

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



MAKING WISE CHOICES LIKE SOLOMON

1 Kings 3:4-12,17-28 Solomon asks for wisdom

When God asked Solomon what he wanted most in the world, he chose wisdom. Solomon knew that, as a king in his twenties, he would have some challenging decisions to make. From Solomon we can learn what it means to turn to God and trust in his wisdom rather than our own.

Each child will need:

→ A Pudsey colouring sheet, pens/pencils www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PUDSEY_COLOURING.pdf

You will need:

- A large copy of the memory verse Philippians 4:8 (NIV) with key words covered by sticky notes – see Start It section
- Wise Choices handout, cut into cards – see Action It section
- Paper and pen

Start It

☛ **Say:** This week you may have taken part in events for Children in Need, but how much do you know about the charity? Have a go at the quiz together and see how many answers you get right.

Quiz

Children in Need by CBBC – BBC

www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/quizzes/children-in-need-quiz

☛ **Say:** Our Bible story today includes a small child who is in great need. The only person that can help the family is King Solomon, who has to make a wise choice.

Sing It

Ask: How are you getting on with learning the memory verse for this month?

☛ **Say:** We're going to use the same song as last week to refresh your memory before we try and say the verse.

'Philippians 4:8 (think about such things)' with actions by CCBC Kids (3 mins 20 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxDZlku02fl&t=113s

Display the memory verse but cover up the following words: true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy. Read through the verse with the children to see how much they can remember.

Tell It

Ask: If you could ask God for one thing, what would it be?

🗨️ **Say:** King Solomon began his reign on the throne in his early twenties after his father, King David, had died. He faithfully followed God, and one night while he was worshipping at the altar, this happened!

Read:

'King Solomon went to Gibeon to offer a sacrifice. He went there because it was the most important place of worship. He offered 1,000 burnt offerings on that altar. While he was at Gibeon, the Lord came to him in a dream during the night. God said, "Ask for anything you want. I will give it to you."

'Solomon answered, "You were very kind to your servant, my father David. He obeyed you. He was honest and lived right. And you showed great kindness to him when you allowed his son to be king after him. Lord my God, you have allowed me to be king in my father's place. But I am like a little child. I do not have the wisdom I need to do what I must do. I, your servant, am here among your chosen people. There are too many of them to count. So I ask that you give me wisdom. Then I can rule the people in the right way. Then I will know the difference between right and wrong. Without wisdom, it is impossible to rule this great people of yours."

'The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked him for this. So God said to him, "You did not ask for a long life. And you did not ask for riches for yourself. You did not ask for the death of your enemies. Since you asked for wisdom to make the right decisions, I will give you what you asked. I will give you wisdom and understanding. Your wisdom will be greater than anyone has had in the past. And there will never be anyone in the future like you."

— (1 Kings 3:4-12 *ICB*)

Ask:

- ➔ Why do you think Solomon asked for wisdom?
- ➔ What was he concerned or anxious about?

🗨️ **Say:** Solomon knew that he would have lots of important decisions to make and he didn't want to rely on his own knowledge and understanding. He knew that he needed God's help to make the right choices.

Ask: In what ways do we need God's help to make wise choices?

Video

🗨️ **Say:** Not long after God had given Solomon the gift of wisdom, he faced a very challenging situation. Watch the clip to find out what happened.

The story in the clip involves the death of a baby, so please keep this in mind if this issue directly impacts children in your group.

Solomon, a man of wisdom (1 Kings 3:16-28) by Hi Bible (4 mins 4 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=li8uMA-ixv0

Ask:

- ➔ How did Solomon know who the mother of the baby was?
- ➔ How did Solomon use God's wisdom to solve the disagreement?

🗨️ **Say:** Solomon had a very difficult choice to make, and he relied on God's wisdom to show care for the baby and its mother.

Action It

Ask:

- ➔ If someone is described as wise, what does it mean?
- ➔ What kind of things do they say or do?
- ➔ Who is the wisest person that you know? Why did you choose them?

Video

🗣️ **Say:** Watch the clip to find out more about what it means to be wise.

Wisdom by Pursue God Kids (2 mins 23 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCKIYMZkPhk

🗣️ **Say:** Wisdom is knowing what is right and doing it. Wise people use their knowledge to do the right thing. In the video it says that we need to practise making wise choices and that's what we're going to do today.

Wise choices

Divide the children into small groups and give each group one or two scenarios from the Wise Choices handout to act out. After each scenario has been acted out, ask the group what they would ask God for in this situation and what is the wise choice to make. An example is below as a prompt for discussion.

Example:

You are sat in a test that you are finding very difficult. The person next to you seems to know all the answers and you are tempted to cheat. What do you do?

Ask God: Please help me to remember everything that I know about this subject as I do my best to solve this problem.

Wise choice: Turn your chair away from the person next to you and focus on your own test.

Ask:

➔ How will thinking through these different scenarios help you to make wise choices in the future?

➔ What can you do when you have a wise choice to make?

🗣️ **Say:** When we have a challenging decision to make, we often want to rush to find an answer. Solomon teaches us that seeking God's wisdom first is very important. Next time you are involved in settling an argument between friends, deciding whether to tell the truth or considering whether to stick up for someone in trouble, take a moment to ask God for his wisdom.

Pray It

🗣️ **Say:** Today we shared a sad story about two babies and their grieving mothers. This week you may have taken part in Children in Need where money was raised to support children and young people in difficult circumstances.

Ask: What are some of the challenges facing children at the moment?

Jot down the responses for the children to refer to later.

Give each child a copy of a Pudsey colouring sheet. Ask them to write a prayer on the sheet for children that are in need. They can take home the sheet and use it throughout the week.

Ask each child to read out their prayer and then bring the time of prayer to a close.

Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

Explore It

IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

NOVEMBER
SESSION 03

MAKING WISE CHOICES LIKE SOLOMON

 1 Kings 3:4-12,17-28 Solomon asks for wisdom

FOR ME

TOGETHER



Explore

Grab your Bible and explore the following Scripture verses.

What do they teach us about the importance of wisdom?

- ➔ Proverbs 2:6
- ➔ Ephesians 5:15-16
- ➔ James 1:5
- ➔ Colossians 4:5-6



Watch

Watch the clip about wisdom with people at home.

What is wisdom? by CQ Kids

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fvu_601JahI

Ask them:

- ➔ What is the wisest decision you've ever made?
- ➔ What is the most foolish decision you've ever made?

Share with your family the importance of asking God for wisdom when we have a difficult decision to make.



Song for the week

'Philippians 4:8 (think about such things)'
with actions by CCBC Kids

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxDZlku02fl&t=113s



Memory verse

'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.'

— (Philippians 4:8 NIV)

KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

Kids Alive! The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!

