

SOLOMON IS A WISE KING

1 Kings 3:5-28

1 Kings 3

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." ⁶ Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. ⁷ "Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸ Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹ So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?" ¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹ So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹² I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. ¹³ Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both riches and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. ¹⁴ And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life." ¹⁵ Then Solomon awoke—and he realized it had been a dream.

He returned to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord's covenant and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court. ¹⁶ Now two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. ¹⁷ One of them said, "My lord, this woman and I live in the same house. I had a baby while she was there with me. ¹⁸ The third day

after my child was born, this woman also had a baby. We were alone; there was no one in the house but the two of us.

¹⁹ "During the night this woman's son died because she lay on him. ²⁰ So she got up in the middle of the night and took my son from my side while I your servant was asleep. She put him by her breast and put her dead son by my breast. ²¹ The next morning, I got up to nurse my son—and he was dead! But when I looked at him closely in the morning light, I saw that it wasn't the son I had borne."

²² The other woman said, "No! The living one is my son; the dead one is yours."

But the first one insisted, "No! The dead one is yours; the living one is mine." And so they argued before the king.

²³ The king said, "This one says, 'My son is alive and your son is dead,' while that one says, 'No! Your son is dead and mine is alive.'"

²⁴ Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So they brought a sword for the king. ²⁵ He then gave an order: "Cut the living child in two and give half to one and half to the other."

²⁶ The woman whose son was alive was filled with compassion for her son and said to the king, "Please, my lord, give her the living baby! Don't kill him!"

But the other said, "Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!"

²⁷ Then the king gave his ruling: "Give the living baby to the first woman. Do not kill him; she is his mother."

²⁸ When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What was the problem in the story?
5		2.) How did Solomon know which mother was telling the truth?
5		3.) What did all of Israel think of Solomon's ruling?
5		4.) Why do you think the Lord gave Solomon riches, honor, and a long life?

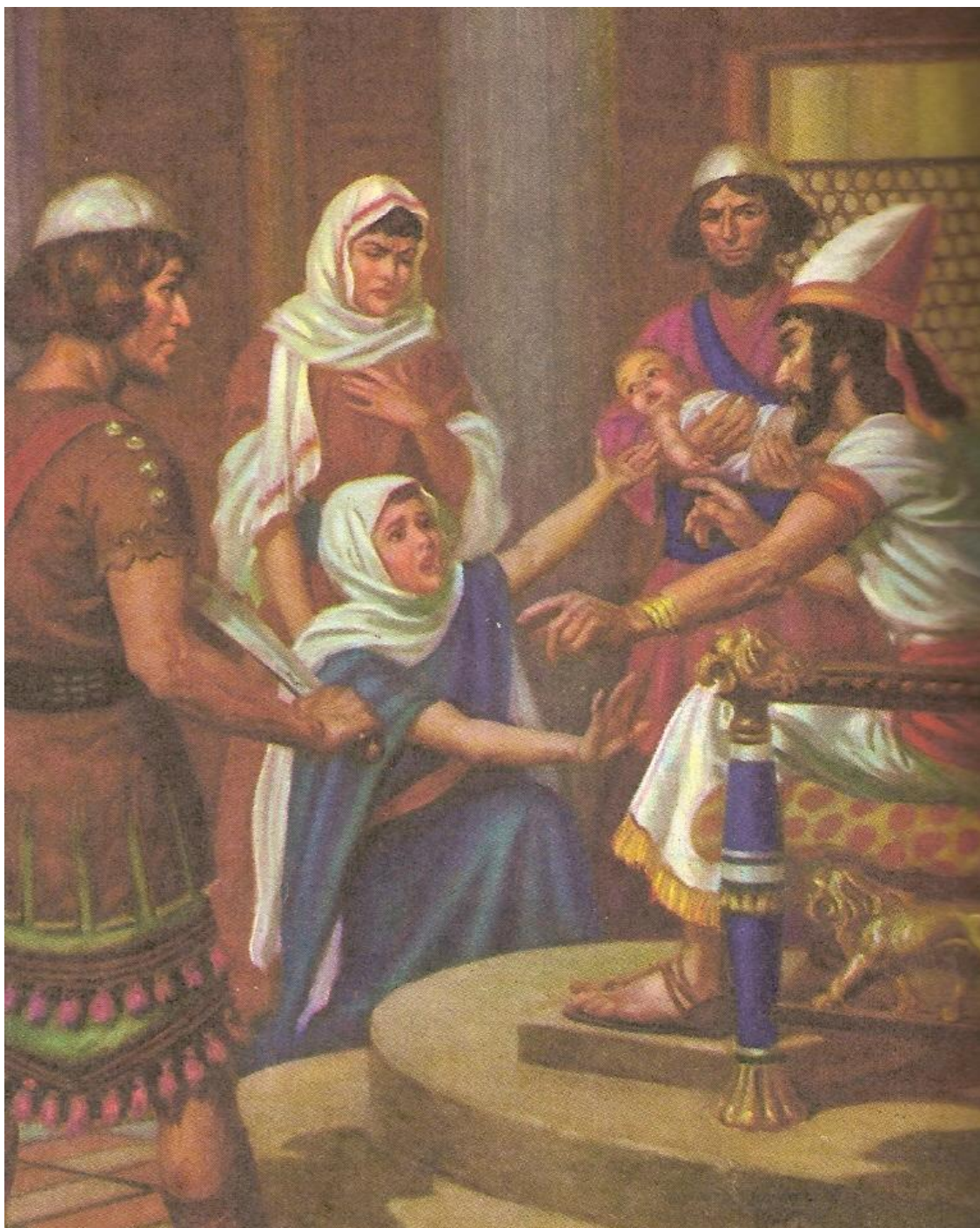
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God.... and it will be given to him.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">James 1:5</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	<p>LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE __/__/__</p>

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Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

SOLOMON IS A WISE KING

1 Kings 3:5-28



Solomon wisely decides whose baby is whose

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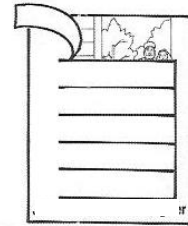
1 Kings 3:5-28

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: PEEL AWAY STORYBOARDS

Students will make peel away storyboards to help them recall key events from the story.

MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Peel Away Storyboard Patterns
3. Scissors
4. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
5. Glue



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the Peel Away Story Board Patterns (two pages) onto 67 lb. cardstock for each of your students.
2. Have students color the page with the picture on it. The page with the writing does not need to be colored.
3. Cut around the outside edge of the sentence strips rectangle (do not cut along the dotted line). Cut along the dividing lines between each strip being careful to stop at the dotted line.
4. Apply glue to the right side of the sentence strips rectangle between the dotted line and the edge (do not apply glue to the sentences strips themselves).
5. Turn the rectangle over and attach the word strips over the coloring page (word side down).
6. Peel back each strip to retell the story.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their peel away storyboards, remind them that Solomon made a wise decision. Encourage students to ask God for wisdom, as our memory verse states.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

MEMORY VERSE

“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God...and it will be given to him.” James 1:5

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Glue Here

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PEEL AWAY STORYBOARD PATTERN

Solomon was king of Israel.

He wanted to be a good leader.

God told Solomon to ask for whatever he wanted.

Solomon asked for help to be a wise leader.

God was pleased with Solomon's request.

God helped Solomon and also gave him riches and honor.

Glue here

SOLOMON IS A WISE KING

1 Kings 3:5-28

God was very pleased with King Solomon. One night God came to Solomon in a dream and said, "Ask for anything you want. I will give it to you."

Solomon asked for only one thing. Because God was so pleased with Solomon, he gave him other gifts as well. To find out what Solomon asked for write the letters on the first sun ray in the correct order on the first line. Continue writing the letters on the other sun rays in the correct order to find out what else God gave to King Solomon.

O 5 I 2 D 4 W 1 M 6 S 3
 N 6 S 9 T 5 E 3 S 8 R 2 A 4 E 7 G 1
 D 10 N 2 E 4 I 11 T 7 U 1 N 9 N 12 R 5 D 3 S 6 G 13 A 8
 N 3 L 1 O 2 F 5 E 7 H 8 O 4 S 6 R 1 E 5 I 2 H 3
 N 3 R 5 H 1 O 4 S 6 R 1 E 5 I 2 H 3

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON 1 KINGS 3:5-28

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In a dream, the Lord appeared to Solomon. The Lord said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

Solomon could have asked for anything he wanted, but he chose wisdom. He wanted to be able to help God's people by knowing right from

wrong.

The Lord was pleased with Solomon's request, so the Lord gave him riches, honor, and a long life.

Solomon used his wisdom one day when two women came to him with a problem. Both of the women lived in the same house. Both of them had baby boys. During the night, one of the babies died. The dead baby's mother got up at night and switched the babies.

In the morning, when the other mother woke up, she was shocked to find her son dead. Soon she realized that the dead baby boy was not hers.

The two women came to Solomon so that he could decide who the living baby boy belonged to. Solomon ordered that the living baby boy be cut in half. Each woman would get half of the baby! The mother of the living baby boy said, "Please, give her the living baby! Don't kill him."

But the other woman said, "Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!"

Solomon knew that the mother of the living baby would rather he live than be cut in half. Solomon gave the mother back her baby.

All of Israel was amazed at King Solomon's decision because he had wisdom from God.

For more details, please read 1 Kings 3:5-28 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. What was the problem in the story?
2. How did Solomon know which mother was telling the truth?
3. What did all of Israel think of Solomon's ruling?
4. Why do you think the Lord gave Solomon riches, honor, and a long life?

MEMORY VERSE

"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God....and it will be given to him."

James 1:5

DRAW A PICTURE OF SOLOMON SPEAKING TO THE TWO WOMEN

