



King Solomon Asks to Be Wise

Lesson Aim: To know we should ask God for wisdom.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Builds His Kingdom

THE WORD

Bible Story: 1 Kings 3:5-14

What He has done: God gave King Solomon wisdom.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Be wise."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28

Unit 9: The King Who Builds His Kingdom			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
43	King Solomon Asks to Be Wise, 1 Kings 3:5-14	God gave King Solomon wisdom.	To know we should ask God for wisdom.
44	King Josiah Obeys, 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25	God saw King Josiah obey.	To know we should obey God.
45	Ezra Teaches God's People, Ezra 7:6, 8-10	God helped Ezra teach His people.	To love learning about God.
46	Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall, Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	God helped Nehemiah rebuild the city wall.	To know we should work hard together.
47	Queen Esther Helps God's People, Esther 2:7, 9; 4:14-16; 5:1-2; 7:1-3	God gave Queen Esther courage to help His people.	To know God gives us courage.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Romans 11:33-36. Please join us in praying, "Lord, just like King Solomon asked for wisdom, we ask You to grant wisdom to us and to the children we teach, that we might all bring You glory and point others to You. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of praying hands
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Be wise."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Blessed Are Those" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Guide Me" "I Can Do Everything" "I Will Always Obey" "I Will Listen" "It's Praise Time" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "God Is So Good" "This Is the Day" "Trust and Obey" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Cedarмонт Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 9, Lesson 43
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: 1 Kings 3:5-14	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Kings 3:5 Visual: Crown or picture of a crown
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Wise Prayer Hands	Flesh-colored and red standard-size sturdy paper, labels, tape or glue, stickers, crayons or markers
		Game: Wise Hearts	"Wise Prayer Hands" crafts and heart shapes
		Game: Wise Choices	1 green and 1 red piece of standard size paper, tape
		Snack: Wise Choice	A healthy snack
	Circle of Prayer	None	
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 9, Lesson 43 Color This Story: "King Solomon Asks to Be Wise"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: 1 Kings 3:5-14	None
	Up to 10	Game: Building the Verse	Sturdy paper, large toy blocks, tape
	Up to 10	Game: Listen and Obey	Bible
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about making wise choices

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Be wise

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of praying hands. **Let this sticker of praying hands help you remember to pray and ask God to help you be wise. Today's Whisper Verse is "Be wise."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Be wise."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with this hand motion:

"(Be) wise." Using the right hand, create the letter "X" hand shape by bending the pointer finger at both knuckles while the rest of the hand remains in a fist. Wave the letter "X" hand shape up and down in front of the forehead.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Be wise," Proverbs 23:19. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The King who builds His kingdom

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.

It's Praise Time—that means it's time to praise God together. He is the King who builds His kingdom. His kingdom is filled with those who trust and obey God. Our God is very wise. He knows all things and makes all the best choices. God helps us be wise, too. That is today's Whisper Verse: "Be wise." Let's whisper that together. Review Whisper Verse together: "Be wise." Include sign language.



In today's Bible story, we will learn about young King Solomon; he asked God to help him be wise. Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know about King Solomon's prayer. Let's call them both to come out for a visit. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 9, Lesson 43.



Just as Solomon did, we can ask God to teach us to be wise. Then, we can listen for His answer. Sing: "Guide Me" and "I Will Listen."

It is very wise to obey God because He is the wisest of all. One way we can obey God is by giving Him our offering. Let's do that right now! Play: "Trust and Obey" while collecting the offering.

Jesus tells us that when we hear His Word and obey it, we will be blessed. That means we will be happy. Let's sing the words of Jesus in our new Bible Memory Verse Song. Sing: "Blessed are Those."



Solomon asked for wisdom

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;

Point to eyes.

My mouth quiet as can be,

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

I will listen to hear,

Cup hand around ear.

How God loves you and me.

Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned King David invited Mephibosheth to eat at his table. Today, we will hear about David's son, King Solomon, and how God answered his prayer to be wise. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Kings 3:5.

WATCH THE WORD: 1 KINGS 3:5-14

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a crown or a picture of a crown. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- In a dream God told King Solomon,
- "Ask Me for anything."
- King Solomon prayed, "Let my heart be wise,
- So I can be a good king."

- He did not ask for riches,
- Or other selfish things.
- So, God gave Solomon the wisest heart,
- And more riches than the other kings.



Who talked to King Solomon in his dream? (God.) Let's find our answer in the Bible.

Read 1 Kings 3:5 from the teacher's Bible.

What did King Solomon ask God to help him be? (To be wise.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Be wise." Include sign language or hand motions.



Ask for wisdom

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: WISE PRAYER HANDS

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of King Solomon asking to be wise.

Supplies: Flesh-colored and red standard-size sturdy paper, labels, tape or glue, stickers, crayons or markers

Prepare: From flesh-colored paper, fold a standard-size sturdy sheet of paper in half like a book. Trace your hand on the paper with the pinky side of your hand along the fold, your fingers together, and thumb slightly extended. Cut out the hand shape, being careful to leave the fold. On a label or on the front of the hands print: **"Solomon Asks to Be Wise" 1 Kings 3:5-14**. Cut a paper rectangle to fit across the inside of the open hands as a pocket. From red paper, cut a heart that will fit in the pocket. Print on the heart: **"Be wise."**

Optional: The teacher may choose to keep the heart shape until the class is playing the game "Wise Hearts."

Directions:

1. Tape or glue the label to the front of the hands.
2. Open the hands and tape the rectangle pocket inside.
3. Place the heart shape inside the pocket and close the hands.
4. Decorate the hands with stickers and crayons or markers.

Craft Discussion:

- **What do you dream about?** (Children respond.) **King Solomon had a special dream because God really talked to Him!**
- **What did King Solomon ask God to help him be?** (To be wise.)
- **That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions: "Be wise."
- **With the wisdom God gave him, King Solomon helped the people make wise choices.**
- **Who helped King Solomon make wise choices?** (God.) **You can pray for God to help you be wise, too!**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: WISE HEARTS

Purpose: Children will pray to ask God for wisdom.

Supplies: "Wise Prayer Hands" crafts and heart shapes

Optional: If you've already given the children their "Be wise." heart shapes, have them open their "Wise Prayer Hands" and hold the heart shape while the class prays for them.

King Solomon asked God to help him be wise. Let's pray for God to help us be wise, too.

Directions:

1. Children hold the "Wise Prayer Hands" craft they created.
2. Teacher holds the heart shapes on which "Be wise" is written.
3. Call each child to you individually.
4. **Do you want to be wise?** (Child answers, "Yes.")
5. Everyone prays together: **"God, please help child's name to be wise. Amen."**
6. Teacher gives the heart shape to the child.
7. Child puts the heart shape into the pocket inside their "Wise Prayer Hands" craft.
8. **God is so happy you asked to be wise!**
9. Repeat for every child.

GAME: WISE CHOICES

Purpose: Children will practice choosing between wise and foolish choices.

Supplies: 1 green and 1 red piece of standard size paper, tape

Prepare: On the green paper, print: **"Wise Choice"** and draw a happy face. On the red paper, print: **"Foolish Choice"** and draw a sad face. Tape the "Wise Choice" sign on one side of the room and the "Foolish Choice" sign on the opposite side of the room.

God will help you be wise. He will help you know wise choices from foolish ones. Listen very closely. If you hear a wise choice, walk quickly to the green "Wise Choice" sign. If you hear a foolish choice, walk quickly to the red "Foolish Choice" sign.

Directions:

1. Children stand in the center of the room.
2. Teacher reads one of the choices below.
Choices:
 - a. I choose to hug my sad friend.
 - b. I choose to steal the crayon.
 - c. I choose to throw my paper.
 - d. I choose to pray.
 - e. I choose to hit someone.
 - f. I choose to help my teacher clean up after the craft.
3. Children run to the sign they believe is correct.
4. Discuss whether the choice was a wise or foolish one.
5. Children return to the center of the room.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 for each choice.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: WISE CHOICE

Purpose: Children enjoy the wise choice of a healthy snack and discuss wisdom.

Snack Suggestion: A healthy snack

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank you for our blessings. Thank you for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "Be wise."
 - **Last time, we learned David was king. Then, his son Solomon became king.**
 - **Was King Solomon young or old when he became king?** (Young.) **King Solomon was young, just like you are young. He wanted to be wise so he could be a good king.**
 - **Who do you know that is wise?** (Mommy, Daddy, grandparents, teacher, pastor, older brother or sister, etc.)
 - **Do you think God will help you be wise if you ask like King Solomon did?** (Yes.)



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Wise Prayer Hands" craft. Tell someone that King Solomon asked God to help him be wise.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how you can ask God to help you be wise.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "King Solomon Asks to Be Wise." Discuss Bible story and play Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Blessed Are Those," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: 1 KINGS 3:5-14

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **In a dream God told King Solomon,** (Point to heaven.)
- **“Ask me for anything.”** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **King Solomon prayed, “Let my heart be wise,** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **So I can be a good king.”** (Put hands on head like a crown.)

- **He did not ask for riches** (Shake head “no.”)
- **Or other selfish things.** (Place palms out flat as if refusing something.)
- **So God gave Solomon the wisest heart** (Point to heart.)
- **And more riches than the other kings.** (Spread arms wide.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it.” Luke 11:28

GAME: BUILDING THE VERSE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Sturdy paper, 13 large toy blocks, tape

Prepare: Print each word of the Bible Memory Verse and reference on an individual strip of paper. Tape a strip each on a toy block.

Teacher Tip: For groups of less than 13 children, give some children more than one block. For groups of more than 13 children, have children take turns or create additional sets of words and blocks to play the game simultaneously.

Directions:

1. Say the Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each word for children to repeat.
2. Give a block to each child and help the children stand in the order of the Bible Memory Verse.
3. Ask the child holding the “Blessed” block to place it on the ground.
4. Have the children say, “Blessed.”
5. Repeat with each part of the verse in order until all the blocks are set on the floor in order.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: LISTEN AND OBEY

Purpose: Children practice obeying God's Word as instructed in the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Bible marked with the passages in the list below

Jesus says, "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." That is our Bible Memory Verse. We find God's words in the Bible. What should we do when we hear God's Word? (Listen and obey.) I am going to read God's Word and then I will ask you about different choices some children made. If the child obeyed God's Word, clap and stand up tall. If the child did not obey God's Word, sit down.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle as the teacher reads from a Bible in the center of the circle.
2. Read the Bible Verses and examples, allowing the children to respond after each example:

The Bible says, "We will share." Numbers 10:32

Patti shared her crayons with her friend. Did Patti obey God's Word?

Sarah didn't let her friend use her crayons. Did Sarah obey God's Word?

The Bible says, "Show love." Hosea 1:7

Bobby hit his sister. Did Bobby obey God's Word?

Sammy hugged his mommy. Did Sammy obey God's Word?

The Bible says, "Do not steal." Leviticus 19:11a

Billy took Tommy's toy car. Tommy was sad. Did Billy obey God's Word?

Molly asked to hold Sally's doll. She waited patiently for her turn to hold the doll.

Did Molly obey God's Word?



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about making wise choices.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 9, Lesson 43: King Solomon Asks to Be Wise

PONDER! Read 1 Kings 3:5-14 with your family. King Solomon prayed to God in a dream. God said King Solomon could ask Him for anything. What did King Solomon ask God? What would you ask for if you were king? Who do you know that is wise? Pray to ask God to help you be wise, just like King Solomon.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, please help me be wise like King Solomon. Help me make wise choices. Amen."

PLAY! King Solomon used his wisdom to make wise choices for his people. Ask each family member to tell you about a wise choice that he or she has made. Play a game that involves making choices. Cheer each time any player makes a wise choice!

Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse: Luke 11:28

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it."