

## **Week 49**

## **Solomon Asks for Wisdom**

**Series:** Solomon

**Application:** God gives us wisdom.

**Memory Verse:** D2 “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God.” James 1:5

D3 “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.” James 1:5

### **Preparation Notes**

Before David died he gave his son Solomon some instructions:

- Be strong and act like a man
- Walk in God’s ways, keeping His commands.

David died and Solomon became king.

The Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream. He said to Solomon, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.” Solomon asked God for wisdom to govern the people of Israel and distinguish between right and wrong. The Lord was pleased with Solomon’s request, and that he hadn’t asked for riches or for his enemies to be destroyed, so He promised him not only wisdom, but riches and honour as well.

Two prostitutes came to Solomon and stood before him with a problem. They both lived in the same house and they both had babies. However, one woman’s baby had died during the night. One woman accused the other of swopping the dead baby for her own. The women started to argue, both saying that the live baby was theirs.

Solomon asked for a sword, and then gave orders for the live baby to be cut in half, so that one half could be given to each woman. The real mother of the baby was filled with compassion and asked Solomon not to kill the baby, but to give it to the other Woman. The woman who wasn’t the real mother, however, said “Cut him in two, neither of us shall have him.”

Solomon ordered that the baby be given to the woman who had tried to save the baby, as she must be the real mother and was concerned for his welfare.

When all of Israel heard about this, they realised that Solomon had wisdom from God.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 1)**

- God said Solomon could have anything he wanted.

- Solomon asked for wisdom.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 2)**

- David's son Solomon became king
- Solomon asked God for wisdom
- Everyone knew that Solomon was wise when he sorted out a difficult quarrel between two mothers.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 3)**

- Solomon could have asked for riches, power or long life but didn't.
- God gave him these things anyway (see also Matthew 6:33).
- You can ask for wisdom (see James 1:5).

### **Discoverers 1**

#### **Bible Bit.**

The story can simply relate God's promise, or can continue with Solomon's judgement. Try to find a simple definition of wisdom for this age group.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Allow the children to work through some puzzles. Remind them that Solomon was good at working out difficult puzzles.

### **Discoverers 2**

#### **Bible Bit.**

Have various bits of equipment ready to show the children and ask them if they can guess what it's for, e.g. compass for walking, whisk for making an omelette. Ask them what equipment they think a king would need to rule a country. Tell Solomon's story and explain that wisdom is vital if you are going to be a good ruler.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Using DWK 49:1, make the Wise Old Owl proverbs reminder.

### **Discoverers 3**

#### **Bible Bit.**

Using props such as a baby doll, crown and sword etc., act out the story dramatically.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

'Find the Bible verse' racing game relating to asking God for wisdom.  
DWK49:2.

**Talk time.**

- What's the difference between wisdom and knowledge? Where do we get knowledge from? Where do we get wisdom from?
- What is more important wisdom or faith? (see Isaiah 29:14 and 1 Corinthians 1:19).

**Prayer and worship.**