

Bible Story 19: SOLOMON, A MAN OF WISDOM

SCRIPTURE: 1 Kings 1:32-37; 3:3-14; 5:1-5; 6:1,37-38; 7:51;
8:3-6, 9-23; 9:1-5; 11:41-43

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 122:1

BIBLE STORY:

When King David was very old, his son Solomon became the new king of Israel. One night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and asked him, *“What do you want Me to give you?”*

Solomon replied, *“My Lord God, you have chosen me to be the next king, even though I am young. Please give me wisdom so that I will be able to lead your people the right way.”*

God was pleased with his request and gave Solomon wisdom, knowledge on leading the Israelite people. Solomon was told that he must obey and keep God’s laws, His commandments. Solomon became known as the wisest man who had ever lived. God also blessed him with honor and riches.

The Israelite people worshiped God at the Tabernacle. It was like a tent that could be moved as the people moved. Now the people were settled. God allowed Solomon and the Israelites to build the Temple in Jerusalem. It was a permanent structure, a place for the people to unite and worship God. It took one, two, three, four, five, six, seven- yes, seven years to build. It was beautiful! When it was finished, all the Israelites united. The Ark of the Covenant, which had the Ten Commandments inside, was taken to the Temple. Then King Solomon prayed with the people, dedicating the house of the Lord. God heard their prayers and declared the Temple holy, a place where His people could gather and worship Him.

Solomon was king for forty years. He wrote many words of wisdom that are in the book of Proverbs in the Bible.

PART 1: PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn from the story?

2. How can you apply this story to your life?

PART 2: GENERIC QUESTIONS

1. What do you like about the story?
2. What is there in the story that you do not understand?
3. Who are the main people in the story?
4. What problems did the people face?
5. How did the people face their problems?
6. How have you faced similar problems?
7. Is there someone in the story who is similar to you or who is different from you?
8. What does the story tell about God?

PART 3: SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. Who became king after David? When God asked Solomon what he wanted, what was his request?
2. What was God's reaction to Solomon's request? What did he receive? What is wisdom? How can you gain wisdom?
3. How can a person be a good leader? How can you help your leaders?
4. The people of Israel were worshiping God at the Tabernacle. Describe the Tabernacle.
5. King David and his son Solomon wanted to build a temple for God. What was the difference between the Tabernacle and the Temple?
6. Who did God allow to build the Temple?
 - Where was the Temple built?
 - How long did it take to build the Temple?
 - What was placed in the Temple?
 - When it was finished, what happened when King Solomon prayed with the people, dedicating the Temple to the Lord?
7. Where do you go to worship God? What are some things you can do as you worship God in His sanctuary, the church? How can you show reverence and respect for the house of God, your church?
8. Who are some people that you can invite to go to church and worship with you?