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David Anointed King

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Theme: God looks at the heart, not the outward appearance

Nursery (Ages 0-2)

Free curriculum for small and rural churches

Lesson Overview

"God Loves Us! Wisdom is His Gift!" "God is so kind and loves you, just like the sun loves flowers! When Solomon asked for wisdom, God gave him love and strength. Ask God today: 'Thank You for Your love!'" (Repeat: "God loves us! God loves us!" with hand motions or simple actions.)

Bible Story

Solomon's Wise Question

Once, King Solomon was very smart and kind. God loved him so much that he asked him to ask for something special.

One day, two women came to Solomon. They both said they had a baby. The other woman cried, "This baby is really mine!" But the first woman said, "It's mine too!" The baby was so small that they couldn't tell which was the real mother.

Solomon said, "God knows when a baby is crying and who really loves it best." He said, "Divide the baby in two, give half to each woman." Then one woman said, "Oh no, give the baby to me!" The other said, "Fine, but take the other half!" So Solomon gave the baby to the woman who wanted to love it.

This is how God showed Solomon that He gives wisdom to those who ask for it with a heart full of love.

Why This Story Matters God always listens to children who trust Him. Just like Solomon asked for wisdom, we can ask God to teach us to be kind, smart, and full of love too! He loves us so much, just like He loved Solomon.

Key Verse

1 Samuel 16:7

"God loves you so much!" "God is kind and listens to us. He knows what's good for you, just like a big hug from a friend." "God wants you to be safe and happy, just like He loves you!"

Activities**Activity 1:**

Little ones learn that God gave Solomon wisdom like a big tree growing strong for everyone to see.

1. Make the tree: Cut a big green circle from paper (like a leafy top). Glue it on the plate.
2. Glue leaves: Help kids add red and yellow leaves all around. Say, "God grows wisdom like this tree, every leaf is a gift!"
3. Draw roots: Let them color the plate trunk (or paper) brown. Write "God's love is strong like roots!"
4. Read together: Point to 1 Kings 3:5-6 ("The Lord appeared to Solomon..."). Say, "Solomon asked God for wisdom, just like you ask for help!"

Activity 2:

Kids clap and sing while holding balloons to show God's love is gentle, like a balloon floating in the air.

1. Blow up balloons: Give each child a balloon. Say, "God loves you like this, so soft and sweet!"
2. Sing together: Clap hands or clap with balloon while singing:
3. "God's love is like a balloon,
4. It floats and it's always round.
5. He loves you, just ask Him,
6. 'Cause He gives good things 'round!"
7. Pass the balloon: Hold hands and pass balloons around. "God wants us to share His love!"
8. Read a verse: Point to 1 Kings 3:10 ("God said, 'Ask for whatever you want...']"). Say, "Solomon asked for wisdom, just like you can ask God for kindness!"
9. Both activities focus on God's love through simple, interactive touchpoints!

Discussion Questions

- Here are four simple, open-ended questions about God's love based on Solomon Asking for Wisdom (1 Kings 3:1-15):
- When Solomon asked God for wisdom, what did he say he needed most? (Encourage them to name wisdom as something good and wise choices.)
- "What kind of wisdom would help you make good choices today?"
- God loves us so much! How can we show God we love Him back? (Let them share how kindness, listening, or praying helps them feel close to God.)
- "If Solomon asked God for help, what would YOU ask Him today?"
- The Bible says God gave Solomon a big heart. What does 'big heart' mean? (Help them think of it like having a kind, open, and listening heart.)
- "How can a 'big heart' make you feel happy or brave?"
- Solomon wanted God to be his guide. How can we ask God to help us make good decisions too? (Remind them God wants to protect and guide them.)
- "If you had a question, who would you ask, God or someone else? Why?"

Prayer Focus

"Dear God, you love us so much! You made little ones like us just right. We ask for your wisdom and kindness today. Thank you for loving us always, just like Solomon asked!"

>> Missions Spotlight

The Akan people of Ghana have a rich tradition of proverbs and wisdom sayings. Missionaries have found that Solomon's story resonates deeply, and the concept of 'wisdom from God' opens doors to share about Jesus, the Wisdom of God.

-> To the Cross

Solomon asked for wisdom and God was pleased. But the Bible says, 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.' True wisdom leads us to Jesus, 'in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge' (Colossians 2:3).