



# Wise King Solomon

The Story — Lesson 13

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 3 and 4, 2 Chronicles 9

**Key Verse:** Don't be wise in your own eyes. Have respect for the Lord. —Proverbs 3:7 NIV

**Bible Truth:** God's faithful love continues forever.

**Age 2—rising 2nd grade:** Read *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 13: "Wise King Solomon"

**Rising 3rd—6th grades:** Read *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 13: "The King Who Had It All"

## STEP 1: Come Together

Gather the family and tell them you're going to spend a few minutes studying God's word together. Pray and thank God for giving you time together and for calling us to himself.

Ask your younger and older children to start thinking about what they want for Christmas (or an upcoming birthday). Really let them get into it. Ask them to imagine what they might ask for if there were no limits! After they've all had a chance to list things they'd ask for, say, **In today's story, we are going to hear a story about a king in the Bible. God asked this king what gift he would like. What do you think he said?** (various answers) **I think we'll all be surprised by what this king asked."**

## STEP 2: Hear the Story

Read today's story from your copy of *The Story*, or read 1 Kings 3:3-14.

## STEP 3: Explore More

Review these catechism questions and answers to follow up on today's story. Read the questions and answers, then repeat each one, having your child repeat back the answer.

**Question 33:** What was the sin of our first parents? (Eating the forbidden fruit.)

**Question 34:** Who tempted Adam and Eve to this sin? (Satan tempted Eve first, and then he used her to tempt Adam.)

## STEP 4: Dig Deeper

Read (or have your older children read) 1 Kings 11:13. Solomon was blessed with incredible wisdom, but still made plenty of mistakes. Even though God judged Solomon for worshiping false gods, there was hope in God's punishment. God gave Solomon good news mixed with the bad news. The bad news was that God was taking the kingdom away from Solomon, but the good news was that he promised not to do it until Solomon's son was king. And even then God promised not to take all of Israel away, but to allow Solomon's son to be king over one tribe. God did this for the sake of David and for the sake of Jerusalem. You see, God had promised David that he would have a son on the throne forever. So even though Solomon disobeyed God, he remained on the throne so God could keep his promise to David. Jesus, one of Solomon's far-off grandchildren, is the ultimate way God kept that promise. By saving the tribe of Judah (the tribe Jesus came from) and allowing Solomon to remain on the throne, God kept his promise to David and opened the way for the good news of the gospel to come to us all.

## MONDAY .....

**Read** 1 Kings 8:17

**Ask** What did David want to do?

**Read** Acts 7:48-49

**Pray** and thank God that he doesn't dwell in a special building, but that his Holy Spirit dwells in the hearts of those who love him.

## TUESDAY .....

**Read** 1 Kings 11:6

**Ask** What did Solomon fail to do?

**Read** Matthew 22:37

**Pray** and ask God to help you love him with your whole heart.

## WEDNESDAY .....

**Read** 1 Kings 11:11

**Ask** What was the Lord going to take away from Solomon?

**Read** Psalm 89:33

**Pray** and confess your sin to God. Thank him that he never stops loving us!

## THURSDAY .....

**Read** 2 Chronicles 36:15

**Ask** Who did God send to talk to the people, and why?

**Read** Ephesians 1:3-5

**Pray** and thank God that he pursues us with his love!

## FRIDAY .....

**Read** 2 Chronicles 36:16

**Ask** What did the people continue to do?

**Read** Romans 5:8

**Praise** God for sending his Son to rescue us before we were even born, and for calling us into his family!