THE STORY @ HOME

KIDS 3RD-6TH NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 1 (2026-2027)

Lesson #1-8
1 Kings 3:4-28

LAST WEEK

King David committed serious sins against Bathsheba, Uriah, and God. After Nathan confronted him with his sin, he sought forgiveness (2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9; Psalm 51:1-9).

THIS WEEK

Solomon asks God for wisdom to rule the people of Israel justly, and God grants Solomon's request (1 Kings 3:4-28).

STORY SUMMARY

Solomon's Wisdom

David's son Solomon has now taken charge of the kingdom. When God offers Solomon a gift, the king asks for wisdom to be a good king. This pleased God who granted the request and even included prosperity and honor. Solomon demonstrates his wisdom when he solves a dilemma between two women who both claim that a healthy baby is their own.

PRACTICE: FELLOWSHIP

Solomon reminds us of the importance of prayer. We can pray and connect with God by ourselves, but it is also important to pray with one another: sharing our fears and rejoicing in our times of joy. Try to pray and share together once a day this week.

THE POINT

God grants us wisdom through prayer.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

The Temple

King Solomon built the temple to replace the tabernacle—a tent for worshipping God that was created when Moses received the Torah on Mount Sinai. The temple in Jerusalem was very different from a church. The temple was used for religious, cultural, financial, and political purposes. Whatever its use, it was understood to be God's house and was treated with respect. All non-Israelites and some Israelites were not allowed beyond the courtyard, and out of respect for God, even the temple priests were only allowed in certain parts of the temple. The Holy of Holies, God's dwelling, was only entered once a year by a designated high priest.

NEXT WEEK

Naaman seeks a cure for leprosy from the king of Israel, and the prophet Elisha leads Naaman to his full healing through the power of God (2 Kings 5:1-15a).

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TRY IT @ HOME

Lesson #1-1
1 Kings 3:4-28

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson's Scripture reading with your family.

- Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 1 Kings 3:4-28 God speaks to Solomon in a dream. What would you do with the gift of wisdom?
Monday—Read 1 Kings 4:20-28 Solomon has everything he could want and more. Talk about what you think a ruler would need to do govern well.
Tuesday—Read 1 Kings 4:29-34 Solomon's wisdom was greater than that of anyone else. Solomon's wisdom is described as "vast as the sand on the seashore." What are other things you can compare to Solomon's wisdom?
Wednesday—Read Psalm 72:1-14 This psalm is a prayer for guidance for the king. Pray together for the leaders of our world.
Thursday—Read Psalm 20:1-9 This psalm is a prayer for God's aid. Share your heart's desire with one another.
Friday—Read 1 Kings 11:1-13 Even with all that wisdom, Solomon goes astray. Solomon became distracted from his faith by other things. What distracts you from your faith?
Saturday—Read 1 Kings 12:1-24 The kingdom of Israel divides into northern and southern kingdoms. Talk about what makes a good leader and what makes a bad leader. In what ways can you be a good leader this week?

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