

Solomon Becomes the King

Theme: Faith — Allowing God’s presence in our hearts



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Working Hard on Bible Facts

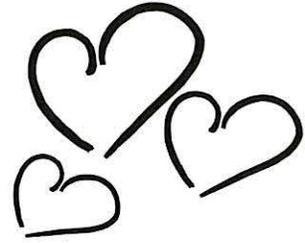
Memory Verse: Give each student an opportunity to say the Memory Verse for the class. Help students who struggle with the memory work be successful. Give guests an opportunity to say the Memory Verse. Have the Memory Verse printed on a sheet of paper or enlarged on a poster. Complete the display that now features all Memory Verses and the names of students who said them. Prepare a hand-print card for each student with his or her name to put on the display. A sample is shown on page 11.

Prayer

Teaching Today’s Lesson

1. For non-reading students, read 1 Chronicles 28:9-10. Have reading students find and mark 1 Chronicles 28:9 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today’s events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by helping students locate the following places on the map of Israel in the time of David, found on page 71 of this Guide – Jerusalem.
5. Introduce the Lesson Graphics using the “Loving & Working Toolbox”.
6. Tell the story using the *Loving Hearts & Working Hands Lesson Graphics* and other props such as a toy sword, plastic or paper crowns, and a doll.
7. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to the students’ ages:
 - After ruling Israel for forty years, David died.
 - God chose David’s son Solomon to be the next king.

- Solomon had a dream in which God told him He was so pleased with him that he could have anything he wanted.
 - Solomon asked God for true wisdom, so the Lord gave Solomon that wisdom, along with riches and honor.
 - Solomon showed his wisdom by deciding in an unusual way who was the real mother of a baby.
 - King Solomon built God's temple in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah.
 - The gold-covered and gold-filled temple was built in seven years, without any hammers or nails.
 - King Solomon asked God to bless the temple and His worshipers.
8. Saul is about to become Israel's king. Have students give advice to Solomon. Older students may write down their advice to share with the class. The teacher may write younger students' advice on the marker board. As a class, decide the three best suggestions. Together, read and discuss David's advice to his son in 1 Chronicles 28:9-10.
 9. Use the appropriate Lesson Graphics, let the students tell about the building of the temple and what King Solomon did after the temple was finished.
 10. Reenact the scene from 1 Kings 3:16-28 showing Solomon's wisdom. Talk with the students about each woman's choice. Talk about Solomon's decision and how this was wise.



Solomon Becomes the King

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Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Working Hard on Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Repeat the Sunday Morning memory work activity for any students who were not present. Talk with all students about what the verse(s) tell us about God.

Prayer

Starter

If you could choose to have anything you wanted, what would you choose? Before you decide, think carefully. You've probably seen a cartoon that features an imaginary magic lamp. Rub the lamp and a genie comes out to grant three wishes. Maybe the story showed how the person wished for something without really thinking about it and wasted a wish. Or maybe the wish didn't turn out to be what he thought it would be. When it was time to make the third wish, the person probably gave it a lot of thought.

Magic lamps and genies are make-believe, but God really gave king Solomon of Israel the chance to ask for anything he wanted. If you had this chance, what would you ask for? Toys, clothes, money? Let's see what Solomon asked for and how it turned out.

Briefly review the lesson from Sunday morning and read 1 Chronicles 28:9-10.

Illustrations and Applications

1. *Objective: Learn why Solomon was wise to ask for wisdom.*

Ask the students to tell you things they would ask for if they could have anything they wanted. Make a list on the marker board. Ask them why they want this or that item. Read aloud from 1 Kings 3:1-14 what Solomon asked for when God gave him this opportunity. Discuss why this was the best choice and what God promised to Solomon. Talk to the students about how to make good choices.

 2. *Objective: Reinforce the keys to success.*

Prepare bookmarks featuring David's words to Solomon about being successful. Talk with the students about keeping the bookmark, reading it often, and how they may use the advice in their decisions and actions.

3. *Objective: Dependence on God to provide real needs.*

Have the students create a list of specific things people typically pray for. Compare each item on your list to Solomon's prayer. Which things on the list show the kind of dependence on God that Solomon's prayer showed?

4. *Objective: Our relationship with God in many ways is like our relationships with people.*

Think about the favorite teacher you've ever had. Use questions such as these to prompt the students' thinking:

- How did you think of her the first time you met her?
- Did you have any "special" feelings for her on the first day of school? How about on the last day of school?
- What are some of the feelings you had on the last day of school that you didn't have on the first day?
- What brought about the changes in the way you feel about her?

In a way, does your teacher have a "presence" in you? Before you knew her, there were no feelings; now that you know, respect, have affection for and care for her, you feel a "presence" of her in your life. Is it magic or miraculous?

How about God? Can God have a "presence" in our lives? What things help make this presence possible? Love, respect, caring, friendship, prayer, Bible study, obedience, etc.

 5. *Objective: Illustrate that God is to be a part of our lives in every way.*

Have a picture of the temple Solomon built. Ask if God wanted people to worship Him only when they came to the temple? Ask the students to list times in their lives when God wants to be a part. Show that the temple was a place of special worship but God wants to be in our hearts and "present" in all we do. Examples of times we want God to be with us are in sickness, at school, on vacation, at parties, during family time, and at meals.

BIG HEART Display: Hands folded for praying