

Solomon

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of how Solomon asked God for wisdom.
- The children will state that God gave Solomon wisdom.
- The children will pray that God will help them to know the right thing to do.

Lesson Text

1 Kings 3:4-15

Scripture Memory Verse

Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens.

Daniel 12:3

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Solomon Puppets

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Whatever You Want

Craft: Wise Hearts

Scripture Memory: Bright Lights

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



pre
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Solomon

Solomon Puppets

The children will preview today's Bible Story as they make finger puppets of King Solomon.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons and markers

For the teacher:

- scissors
- invisible tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the finger puppet figures from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Make a sample to show the children.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Explain that today's Bible Story is about King Solomon, the son of David. Show them your sample puppet and tell them that they will make finger puppets to use during the Bible Story.
2. Distribute the finger puppet figures you prepared, and the crayons. Have the children color their puppets and write their names on them.
3. Circulate among the children to offer help. As the children finish, help them to tape their puppets around their fingers.
4. Collect the labeled finger puppets and give them to the Bible Story teacher.
5. For children who finish early, have them make extras for children who arrive late.

Teacher Tips

- Try to arrange the puppets in alphabetical or registration order to help the Bible Story teacher.



B Solomon

S

Whatever You Want

The children will participate in the story of Solomon asking God for wisdom.

Materials

For each child:

- Solomon puppet from Preclass

For the teacher:

- cardboard tube, 12" or longer
- small soft ball (i.e., tennis, sponge, etc.)

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Preparation

Practice presenting this Bible Story with great enthusiasm.

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Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 3:4-15. Tell the children that today's Bible Story comes from the Old Testament book of 1 Kings chapter 3. *In your last lesson, you learned about King David, who was the youngest of all his brothers. God chose him because David loved God so much. After David was king of Israel, he had a son named Solomon. When David died, Solomon became king. In today's Bible Story, you will learn how Solomon became a great king.*

Have the children sit in a circle. Show the children the ball and tell them that you will roll the ball to each of them and ask the following question. They will answer the question and roll it back. Continue rolling the ball until each child has had a chance to answer. (Keep their answers brief.)

- *Imagine if God said to you, "Ask for whatever you want." What would you ask for?*

Tell the children that God asked that same question to Solomon, and in their Bible Story they will learn what Solomon asked for—and what he received from God.

Presenting the Bible Story

Distribute the Solomon puppets from Preclass. Tell the children to make their puppets lie down as if they are asleep. Explain that Solomon was sleeping when God appeared to him in a dream.

Hold the cardboard tube to your mouth and project your voice: *Solomon, ask for whatever you want me to give you.*

Tell the children to have their puppets stand and to repeat after you: *You have shown great kindness* (children repeat) *to my father David,* (children repeat) *because he was faithful to you* (children repeat) *and did what was right.* (children repeat) *You are still kind* (children repeat) *because you have allowed me* (children repeat) *to be king in place of my father David.* (children repeat) *But I am only a young man* (children repeat) *and do not know how to carry out my job.* (children repeat) *So give me a wise heart* (children repeat) *to help your people* (children repeat) *and help me to know the difference* (children repeat) *between right and wrong.* (children repeat)

Holding the cardboard tube to your mouth again, say the following as God's voice:

So God said to him, "You have not asked to live for a long time. You have not asked to be wealthy. You have not even asked to have your enemies killed. Instead, you have asked for understanding. You want to do what is right and fair when you judge people. Because that is what you have asked for, I will give it to you. I will give you a wise and understanding heart. So here is what will be true of you. There has never been anyone like you. And there never will be.

And that is not all. I will give you what you have not asked for. I will give you riches and honor. As long as you live, no other king will be as great as you are. Live the way I want you to. Obey my laws and commands, just as your father David did. Then I will let you live for a long time." (1 Kings 3:11-14 New International Reader's Version)

Explain to the children that God told Solomon that he would give him the wise heart that he asked for. A wise heart is a heart that knows the right thing to do. But not only did God promise to give him a wise heart to help him know right from wrong, God also promised to give him something else—something Solomon didn't even ask for! God promised to give Solomon riches and honor—to make Solomon rich and famous! And if Solomon obeyed God like his father David had done, God also promised to give him a long life! After Solomon awoke and realized what had happened, he returned



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Solomon

to Jerusalem to give gifts—called offerings—to God. Then he gave a big party for all the people who worked for him in the palace.

Tell the children to make their Solomon puppets bow down and thank God. Then have them finish by saying an enthusiastic “Amen” together.

Share and Tell

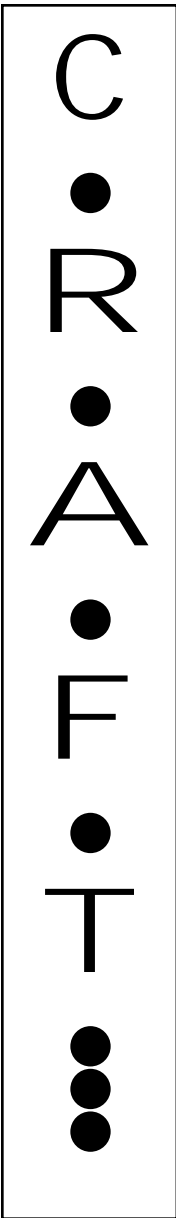
Encourage the children that Solomon asked God for a wise heart to know the right thing to do so that he could lead God's people. Solomon did not ask for something that was just for himself, but for something that would help others. Ask the children if they would like to have a wise heart that knows the right thing to do. Ask the children if they can think of someone who is having a hard time doing the right thing. Encourage them to share this Bible Story with that person. Close with a prayer asking God to help the children know the right thing to do.

Teacher Tips

- The longer the cardboard tube, the more your voice will project. If possible, use a tube from wrapping paper or poster container.



King Solomon



Solomon

Wise Hearts

The children will make a craft to remind them that God gives wisdom.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of ribbon, 1" x 16"
- glue stick
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- invisible tape
- hole punch

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the Wise Hearts from the copies of Reproducible Page B for the children.
2. For each child, punch a hole in one end of the ribbons approximately one inch from the edge, as shown in Figure A.
3. Make a sample craft to show the children.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you are learning about King Solomon who was the son of David. Before King David died, he made his son Solomon the new king. Solomon was a young man and did not know how to lead the people of God. He asked God to give him a wise heart so that he would know the difference between right and wrong. God gave Solomon the wise heart that he asked for and Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world. God can give us a wise heart too so that we can know the difference between right and wrong and do the right thing.*
2. Show the children your sample. Read each of the hearts to the children. Have the children repeat after you. Ask the children to take turns saying the hearts with you.
3. Distribute the four Wise Hearts you prepared and crayons to each child. Have the children color in their Wise Hearts.

4. Distribute the ribbons and glue sticks. Show the children the holes you punched in the ribbons. Explain that this is the top of their ribbons so they can hang them. Help the children to glue their Wise Hearts on their ribbons in the same order as your sample. See Figure B.
5. Circulate among the children to help reinforce the Wise Hearts with invisible tape on the backs of their ribbons.
6. Make sure that the children write their names on the backs of their crafts.

Conclusion

Remind the children that a wise heart knows the difference between right and wrong. Ask the children why it is important to know the right thing to do. Encourage the children to hang these crafts in a place where they will see it often. Close with a prayer for the children to desire to have wise hearts.

Teacher Tips

- For large classes, ask a parent or an assistant to help with the preparation.



Solomon

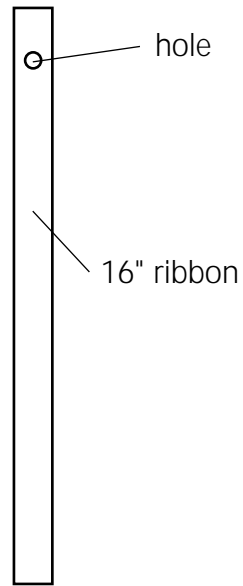
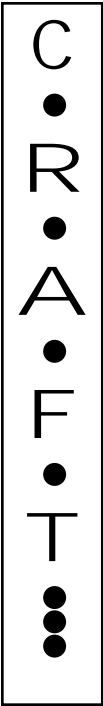


Figure A

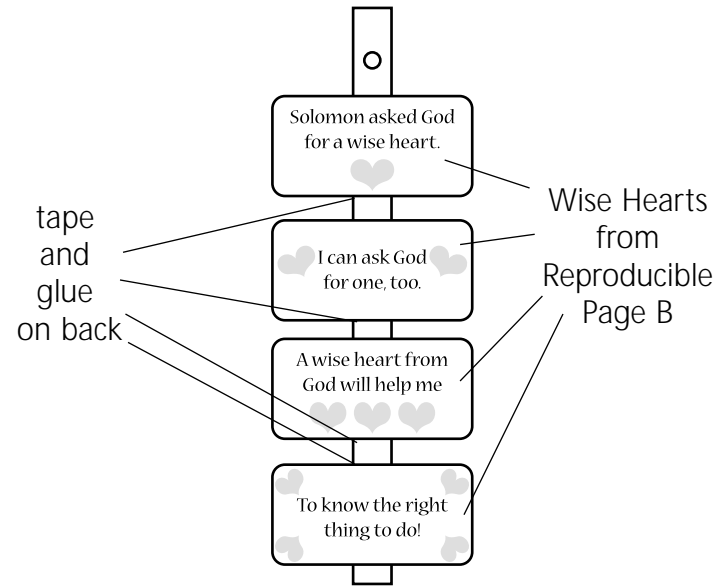


Figure B



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Bright Lights

The children will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse as they consider what it means to be wise.

Scripture Memory Verse

Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens.
Daniel 12:3

Materials

For the teacher:

- flashlight
- 1 sheet of gold star stickers

Preparation

1. Learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse.
2. Practice leading this activity.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you are learning about King Solomon, who was the son of David. Before King David died, he made his son Solomon the new king. Solomon was a young man and did not know how to lead all the people of God. He asked God to give him a wise heart so that he would know the difference between right and wrong. God gave Solomon the wise heart that he asked for and Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world. God can give us a wise heart too so that we can know the difference between right and wrong and do the right thing.*
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to the children three times, pointing to each word as you say it, and having them follow along silently. Ask them to say it with you three more times together, pointing to the words. Ask the children to each take a turn saying it together with you to the rest of the group.
3. Tell the children to listen carefully as you say the verse. Explain that you will stop and they will finish the verse:
 - *Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the _____(heavens).*

- *Those who are wise will shine like the _____ (brightness of the heavens).*
- *Those who are wise will _____ (shine like the brightness of the heavens).*
- *Those who are _____ (wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens.)*
- *Those _____ (who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens.)*
Make sure that the children end each time saying the reference, Daniel 12:3.

4. Show the children the flashlight. Have them pass the flashlight around the circle as they say the verse one word at a time. The child who is holding the flashlight when the verse is completed may stand and shine the light on the ceiling and say the entire verse from memory. Continue this until each child has had a chance. (Encourage any children who have already had a turn to give the flashlight to another child who has not.)
5. If your facility permits you to turn off the lights, give each child a turn to shine the flashlight on the Scripture Memory Verse and say it to the rest of the class, alone or with a partner.

A Star is Born

Give each child a gold star sticker for successfully learning today's Scripture Memory Verse. Tell them to let it remind them how God sees them when they are wise.

Conclusion

Ask the children which they would prefer: a bright, sunny day or a dark, cloudy day. (Answers may vary.) Tell the children that when they are wise and do what is right, they are like a sunny day to God. Ask the children to think how God feels when they do not do what is right. Close with a prayer for the children to love to make God happy.

Teacher Tips

- To further illustrate the concept of heavenly brightness, you may want to bring in pictures of the sun, moon and stars.
- Think of additional ways to use the flashlight in this activity.



Solomon



Those who are wise will
shine like the brightness
of the heavens.

Daniel 12:3



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Lesson Objectives

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Lesson Text

1 Kings 3:4-15

Scripture Memory Verse

Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens.
Daniel 12:3

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: God's Wheel of Fortune

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: You Asked for It

Game: Call of the Wise

Bible Skills: Star Chart

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



God's Wheel of Fortune

The children will review key ideas from this week's lesson about Solomon.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 paper plate, 6"
- brass fastener
- crayons and markers
- glue stick
- star stickers

For the teacher:

- scissors
- sharp pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the circles from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. Cut out the windows from the top cir-

cles. With a sharp pencil or scissors, poke a hole through the center of the paper plate and the top and bottom circles. This is for the brass fastener.

3. Make a sample to show the children.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Remind the children that they are learning about King Solomon, who was given a wise heart by God. When Solomon was a young man, he asked God to give him wisdom to lead the people. God gave him not only the wisdom he asked for, but many other blessings as well.
2. Show the children the sample you made. Explain that later in class they will discuss each picture and how God can help them know the right thing to do.

3. Distribute the circles you prepared, the paper plates, glue sticks and crayons.
4. Have the children color and glue their bottom circles to their paper plates.
5. Circulate among the children to help them attach the "window" circle on top of the other circle, using the brass fastener. Have them color and decorate the top circle, and write their name in the space provided. Make sure they put their names on their plates.
6. For children who finish early, have them make an extra for late children.
7. Collect the wheels and give them to the Life Application teacher.

Teacher Tips

- Reproducing Page C on heavy paper would eliminate the need for paper plates and glue sticks.

LIFE APPLICATION

You Asked for It

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they ask God to give them wise hearts.

Materials

For each child:

- wheel from Preclass

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, write: Home; Church; School; Neighborhood.
2. Obtain the wheels made by the children in Preclass.
3. Practice leading this activity.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 3. *In your Bible Story this week, you learned about King Solomon, who was the son of David. Before King David died, he made his son Solomon the new king. Solomon was a young man and did not know how to lead the people of God. One night, God appeared to Solomon and told him to ask for whatever he wanted. Solomon asked God to give him a wise heart so that he would know the right thing to do. God gave Solomon the wise heart that he asked for and Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world. Solomon asked God for a wise heart so that he would know the right thing to do. Today, you are going to ask God for a wise heart so that you can know the right thing to do, too.*

Life Application

Distribute the children's wheels. Show the children the four different places listed on the large writing surface. Point to the word "Church" and have the children turn to that picture on their wheels. Tell the children to imagine the following situation and think of what would be the right thing to do.

- *Tommy is a new child in Bible class. His mother was baptized last week. He is very quiet. He does not know the Bible at all and some children in the class have made fun of him. What do you think would be the right thing to do?* After the children have

responded, ask for one child to pray and ask God to help them do the right thing in this situation.

Point to the word "School" and have the children turn to that picture on their wheels.

- *Darla is a girl at school who is very smart. She is so smart that she is in class with third graders. Most of the children in your class say that she thinks she is better than everyone else. But you have noticed that she always sits alone at lunch and on the bus. What do you think would be the right thing to do?* After the children have responded, ask for one child to pray and ask God to help them do the right thing in this situation.

Point to the word "Home" and have the children turn to that picture on their wheels. Ask the children why it is important to know the right thing to do at home. Ask for a child to pray and ask God to help them do the right thing at home.

Point to the word "Neighborhood" and have the children turn to that picture on their wheels. Ask the children why it is important to know the right thing to do when they are out in their neighborhood. Ask for a child to pray and ask God to help them do the right thing in their neighborhood.

Prayer Manners

Remind the children to show respect to each other and God when another child is praying. Encourage them to close their eyes and listen as their classmates pray. Tell them to treat each other the way they would want to be treated when they are praying.

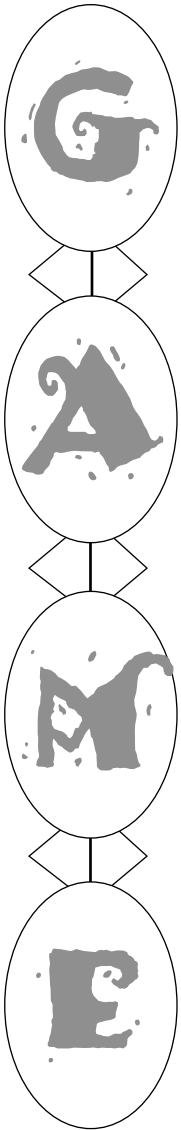
Conclusion

Collect the children's wheels and place them in a safe place until it is time to go. Tell the children that God gave Solomon a wise heart so that he always knew the right thing to do. Encourage the children that God can give them wise hearts, too!

Teacher Tips

- If more children want to pray, make time at the end for those who did not have a chance.





Call of the Wise

The children will review key ideas from this week's lesson as they play this musical passing game.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 2 bean bags
- cassette player with music

Preparation

Practice leading this game at home.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity by reviewing the Bible Story. Your review will also help prepare them for this game. Tell the children that you are going to review the story with them twice. The first time you will tell the story and the children will listen carefully. The second time, you will leave out words for them to say. Have the children work together.

In your Bible Story this week, you learned about Solomon. Before King David died, he made his son Solomon the new king. Solomon was a young man and did not know how to lead the people of God. One night, God appeared to Solomon and told him to ask for whatever he wanted. Solomon asked God to give him a wise heart so that he would know the right thing to do. God gave Solomon a wise heart and Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world. Solomon asked God for a wise heart so he would know the right thing to do.

In your Bible Story this week, you learned about _____ (Solomon). Before King David died, he made his son Solomon the new _____ (king). Solomon was a young man and did not know how to _____ (lead) the people of God. One night, God appeared to Solomon and told him to ask for _____ (whatever he wanted.) Solomon asked God to give him a wise _____ (heart) so that he would know the right thing to do. God gave Solomon a wise heart and Solomon was known as the wisest man in the _____ (world). Solomon asked God for a wise heart so he would know the right thing to do.

2. Have the children sit in a circle. Tell them that this game is played like "hot potato." Show them the bean bags and tell them that they will pass two bean bags around the circle until the music stops. The children holding the bean bags will stand and answer a question about this week's Bible Story from the back of this Lesson Card.
3. Play as many rounds as time permits. Feel free to ask the same questions more than once.

Variation: Team Play

Divide the children into two teams and give each one a bean bag. Have each team sit in a line. As the music is playing, have the children pass the bean bag up and down the line. When the music stops, have the children holding the bean bags stand up. Ask a question from the back of this Lesson Card. The first child to raise his hand may answer the question first. If he answers correctly, he wins a point for his team. If he does not, the other player may answer and receive a point for a correct answer.

NOTE: If a child calls out an answer without raising his hand, he may not win a point. This is to teach the children to respect each other.

Conclusion

Encourage the children for their participation. Remind them that they will have decisions to make everyday and God wants to help them. Ask the children if they can think of a situation right now that they need God's help to know the right thing to do. Close with a prayer for the children to remember to ask God to give them wise hearts this week.

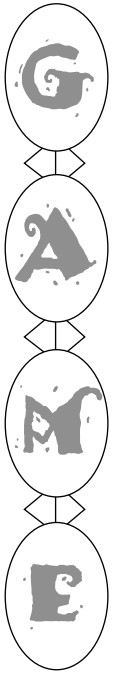
Teacher Tips

- Know your class. If you have children who are younger and less confident, play the first version of this game. Save the team version for older children who are confident and enjoy the competitive aspect of the game.

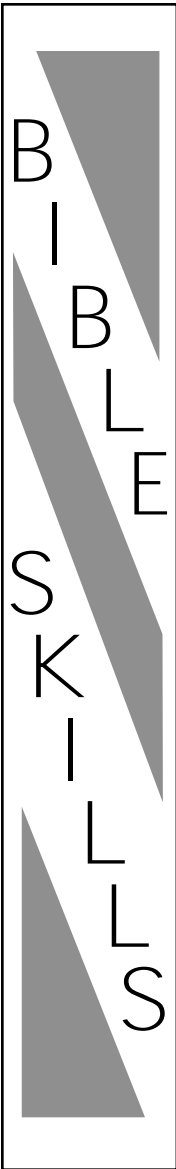


Call of the Wise

Questions and Answers

**Yes or No?**

- Solomon was the son of David. (Yes)
- David was the son of Solomon. (No)
- Before he died, King David made his son Solomon the new king. (Yes)
- Solomon was a very old man when he first became king. (No)
- Solomon did not need a wise heart to lead the people of God. (No)
- God appeared to Solomon in a dream and told him to ask for whatever he wanted. (Yes)
- Solomon asked God for a wise heart to help the people. (Yes)
- God refused to give Solomon a wise heart. (No)
- God gave Solomon a wise heart. (Yes)
- Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world. (Yes)
- A wise heart will help you know the right thing to do. (Yes)
- God does not care if you do the right thing. (No)
- It makes God happy when you know the right thing to do and you do it. (Yes)
- The Bible says, "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens." Daniel 12:3 (Yes)



Star Chart

The children will learn key ideas from the book of Proverbs.

Materials

For each child:

- 6 gold star stickers

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Mark the following scriptures in your Bible: Proverbs 1:2; 10:1; 11:17; 12:25; 18:1.
2. On the large writing surface, neatly write Proverbs in large letters.
3. Practice leading this activity.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you learned about Solomon. Before King David died, he made his son Solomon the new king. Solomon was a young man and he did not know how to lead the people of God. One night, God appeared to Solomon and told him to ask for whatever he wanted. Solomon asked God to give him a wise heart so that he would know the right thing to do. God gave Solomon a wise heart and Solomon was known as the wisest man in the world. Solomon wrote much of his wisdom for people to read and learn. The Old Testament book of Proverbs contains many of Solomon's wisest sayings.*
2. Have the children find a partner or small group of three. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D. Point to the word "Proverbs" on the large writing surface and tell them to find the Old Testament book of Proverbs in their Bibles. Circulate among the children to offer help and encouragement. Once all the children have located it, give each child a star sticker of encouragement. Tell them to place it next to the word Proverbs at the tops of their pages.
3. On the large writing surface, neatly write "1:2" in large num-

bers. Tell the children to find Proverbs chapter 1 verse 2 and put their finger on it. When all the children have located it, give each child another sticker of encouragement. Tell them to place it next to Proverbs 1:2 on their pages.

- *This verse tells us that the reason for the book of Proverbs is to help us find wisdom—or to know the right thing to do.*
4. On the large writing surface, neatly write "10:1" in large numbers. Tell the children to find Proverbs chapter 10 verse 1 and put their finger on it. When all the children have located it, give each child another sticker of encouragement. Tell them to place it next to Proverbs 10:1 on their pages.
 - *This verse teaches that a wise son makes his daddy happy and a foolish son makes his mommy sad. Do we want to be wise? Yes!*
 5. On the large writing surface, neatly write "11:17" in large numbers. Tell the children to find Proverbs chapter 11 verse 17 and put their finger on it. When all the children have located it, give each child another sticker of encouragement. Tell them to place it next to Proverbs 11:17 on their pages.
 - *This verse says that when you are kind you benefit yourself; but when you are mean you bring yourself trouble. Do we want to be kind? Yes!*
 6. On the large writing surface, neatly write "12:25" in large numbers. Tell the children to find Proverbs chapter 12 verse 25 and put their finger on it. When all the children have located it, give each child another sticker of encouragement. Tell them to place it next to Proverbs 12:25 on their pages.
 - *This verse says a kind word cheers you up. Do you like someone to cheer you up when you are sad? Yes!*
 7. On the large writing surface, neatly write "18:1" in large numbers. Tell the children to find Proverbs chapter 18 verse 1 and put their finger on it. When all the children have located it, give each child another sticker of encouragement. Tell them to place it next to Proverbs 18:1 on their pages.
 - *This verse teaches us that when we are unfriendly, we are being selfish. Do we want to be selfish? No!*





Conclusion

Encourage the children that the Bible is full of wisdom and ways to help us learn to do what is right. Encourage the children to read in the book of Proverbs with their parents for a family devotional. Praise them for the great job they did today and suggest that they display their Star Charts in a place where they will see it often. Close with a prayer thanking God for the Bible.

Teacher Tips

- Provide a variety of size and shape star stickers to enrich this activity.

Star Chart

Name _____

Proverbs

Proverbs 1:2

Proverbs 10:1

Proverbs 11:17

Proverbs 12:25

Proverbs 18:1



Core/Preclass
1 copy for each child

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PAGE


A







King Solomon





finger puppet figure



Solomon asked
God 

 I can ask God 

A wise heart from
  

 To know the right 
 

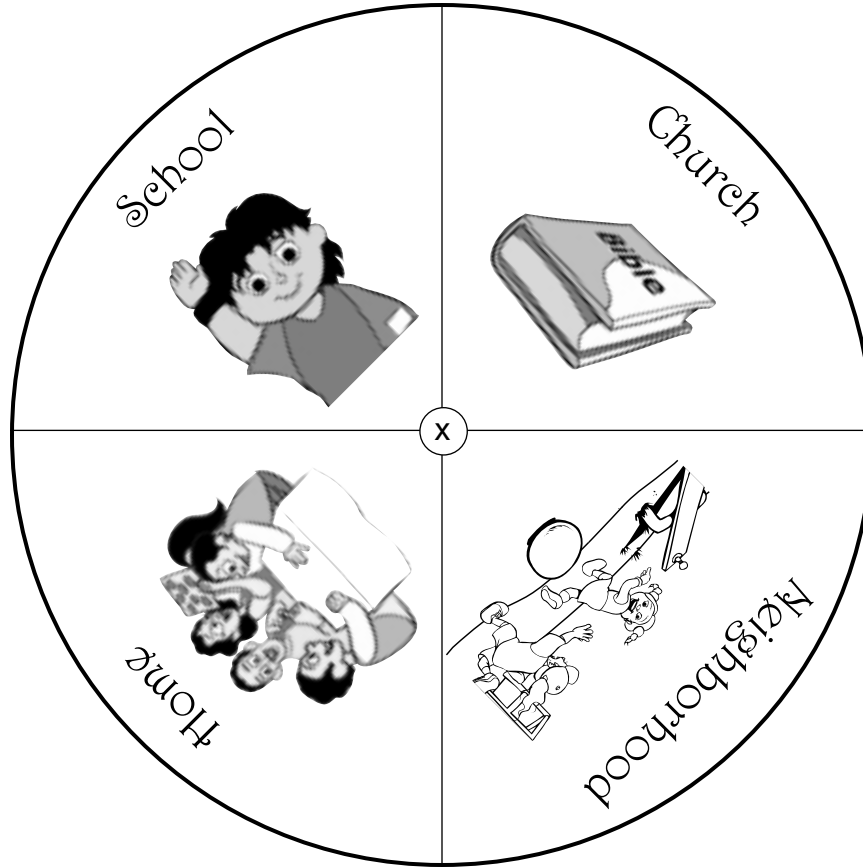
wise hearts



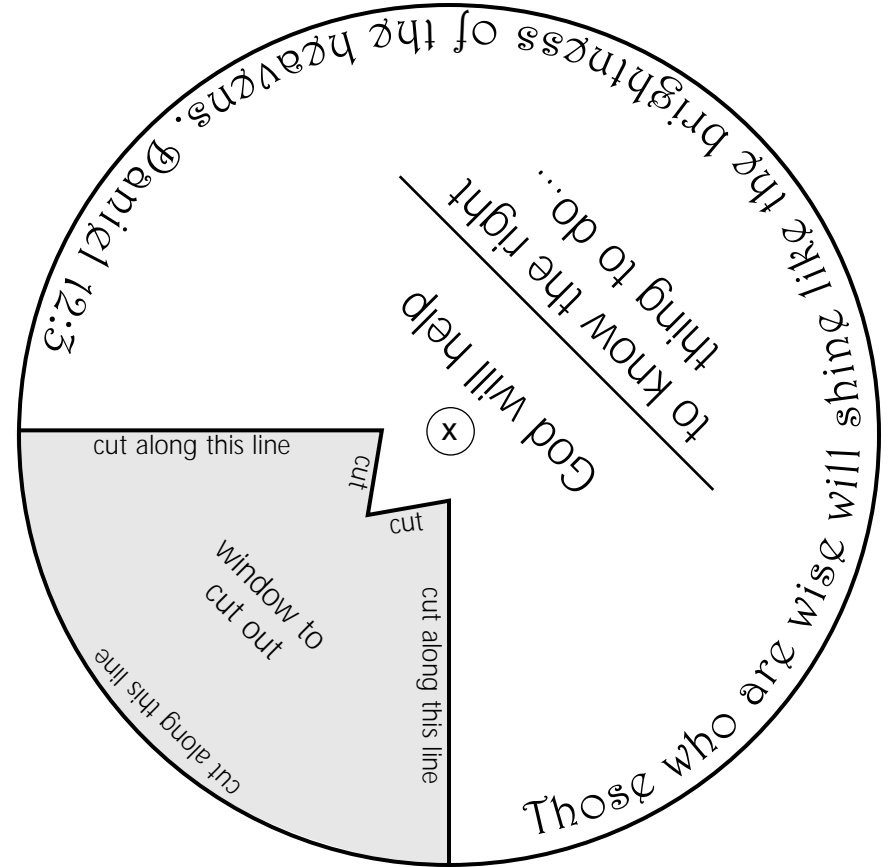
Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child (Optional - heavy paper)

REPRODUCTION
PAGE C



bottom circle



top circle



Supplement/Bible Skills
1 copy for each child



Name _____

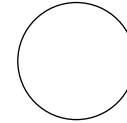
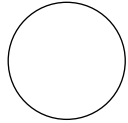
Proverbs



Proverbs 1:2



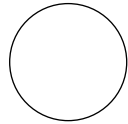
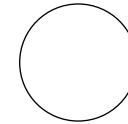
Proverbs 10:1



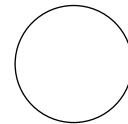
Proverbs 11:17



Proverbs 12:25



Proverbs 18:1



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