



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: God Is Our King  
Fall Year 1, Lesson 17

# Solomon's Wisdom Is God's Wisdom

**Bible Event:** 1 Kings 3:16-28, 4:34, 10:1-3

**Take Home Point:** \*GOD IS OUR KING – *Use your mind to serve the King.*

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

**Jesus Link:** Because of Jesus, God forgives.

**What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:**

- Children will learn that God is the one who has given them all of their gifts and abilities, especially the ability to learn and tell others about God. They will learn that they can use their minds to serve God by learning more about God from the Bible, and by using their minds to help serve others. They will see an example of this by learning about how Solomon used his wisdom to serve God.
- Children will respond to God's love as they sing songs of worship, bring their offerings, and offer their prayers.



## Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

**Purpose:** While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

**Video Suggestion:** Choose a video and list it here.

**Activity Suggestion:** Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



## Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer, having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

## Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

## Bible Event: A Visit from the Traveler

The traveler is a character costumed in traveling gear: backpack, walking stick, hiking hat and shoes. He explains that he has traveled all around the world discovering wonderful deeds that God has done. He tells of an adventure he just discovered in God's Word as he pulls the Bible out of his backpack. As he tells the Bible event, he pulls out objects from his backpack that illustrate the story.

**Traveler:** In my travels, I have come across a wise and wonderful king named Solomon. His story is told in the Bible, which is God's Word. This is a story of how Solomon used his mind to serve our God, who is truly the King.

King Solomon was the son of David. David had been a good king, and when it came time for Solomon to become king, he was worried that he wouldn't be good at it. One night during a dream, God spoke to Solomon. God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

Solomon answered, "You have been so kind to me, God, and you have made me king over all of the people of Israel, but I'm not sure how to be a good king. Would you please give me wisdom to govern over your people and know the difference between right and wrong? Help me use my mind to serve you." God was very pleased with his prayer.

"Solomon," God said, "when I asked you for whatever you wanted, you didn't ask for money. Show play money. You didn't ask to be

famous. Use clapper or noisemaker. **You didn't ask for the finest pleasures and lots of candy. Show candy. Instead, you asked for wisdom so you could govern my people better. Because you want to serve me, I will give you the wisdom you need. I will give you wisdom, so that you can use your mind to serve me. Also, I will give you riches and honor, so that you will be the greatest of all kings while you rule among the kings of the earth."**

When someone has wisdom, it means knowing right from wrong. It also means knowing and learning about God and his love. With the wisdom God gave to Solomon, he learned to serve God with his mind. Here's an example, a story that shows how Solomon used his wisdom to rule fairly over his people.

Once there were two ladies who lived in the same house. They both had very small babies. Sadly, one of the babies died. The mommy of that baby was so sad that she tried to steal the other baby. She tried to switch the babies in their beds. The ladies started to argue over the baby. Show the baby doll. One lady said, "It's my baby!" The other lady said, "No, it's mine!" They kept fighting and fighting, but only one of the ladies was telling the truth. No one knew which lady was right. So they went to King Solomon. The king said, "Let's divide the baby into two and both ladies can have a part of the baby." One of the ladies said, "Oh no! Don't do that! Please don't hurt the baby! Instead, give the baby to the other lady." Then the king knew who the real mommy was. "No," he said. "I will give the baby to you. You are the real mommy. You love the baby so much that you would rather give the baby up than to see it get hurt. The baby is yours." King Solomon had used his special gift of wisdom to decide who the real mommy was. He used his mind to serve God the King.

Do you know how you can use your mind to serve the King? With your mind, you can learn what the Bible says about God and Jesus. With your mind, you can learn to write and draw and read. With your mind, you can help others. All of these are ways that you can use your mind to serve the King. Let's do that today in Kids Church.

**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



## Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

**Purpose:** Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones, watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

*During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.*

**Snack Zone:** Smarties candy. Have the children use their mind to count the pieces before they eat them.

**Drama Zone:** Practice praying. Have children sit on the floor, bow their heads, and fold their hands. Tell them to use their minds to see how much of the Lord's Prayer they can remember. Have them go as far as they can and then ask for help.

**Puppet Zone:** Have the children use puppets to act out the story of King Solomon. One child can play King Solomon, two others can play the mothers, with a doll or toy baby.

**Felt Zone:** Use felt board materials to show the story of King Solomon from today's Bible event. (For example, materials can be found in #71, "Solomon's Choice," from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*.)

**Craft Zone:** Have each child make a crown using 3 or 4-inch thick strips of yellow or white paper cut with a simple zigzag pattern on one side. Let children decorate the crowns with crayons or markers and a pre-made label (Avery 5160) that says "Use your mind to serve the King." Tape or staple the crown so kids can wear them.

**Play Zone:** Play a memory game. Have six simple objects on a table. Remove one of the objects while the kids have their eyes closed. See if they remember which one. Repeat. Also work on remembering the take home point **\*God is our King – Use your mind to serve the King.**

**Quiet Reading Zone:** Picture book of Bible stories.

**Music Zone:** Your choice of music.

**Coloring Zone:** "King Solomon's Wisdom" coloring page.



## Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

**Purpose:** As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

### Worship Songs:

*Choose one or two songs and list them here.*

### Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

**Purpose:** The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

The presenter begins with:

**Bubba was at preschool and he had his teddy bear with him. He was holding him, but then another girl in the class came over and started pulling on the bear. Bubba pulled back, the girl pulled harder, and they both were yelling, "Mine!"**

Then Bubba yelled, "Stop!" He remembered the story from today and decided that he should share his bear and that they both shouldn't pull on him like that. So, that girl played with the bear for a while and then Bubba got him back.

The large group presenter tells Bubba that when you remember to share with others, you are using your mind to serve God. God wants us to share and be nice to others. He also wants us to learn more about God and Jesus so we know the right things to do.  
**\*GOD IS OUR KING – Use your mind to serve the King.**

The large group presenter concludes by holding up a cross.

**Jesus was the best example of how to serve God. Even though he was a king, he gave his life for all of us when he died on the cross. That was a wise thing to do because it was the only way our sins could be taken away. Jesus knew the right thing to do and died on the cross to save you and me.**

### Prayer Time:

**Purpose:** Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

**"Children Pray" Options:** (select one from the options below)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

**Lord's Prayer:** Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

## **Blessing:**

May God, who is all around you,  
pour his love upon you.

*(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)*

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,  
walk right there beside you.

*(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)*

And may God's Holy Spirit,  
the one who lives inside you,

*(Cross hands over your heart.)*

keep you strong,  
comfort, lead and guide you!

*(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)*

## **Song of Sending:**

*Choose one song and list it here.*



## **Closing Zones:**

**Purpose:** Children go to an activity zone, such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

# Supplies

## *Welcome Zone:*

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, crayons

## *Opening Worship:*

- cross, candles, Bible, offering plate
- Traveler's backpack, filled with the following contents:
  - Bible
  - stack of play money
  - clapper or noisemaker
  - candy
  - baby doll

## *Action Zones:*

### *Snack Zone:*

- Smarties candy

### *Drama Zone:*

- no supplies needed

### *Puppet Zone:*

- puppets to act out the story of King Solomon; one child can play King Solomon, two others can play the mothers with a doll or toy baby

### *Felt Zone:*

- felt board and materials to show the story of King Solomon from today's Bible event (For example, materials can be found in #71 "Solomon's Choice," from Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt—order from [www.bettylukens.com](http://www.bettylukens.com))

### *Craft Zone:*

- white or yellow, 3 or 4 inch, strips of paper, cut on one side in a zigzag pattern for a crown
- crayons, markers
- stickers\* (Avery 5160) that read, "Use your mind to serve the King."
- tape or stapler

### *Play Zone:*

- six varied objects

### *Music Zone:*

- What a Mighty God We Serve, 2002 Agnes Day Music, from the CD titled, God's Kids Worship – Orange, by Tommy Nelson, Inc.—order from:  
[http://www.thomasnelson.com/consumer/product\\_detail.asp?dept\\_id=130250&sku=1400300517](http://www.thomasnelson.com/consumer/product_detail.asp?dept_id=130250&sku=1400300517)

### *Quiet Reading Zone:*

- picture book of Bible stories that include the story of King Solomon

### *Coloring Zone:*

- "King Solomon's Wisdom" coloring page<sup>†</sup>

## *Closing Worship:*

- Bubba, the puppet
- stuffed teddy bear

## *Closing Zones:*

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books