

## God Gave Solomon Wisdom (1 Kings 2–3)



Dear families,

What exactly do you pray for the next generation? When you ask God to move and work in the coming generations, what is it that you are asking Him to do? You may hope for them to be good and productive citizens. It may be that you hope to see them make good decisions, marry the right person, and raise a beautiful family. It may be that you hope they will become committed to the local church and even show evidence of their love for God in how they serve others.

In 1 Kings 2, we see an incredible example of how to pray for the next generation. Whether your own kids, your future kids, the kids you are investing in through your church, or others that you influence, consider David's desire. David's hope for his son demonstrates what we ought to hope and pray for the next generation.

The first four verses of 1 Kings 2 contain David's dying words to his son Solomon. David knew his days were few, and he took the opportunity to call Solomon to what he knew would be best. Ultimately, David told Solomon to grow into a godly man who is faithful to the Lord in every way. Specifically, David called Solomon "to walk in his ways and to keep his statutes, commands, ordinances, and decrees."

When you think about the way you pray for the next generation, does it sound like this? Does it sound like the words of a dying father who knows his child's only hope is to trust in God and

follow Him faithfully? Or does it sound more like a hopeful fan who wants a good, moral societal participant that they will be associated with and maybe even reap the benefits of their success?

We ought to want what God wants for our own lives and the lives of the next generation that we are investing in. It shouldn't matter if they are our biological kids, adoptive kids, foster kids, or church kids. Our hope should be that they would faithfully follow God as they grow into godly people who are faithful to the Lord in every way.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

## FAMILY TALKING POINTS

### CHRIST CONNECTION

*This is the big idea of how this week's Bible story points to Jesus.*

- **Babies & Toddlers:** Jesus is the wisest king of all.
- **Younger Preschool:** Solomon was a wise king who wanted to follow God's plan. God had a plan to send a wiser king—Jesus. Jesus trusted God and followed God's plan.
- **Older Preschool:** Solomon was a wise king who wanted to follow God's plan, but Solomon was not perfect. God had a plan to send a greater and wiser king—Jesus. Jesus trusted God and followed God's plan by dying on the cross for our sin.
- **Kids:** Solomon was a wise king who wanted to do God's plan. Solomon wasn't perfect, but God had a plan to give His people a greater and wiser king—His Son, Jesus. Jesus completely trusted God. Jesus surrendered His own life to die on the cross for our sin.

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER

*This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

- **Younger Preschool:** What is mercy? Mercy is when God does not give us the punishment that we deserve.
- **Older Preschool:** What is mercy? Mercy is when God does not give us the punishment that we deserve.
- **Kids:** What is mercy? Mercy is when God does not give us the punishment that we deserve.

### KEY PASSAGE

*This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.*

- **Babies & Toddlers:** The Lord is a kind and loving God. Exodus 34:6
- **Younger Preschool:** The Lord is a kind and loving God. Exodus 34:6
- **Older Preschool:** The LORD is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth. Exodus 34:6

- **Kids:** The LORD—the LORD is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, rebellion, and sin. Exodus 34:6-7

**\*\* Next week:** Solomon Built the Temple (1 Kings 6–9)