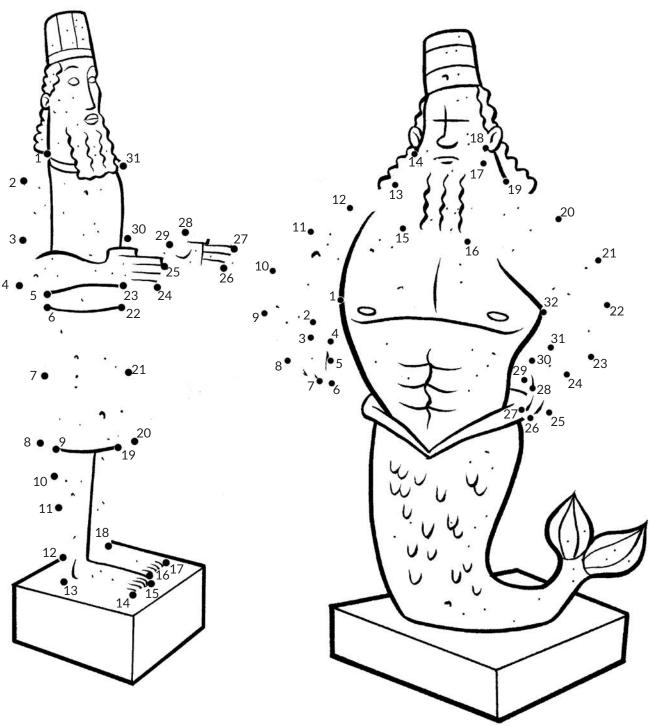
See page 133 of the Teacher Book Year 2, Book 2





# Connect the Dot

What did Solomon end up worshiping? Connect the dots to find out.



After years of incredible success, Solomon turned his heart from God. Instead of clinging to God with all his heart, he clung to idols. God was angry and sent enemies to fight against Solomon.

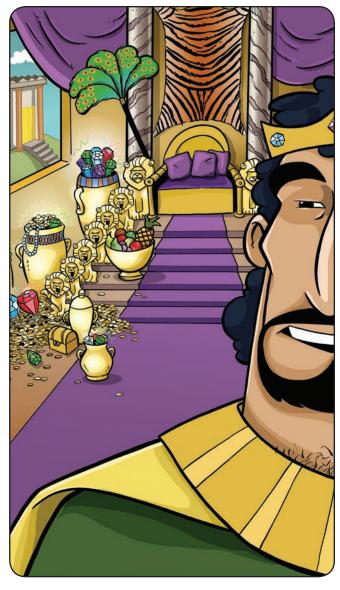


God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43

# What's the Difference?

Circle differences between the two pictures below.





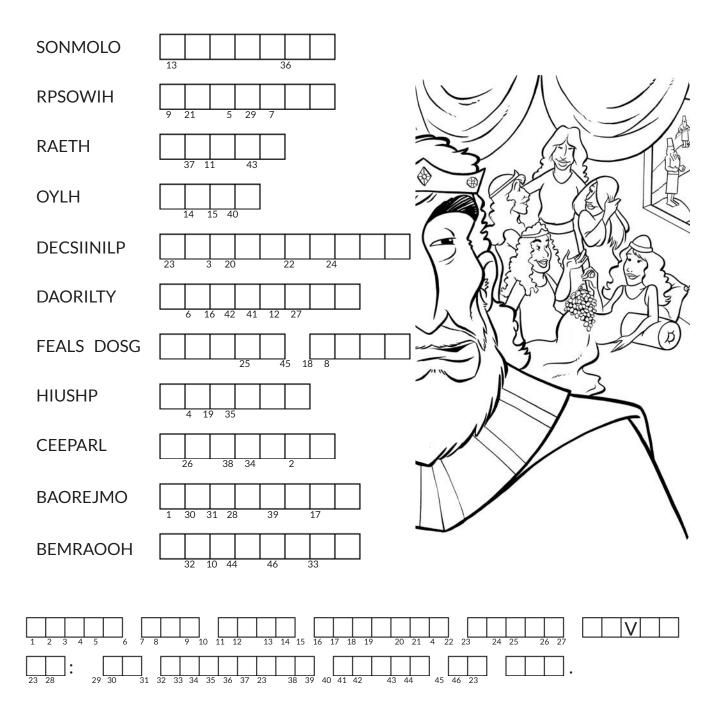
What does it mean to obey God with all your heart?	
Define the word <i>discipline</i> .	
Define the word <b>discipline</b> .	



God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43

# **Double Puzzle**

Unscramble each of the clue words. Then copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number at the bottom.





# God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43

# See What You Know!

AMI	E			_				
	God	l disciplines	those whose	hear	rts turn away	from Him.		
1.	True or False: God told Solomon to marry any woman he wanted.							
2.	Was Solomon obedient to God's command?							
	Yes	No						
3.	True or False: G	God was pleased with Solomon's actions.						
4.	Because Solomon did not keep God's commandments, God would "surely							
	the kingdom away" from Solomon (1 Kgs 11:11).							
	lead	tear	share	g	ive			
5.	True or False: C	God showed	Solomon me	rcy k	oy not tearing	g the kingdom away while h		
	was alive.							
6.	6. God also punished Solomon by raising up an against him (1 Kgs							
	river	army	murder		adversary			
7	God showed mercy to David by giving him another son named							
8.	Define the word <i>heart</i> .							
9.	Define the wor	d <b>holy</b>						
10	.What should o	ur heart's r	esponse be t	to G	od's holy dis	scipline?		



# God punishes Solomon

1 KINGS 11:1-43





God disciplines those whose hearts turn away from Him.



"And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice" (1 Kgs 11:9).

# **Supporting Truths**

- 1. God demands that we worship Him alone.
- 2. Idolatrous loves steal our hearts away from God.
- 3. God disciplines those who turn away from Him.
- 4. God is merciful even in His discipline.
- 5. Jesus succeeded where Solomon failed.

# **Objectives**

- 1. State that Solomon's heart turned away from God to his wives and their idols.
- 2. List several things in our lives that turn our hearts from God.
- 3. Describe the painful consequences of Solomon's sin.
- 4. Explain why God did not completely reject Solomon or his descendants.
- 5. Compare and contrast Jesus and Solomon.

# STUDY THE BIBLE LESSON

God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43



# **Lesson Summary**

After years of incredible success, Solomon turned his heart from God. Instead of clinging to God with all his heart, he clung to his wives. He loved his wives more than he loved God, so he followed them into idolatry. God was angry and sent enemies to fight against Solomon. Even worse, God promised to tear the kingdom away from Solomon. But because of His faithfulness and love for David, God did not completely reject Solomon. David's line would become great once again.

# Spotlight on the Gospel

Although Solomon's sin humbled David's line, David's line has become great once again. Jesus Christ, David's Son, did what Solomon could never do: He remained loyal to God with all His heart to the very end. As He did, He paid sin's price and opened the way for sinners to become children of God. One day He will return to earth and establish His kingdom in Jerusalem. His kingdom will be far greater than Solomon's, and those whose hearts are His will reign with Him forever.







God punishes Solomon
1 Kings 11:1-43



God punishes Jeroboam 1 Kings 12:1-33; 14:1-18

**UNITED KINGDOM** 

**DIVIDED KINGDOM** 

# **Lesson Commentary**

God disciplines those whose hearts turn away from Him.

Solomon's kingdom was stunningly successful (1 Kgs 3:13). He was the wisest man on earth (4:29–31), he built the majestic temple and many other buildings (6–7; 9:15), and he made the kingdom so unbelievably wealthy (10:27). Even more important, Solomon loved and obeyed the LORD (3:4). Even 20 years into his reign, God was still pleased with Solomon (9:1–5). Was Solomon, whose name means "peace," the prince of peace who would rule Israel with righteousness forever? Tragically,1 Kings 11 proves he was not. So we must wait for another, a Messiah who is even more worthy than Israel's most glorious king. In the meantime, the LORD disciplined Solomon in order to punish, correct, and restore Israel's wayward king.

# Solomon turned away from the LORD (11:1-8)

The trouble began when Solomon chose to ignore God's commands (11:1–2). God commanded His people to love Him with an undivided heart (Deut 6:5), and cling to Him, for He is our life (30:20). To help His people do this, God commanded Israel not to marry the idolatrous inhabitants of the land (7:3–4). God also commanded the king not to take many wives (17:17), for these would turn his heart away from God. But Solomon did not listen. He loved his wives more than God and clung to them instead of God (1 Kgs 11:2). How foolish! God's commands are a wall of protection for our own good. When we choose to climb over wall, we fall into disaster (Ps 119:165).

When Solomon ignored God's command, the results were exactly as God predicted: his wives turned his heart away from God (1 Kgs 11:3). This is where sin always starts, in the *heart* (Mark 7:21–23). Sin starts at *the center of our desires, affections, thoughts, and attitudes*, and it may grow there before we see any outward manifestations of disobedience. That is why we must be so careful to guard our hearts (Prov

4:23). We might think that it is only young people who need this warning, since their

THINK ABOUT IT
Sin tempts the
hearts of both the
young and the old.



hearts are so moldable. But Solomon's sin came not in his youth but in his old age (1 Kgs 11:4). From childhood to old age, we must be careful to remain loyal to our first love (Rev 2:4).

The sin in Solomon's heart grew into open idolatry (1 Kgs 11:4). His personal tolerance of foreign gods blossomed into public promotion. Solomon became an open idolater, even building shrines to false gods on the hills surrounding Yahweh's temple (11:7–8). He worshiped Ashtoreth, the goddess of love and fertility whose rituals involved gross immorality. He worshiped Milcom (Molech) and Chemosh, violent gods whose rituals included child sacrifice. It was not that Solomon completely rejected the LORD—the LORD's temple was still the most magnificent—but Solomon worshiped other gods alongside the LORD. He did not worship the LORD alone (11:6).

This division of loyalties was no problem for Israel's neighbors during the days of Solomon because none of their gods demand-

THINK ABOUT IT
The LORD hates
anything less than
exclusive devotion.



ed exclusive worship. Why should the LORD be any different? It also doesn't seem so bad to many today, who wrongly assume there are many gods and many ways to heaven. Shouldn't all religions be allowed to have a voice? But in the LORD's eyes, Solomon's worship of idols—and all idolatry—was downright evil (11:6). In the first commandment, the LORD demanded exclusive worship because He is a jealous God (Exod 20:3, 5). He is *different* from all other so-called gods (Isa 40:18, 25; 26:5). He is *holy* (Isa 6:3). He alone is worthy of worship.

### The LORD punished Solomon (11:9-25)

The LORD was rightly angry with Solomon for rejecting His commandments (1 Kgs 11:9–10). The LORD had loved Solomon from birth (2 Sam 12:24), David had taught him wisely (1 Kgs 2:1–4), and the

# STUDY THE BIBLE LESSON

### God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43



LORD had appeared to him twice, giving him unrivaled wisdom and clear instructions (3:5-14; 9:1-9). Solomon had every advantage. If the right education, family heritage, or unique spiritual experience could make a person righteous, Solomon would have remained loyal forever. But the righteousness God demands comes only by faith, by clinging to God alone (Hab 2:4).

This enemy, arising from within (11:26), would divide Israel. Through His prophet Ahijah, God promised to tear ten tribes from Solomon's son and give them to Jeroboam because of Solomon's idolatry (11:29-37). The robe torn by Ahijah calls to mind Samuel's torn robe when the kingdom was ripped away from Saul (1 Sam 15:27–28). Solomon's sin was having massive consequences.

In His anger, the LORD disciplined Solomon: He punished him in love in order to correct and restore. Although angry,

But God did not treat Solomon exactly like Saul. He treated Solomon as a son, for the sake of David, disciplining him as a straying child. Four times we read that God had not totally rejected David's line (1 Kgs 11:32, 34, 36, 39). The fourth time even speaks of a future restoration: "I will afflict the offspring of David because of this, but not forever" (11:39).

In the end Solomon died and his glory faded away

(11:40-43). But God's promise to restore David's line will



the LORD's anger is not like man's. It is anger under control, purposeful, faithful, and accomplishing God's perfect will. He would tear the kingdom away from Solomon (1 Kgs 11:11), just as He had warned (9:6-8), but He would still honor His

never perish. From the broken stump of the once glorious line a shoot would grow once again (Isa 11:1). Solomon lasting covenant with David. was a failed prince of peace, but Jesus, the Son of David, He honored the covenant, first, by not taking the kingis the true Prince of Peace. Jesus proved faithful to the very end (Psalm 22; Luke 23:46), and His heart belonged fully to the Father (Matt 26:39; John 4:34). At His first coming He made righteousness available by paying the price of sin (Rom 3:24-26), and at His second coming He will establish His righteous rule as He reigns from Jerusalem over the entire earth (Isa 2:1-4).

Solomon's sin shows us that the temptations of this world try to steal away our hearts, but these temptations never give the happiness and peace they promise. Instead, when we sin we bring God's discipline upon ourselves. On the other hand, Jesus shows us that the reward for undivided devotion to God far surpasses any passing pleasure promised by sin. All those who do not turn away from the LORD will be welcomed into His kingdom to reign with Him forever (Rev 3:21). Until that time, Christ will strongly support those whose hearts are fully His (2 Chr 16:9). They will know His peace in their hearts even now, no matter what turmoil swirls around them (Phil 4:4-8).

dom away during Solomon's reign, for He had promised not to reject him (2 Sam 7:15). Second, He would not remove the entire kingdom from David's line, because He had chosen David and Jerusalem (1 Kgs 11:12-13; cf. 2 Sam 7:16). Third, God kept His promise to discipline Solomon with the blows of men (2 Sam 7:14). Hadad in the south and Rezon in the north had long been enemies of Israel, having suffered greatly at the hands of David



and Joab (1 Kgs 11:14-25). From a human perspective, this looks like the normal flow of history, but the Bible lets us see that all this is the LORD's work. God had been orchestrating the details of

Solomon's discipline long before Solomon was even king.

### The LORD replaced Solomon (11:26-43)

A third enemy would do more than fight against Israel.

### **Lesson Outline**

God disciplines those whose hearts turn away from Him.

#### **AGES 3–5 LESSON OUTLINE**



- 1. Solomon disobeyed God by taking many wives (11:1-2).
- 2. Solomon's wives turned his heart away from God (11:3-8).
- 3. God punished Solomon but still loved him (11:9-43).

### **AGES 6-11 LESSON OUTLINE**



- 1. Solomon turned away from the LORD (11:1-8).
  - Solomon loved many women who did not love the LORD (11:1-2).
  - Solomon's wives turned his heart away from the LORD (11:3).
  - Solomon worshiped other gods alongside the LORD (11:4-8).

- 2. The LORD punished Solomon (11:9-25).
  - The LORD was angry with Solomon for rejecting His commandments (11:9–10).
  - The LORD would take the kingdom away from Solomon's son (11:11–13).
  - The LORD sent enemies against Solomon (11:14–25).
- 3. Yahweh replaced Solomon (11:26-43).
  - The LORD gave ten tribes to Jeroboam because of Solomon's idolatry (11:26–33).
  - The LORD left one tribe to Solomon's son for David's sake (11:34–37).
  - The LORD would humble David's descendants, but not forever (11:38–39).
  - Solomon died and his son Rehoboam became king (11:40-43).



# TEACH THE BIBLE LESSON

God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43



### **Lesson Questions**

Use these questions to teach or to review this week's lesson.



### Ages 3-5 Lesson Questions

- What did Solomon have a lot of?
   He had a lot of wives. 1.000 of them.
- 2. What did his wives do to his heart?
  They turned his heart away from God.
- What did God do to Solomon? God punished Solomon.
- 4. How did God punish Solomon? God brought enemies to fight against him. God also promised to take most of the kingdom away from his son.



### Ages 6-11 Lesson Questions

- How did Solomon disobey God?
   Solomon broke God's law by taking many foreign wives.
- 2. Where did Solomon's sin start?
  In his heart.
- Why was Solomon's idolatry evil in God's eyes?It was evil because God is the only one who is to be worshiped.
- 4. Should Solomon have known better?

Yes. God had appeared to Solomon twice, giving him wisdom and clear instructions.

- 5. Who did God use to discipline Solomon?
  - God used Hadad in the south, Rezon in the north, and Jeroboam from within the nation itself.
- 6. What did Ahijah do to show that God was going to take Solomon's kingdom away? Ahijah ripped a new robe into 12 parts. Jeroboam would get ten of them.
- 7. Why did God leave one tribe (in addition to Judah) for Solomon's son? God did this out of love for David and to keep His promise to David.
- 8. How does God's promise that David's house will not be humbled forever come true? It comes true in Jesus Christ, the Son of David. He lived a perfect life, conquered sin, and will one day return to reign as king over all the earth.

### **Lesson Activities**

Choose from the following ideas to introduce, illustrate, and apply this week's lesson.

# AGES 3-5





#### **DESIGNED TO PROTECT**

God's laws are designed to keep us from getting hurt. Bring in some yellow caution tape, orange cones, or piece of fence and set it up in the class. Tell the children that this is designed to protect them from getting into something that may hurt them. Explain that God's laws work the same way. God's laws don't limit our fun, they protect us from harm. Tell the children that in today's lesson we're going to see what happened to Solomon when he didn't obey God's laws.

#### SIN DESTROYS

Build a tall tower out of blocks. Talk about how much you love your tower. Then tell the children to destroy it as quickly as they can. Ask the children if it took longer to build the tower or tear it down? Tear it down. Solomon had an amazing kingdom, but when he sinned that kingdom was torn apart very quickly. That is what sin does: it ruins things. We'll see this in today's lesson.



#### **BEGIN SIN THE HEART**

Sin starts in the heart (Mark 7:21–23). Bring a few seeds to class and plant them in a small cup of dirt while the children watch. Allow the children to help you pour a few drops of water into the cup and set it under a light. Explain how the seed will grow into a mature plant, just like the sin we allow into our heart.

#### **RIP THE ROBE**

Bring a piece of fabric and scissors to class. Cut the fabric into twelve pieces, illustrating Ahijah's message to Jeroboam. You might give each child a piece of the fabric to take home as a reminder of today's lesson.

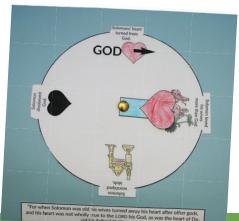


#### **SOLOMON'S HEART TURNED**

See Year 2 Craft Book, Book 2. Materials: Craft sheet, construction paper, brads, scissors, glue, and crayons.

Directions: Pre-cut the circle, heart arrow, and verse from the craft sheet. Have children color the pictures on the circle and also the heart arrow. Glue the circle to a sheet of construction paper. Attach the heart arrow with a brad. Glue the verse to the bottom of the construction paper.

Solomon's Heart Turned See Year 2 Craft Book, Book 2



# TEACH THE BIBLE LESSON

God punishes Solomon • 1 Kings 11:1-43









#### **CONSEQUENCES OF SIN**

Bring to class a pair of handcuffs, and allow a few children to be "cuffed." Then talk about who wears handcuffs. What does a person have to do to be arrested by the police? What would our city be like if the police never did anything to people who do wrong things? What would it be like if your parents let you do whatever you wanted and never punished you for bad choices? We should be thankful that God hates sin and punishes it. The consequences or penalties for sin are meant to help us avoid it in the future.

#### **GROWING LOUDER AND LOUDER**

As Solomon's life progressed, he developed an increasing tolerance for sin. Sin has a cumulative effect when we tolerate it. Select a few children to make a soft humming sound. Slowly select more and more until the whole class is filled with the noise. Try to speak softly above the noise. Explain that the more sin we tolerate in our lives, the less we can listen to God's Word. In today's lesson we are going to learn about Solomon's toleration of sin.



#### LOVE GOD, NOT SELF

We mostly love ourselves, which means we seek to benefit ourselves. Ask the children who deserves a special treat. After all the "me, me, me" has died down, explain that our hearts naturally cry out "me, me, me." All we care about is ourselves. We may do good things, but we can never stop our hearts from being self-centered. Only Christ can give us a new heart that is able to love others and obey God consistently.

#### **VOLATILE MIXTURE**

Combine a small amount of baking soda and vinegar while the children watch. What happens? They don't mix! Neither does the worship of God and anything else. Solomon tried to combine the worship of God and idols but God was angry with his sin (1 Kgs 11:9).

Life of Solomon Review Book See Year 2 Craft Book, Book 2



# LIFE OF SOLOMON REVIEW BOOK

See Year 2 Craft Book, Book 2.

Materials: Craft sheet, hole punch, yarn, and crayons.

**Directions:** Have students color and cut out all pictures from the craft sheet. Assemble the book in proper order according to the life of Solomon. Hole punch 2 holes on the binding. Tie yarn through each hole to hold the book together.



# AGES 9-11





#### **DIVIDED ATTENTION**

Hold up an object on one side of the room and ask one of the children to do the same on the other side of the room. Tell the children to look at one object. Then tell them to look at the other. Then tell them to look at both objects at once. It's not possible! When you turn to look at one, you are turning away from the other. That is how it is with our hearts: either they will turn towards God or away from God.

#### A SLOW DRIFT

What happens when you tread water in the ocean? You drift. Underwater currents slowly carry you along in whichever direction they're moving. After playing out in the ocean for some time you may find that your towel on the beach is much farther away than you remembered. Solomon slowly drifted away from God through the idolatrous worship of his wives.



#### A SLOW DECAY

Has anyone ever had a cavity? A cavity is the tiny hole in the tooth that remains after tooth decay has been removed. This decay is caused by bacteria living in the mouth. Cavities, when they first appear, are not very painful. But cavities, if left untreated, can become extremely painful and cause many other problems: loss of tooth, gum disease, and infection. Sin has a similar effect on our lives. We sin a little and then a little more, and the first sin doesn't seem so bad. However, before too long we are overwhelmed by the consequences of our sin.

#### **LEFT OVERS**

Bring two small candy bars to class. Give one away. Then, open the next candy bar and take a bite out of it in front of the children. Ask the children if they would rather have this candy bar or the one you previously passed out? Nobody wants a left over, half eaten candy bar when fresh, full ones are available. The same is true concerning our worship of God—He demands full, undivided worship.



#### **TRUE FRIENDS**

When Solomon married more and more women, he got himself into trouble. Instead of serving God, Solomon tried to please his wives by serving their gods. Solomon's sin made God angry with him and was the reason that the kingdom broke into two parts. This lesson can be very helpful for a Christian because it shows us what happens when a person turns away from God. Solomon married many evil women and was turned away from God, and Christians likewise can be tempted to turn away from God. It is important to know that if your friends encourage you to disobey the Bible and to sin, they really are not friends. A friend should help you to obey God and live according to His Word. Ask the children to think about their friend's influence on them.