

# Adventures with GOD!

## SOLOMON - DAVID'S SUCCESSOR (C.1.Fall.12)

Biblical Reference	1 Kings 1:28-2:46
Key Verse	Proverbs 9:10
Key Concept	Despite the fact that God is the one that gives me wisdom, sometimes I use it in selfish ways and I don't follow God's plans.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Give a summary of the events that they have studied this trimester</li> <li>2. Explain some of the consequences the people suffered as a result of their actions</li> <li>3. Decide how to use the knowledge and wisdom that God has given them.</li> </ol>

### LIFE APPLICATION

David was a friend of God, but there came a time when he had to turn over his kingdom to another - Solomon, his son, who was a wise man by the grace of God. Even though Solomon was a good son and the people prospered under his reign, in the end Solomon abused his wisdom. We need to seek the wisdom that comes from God to live each day following God's ways.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Activity	paper, pens, crayons	25 minutes
Dialogue		10 minutes
Channel 7 news	Accessories	10 minutes
Dialogue		10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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## INSTRUCTIONS

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

**Bible Reading:** Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the Bible passage for the day two times and ask children to respond.

**Question examples:** What did you notice in this story? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the story?

**Activity:** Provide the necessary materials so that each child can make a little book entitled, "My book about David." You will find the sample of the book in the following pages as well as the instructions as to how to make it. After they have finished they can use their books to do a quick review of what they've studied about the life of David.

**Dialogue:** Tell the Bible story and talk about the important concepts of the fact that Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world when he was alive. But it's important to point out that even though Solomon benefited from having such wisdom, there was a time in his life when he didn't know how to use it and he ended up suffering the consequences of his disobedience.

**Chanel 7 news:** This will be the last news report that your class will do. You can put together a special report with a recap of what you've learned this trimester. Let the children figure out the best way to do this. Help with ideas and suggestions, provide materials that they need, etc. Always be ready to help when possible.

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**Dialogue:** After the class has presented its news report, talk about the message that is found in the Bible verse for today. It's a verse that is very important to have recorded in our hearts and minds. As we remember the Bible verse we remember that we are to act wisely, with the wisdom that God gives us. Always be ready to share with children the opportunity for them to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior. Spend time praying together and asking God to give them wisdom and the ability to use it for God and to follow God's ways.

**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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## CRAFT

After studying the life of David it would be good to make a little book, using symbols of different events that were important in his life. David wasn't perfect, but God loved him. God loves us, too. How wonderful to remember that God was with David throughout every step of his life and he is also with us.

Materials: poster board (10 x 47 cm), 2 pieces of gold color paper (3 1/2 x 2 cm), cotton balls, pipe cleaners, colored paper, 2 pieces of string (9 cm), markers, crayons, glue, scissors

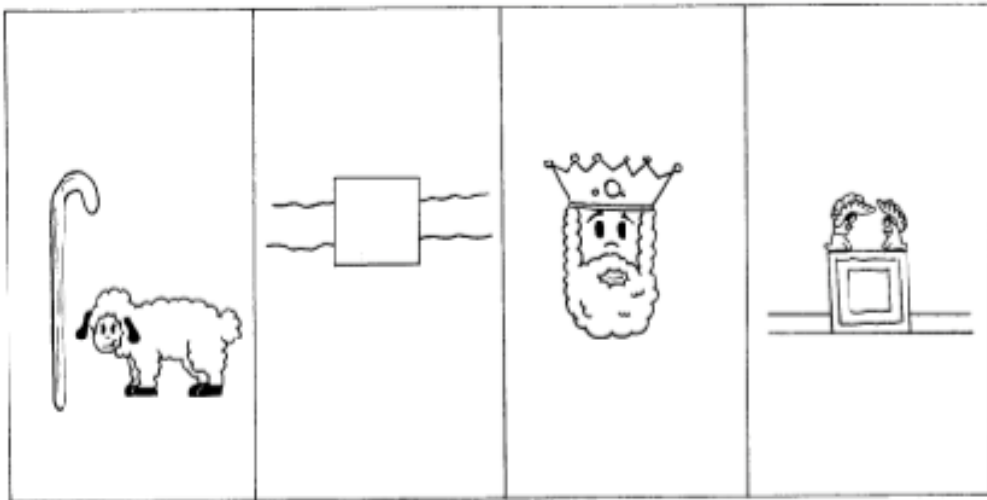
### Instructions:

1. Fold the piece of poster board in fourths, starting with one edge, fold it as if making a little pamphlet or book - accordion style.
2. On the outside cover write "My book about David". On each of the inner pages, at the top of the page write the words, 1) Shepherd, 2) Warrior, 3) King 4) Leader
3. IN the first page (on the reverse side of the cover) make a few shepherd's staffs out of pipe cleaners and glue them to the page. Glue a cotton ball, and then draw the head and legs to make a sheep (see the example).
4. On the second page, glue the pieces of string about 2 cm apart. Then glue a small piece of gold paper over the strings so that it looks like a shield (see example)
5. On the third page, cut a crown out of paper, glue it and then draw the figure of a king (see example).
6. On the fourth page, glue a small square of gold paper and then draw angels and sticks to make it the ark of the covenant (see example).

See the illustration on the following page.

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ILLUSTRATION OF CRAFT



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## GAME

### As wise as Solomon

This game is a surprise for the children because they will receive the answers and have to guess the questions.

Make a copy of the illustration and glue it on thicker paper or poster board. Color the drawing of Solomon and then laminate the two sides of the figure. Make holes in the places indicated by the pattern (the holes have to be big enough that a pencil can poke through). The answers can be written above each of the holes on the front side of the game piece with a marker. The questions should be written on the back side above the same hole that matches the answer to the question.

Instructions for the players:

King Solomon was the wisest man in history. He had all the answers. Can you give him the questions? Two people or two teams can play this game. Put a pencil in the hole of the “answer you are choosing,” read the answer, then you must guess the question. Someone from the other team, or the teacher, can see if you’ve given the right question (by looking behind the game).

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PATTERN FOR THE GAME

As wise as Solomon



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## GAME

### As wise as Solomon

#### Answers and questions from 1 Samuel 17:1-49

##### Answers on the front

##### Questions on the back

A lion and a bear

What animals killed David?

Goliath

Who was the giant philistine?

5

How many stones did David pick up?

His clothes

What did King Saul give to David?

Grain, bread, cheese

What kind of food did David's brothers bring?

Sling

What weapon did David use?

Gath

What was the home city of Goliath?

Eliab

Who was David's older brother?





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## INFORMATION SHEET

### **Solomon, King of Israel, A man of wisdom and foolishness**

1. His parents - He was son of David and Bathsheba (2 Samuel 12:24-25). He was blessed to have a father like David, who was in general faithful to God. Unfortunately, there were also characteristics and events in his father's life that were not such a great example. He was raised in a home where they practiced polygamy and there was much jealousy and fighting.
2. Access to the throne - David had promised Solomon that he would be the successor and that he would be crowned king before the death of his father (1 Kings 1:17-39).
3. The first years of his reign - considering the time in which he lived, his reign started out well, but he made a big mistake in choosing as his wife the daughter of a pagan king (1 Kings 3:1). This was without a doubt an act of political convenience and it was one of his first international alliances, all of which had to do with his moral falling.
4. His wisdom - It was a special gift from God. At the beginning of his reign he had a vision and the Lord appeared and told him to ask for what he wanted. He confessed his weakness and ignorance and asked for an understanding heart. For his wise election his petition was granted and the Lord promised he would be the wisest man and that he would have great wealth and honor. This promise was fulfilled. He composed more than 3000 proverbs and 5000 songs. He was famous around the world.
5. His politics and business - He followed through with the plans of his father, David, and consolidated the kingdom. He made commitments to commercial enterprises and grew in wealth and fame. His biggest enterprise was the construction of the temple in Jerusalem which took 7 years to build (1 Kings 5-6). When it was finished Solomon offered a prayer and dedication (2 Chronicles 6:12-7:3)

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6. His last years - He was honored (1 Kings 10:1-13). As his riches and honor grew, so did his love for fame and he lived a very luxurious and extravagant lifestyle. This brought on a social discontent that prepared the way for division in the kingdom (1 Kings 12:4-19)
  
7. His moral fall and idolatry - Finally he gave in to the sensuality. He was influenced by his many wives and introduced to the worship of false gods in Jerusalem (1 Kings 11:1-8). He was called out on his behavior by God. The division of the kingdom in the time of his sons was given in a prophecy.
  
8. The question of his repentance - We don't know anything for sure about the end of his life. Those who study Scripture say that he finally repented and turned back to God. Those who believe that he wrote the bulk of the book of Ecclesiastes see him traveling in the ways of human philosophy and finally emerging in the light of faith and divine providence.

His life is a great warning to us. He is known as the wisest man, however his wisdom didn't teach him how to control himself. He taught well, but he forgot to put into practice his own teaching.