

E25. Ascension Day

Luke 24:44-53; Mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:9-11

Memory Verse

*"When the Lord Jesus finished speaking to them, He was taken up into heaven.
He sat down at the right hand of God. --Mark 16:19 (NIRV)*

Bible Lesson

Message:

Share the good news!

Luke:

Jesus said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you. Everything written about me must happen. Everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms must come true."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written. The Christ will suffer. He will rise from the dead on the third day. His followers will preach in his name. They will tell others to turn away from their sins and be forgiven. People from every nation will hear it, beginning at Jerusalem. You have seen these things with your own eyes.

"I am going to send you what my Father has promised. But for now, stay in the city. Stay there until you have received power from heaven."

(Jesus Is Taken Up into Heaven)

Jesus led his disciples out to the area near Bethany. Then he lifted his hands up and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them. He was taken up into heaven.

Then they worshiped him. With great joy, they returned to Jerusalem. Every day they went to the temple, praising God.

Mark:

In today's story, Jesus is speaking to His disciples:

He said to them, "Go everywhere in the world. Tell the good news to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who does not believe will be judged guilty."

Jesus went on to say that those who believe will be able to do miraculous things, including: Being able to drive out spirits that are not Godly, they will be able to speak many languages that they had not known before and they will be able to heal those who are sick that they will get well.

When the Lord Jesus finished speaking to them, he was taken up into heaven. He sat down at the right hand of God. Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere. The Lord worked with them. And he backed up his word by the signs that went with it.

Acts:

After Jesus said this, he was taken up to heaven. They watched until a cloud hid him from their sight.

While he was going up, they kept on looking at the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothing stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking at the sky? Jesus has been taken away from you into heaven. But he will come back in the same way you saw him go."

Talk About It

Talk with your child about how there are many times in our lives when we are asked to follow someone or something. We may need to follow what others are doing, follow a set of instructions that are given, and we are also expected to follow Jesus. Are you willing to give up everything and follow Jesus, just like His disciples did? God is not asking us to leave our families or give back all our toys, but we can still follow Jesus with all our hearts. We need to fill our heart with good things, like love and joy and peace (refer to the fruit of the spirit) and try to get rid of the things that are not so good in our hearts. This is how we follow Jesus with our whole hearts. By following Jesus in this way, we are sharing the “good news” with others, without saying a word. We are showing others through our example. Talk about it.



E26. Pentecost

Acts 2:1-41

Memory Verse

*"But the Father will send the Friend in my name to help you. The Friend is the Holy Spirit."
--John 14:26 (NIRV)*

Bible Lesson

Message: *Let the Holy Spirit guide you.*

The day of Pentecost came. The disciples were all gathered in one place. Suddenly a sound came from heaven. It was like a strong wind blowing. It filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw something that looked like flames of fire. The flames separated and stood over person that was there. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and they began to speak in languages they had not known before. The Spirit gave them the ability to do this.

A crowd of people gathered when they heard the people speaking in different languages. There were some very religious Jewish people staying in Jerusalem who were from every country in the world. When they heard the noise, a crowd came and gathered together. Everyone was surprised, because they heard the disciples speaking in their own languages. They were amazed by this. They asked, "Aren't all these people from Galilee? Why, then, do we each hear them speaking in our own native language? We are from different places: Parthia, Media, Elam, Mesopotamia, Judea, Capadocia, Pontus, Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, the areas of Libya near Cyrene, Rome, Crete, and Arabia. But we hear these men speaking about God's wonders in our own languages!" The people were amazed!

But others were making fun of them, saying that they had too much wine to drink.

Then Peter stood up with the other 11 Apostles and explained to the crowd that they had not been drinking wine and that these things that had happened were just as Joel the prophet wrote about (in the Old Testament). Jesus had walked on the earth, performed miracles, been nailed on the cross, was killed by you, and had risen from the dead. Peter reminded the people that they had all witnessed these things. Jesus was now lifted up to heaven and is at God's right side. God gave the Holy Spirit to Jesus, and Jesus has poured out that Spirit on earth. That is what you are hearing.

When the people heard this, they said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

Peter replied, "All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven. You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children. It is also for all who are far away. It is for all whom the Lord our God will choose."

Those who accepted his message were baptized. About 3,000 people joined the believers that day. And they continued to share, to have fellowship, and to pray together.

Talk About It

In today's lesson, Jesus told His Apostles to go and preach the good news about the kingdom of heaven, to heal the sick, to baptize with water and the Holy Spirit, and perform miracles. What a huge task they had before them! The Apostles could not rely on their own power to carry out their mission. But they were given everything they needed, even the power to perform miracles.

Talk with your child and share with him/her that Jesus also has a mission for their life. Jesus is asking them to follow Him and obey His commandments and His teachings. Sometimes this is very hard to do, but we need to remember that Jesus will give us the "power" and strength that we need in order to do these things, if we ask. Talk about it.

E27. David is King

2 Samuel 5:1-4 and 2 Samuel 7

Memory Verse

“Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.”

--Proverbs 3:6 (NLT)

Bible Lessons

Message:

God has a plan for your life.

Teacher Note: *Depending on your children (age and spirituality), you may want to pay special attention to David’s prayer, how he prayed, and the kinds of things he prayed for, and learn from it. This could be a class activity idea.*

Background Note – King Saul died in battle.

2 Samuel 5 ~ David Becomes King Over Israel

All of the tribes of Israel came to see David at Hebron. They said, "We are your own flesh and blood. In the past, Saul was our king. But you led the men of Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, 'You will be the shepherd over my people Israel. You will become their ruler.' "

All of the elders of Israel came to see King David at Hebron. There the king made a covenant with them in the sight of the Lord. They anointed David as king over Israel. David was 30 years old when he became king. He ruled for 40 years.

2 Samuel 7 ~ God Makes a Promise to David

The king settled down in his palace. The Lord had given him peace and rest from all of his enemies who were around him. Then the king spoke to the prophet Nathan. He said, "Here I am, living in a palace that has beautiful cedar walls. But the ark of God remains in a tent."

Nathan replied to the king, "Go ahead and do what you want to. The Lord is with you." That night the word of the Lord came to Nathan. The Lord said, "Go and speak to my servant David. Tell him, 'The Lord says, "Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house from the day I brought the people of Israel up out of Egypt until now. I have been moving from place to place. I have been living in a tent. I have moved from place to place with all of the people of Israel. I commanded their rulers to be shepherds over them. I never asked any of those rulers, 'Why haven't you built me a house that has beautiful cedar walls? So tell my servant David, 'The Lord who rules over all says, "I took you away from the grasslands. That's where you were taking care of your father's sheep and goats. I made you ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you everywhere you have gone. I cut off all of your enemies when you were attacking them. Now I will make you famous. Your name will be just as respected as the names of the most important people on earth. I will provide a place where my people Israel can live. I will plant them in the land. Then they will have a home of their own. They will not be bothered anymore. Evil people will no longer crush them, as they did at first. That is what your enemies have done ever since I appointed leaders over my people Israel. But I will give you peace and rest from all of them. I tell you that I myself will set up a royal house for you.

Someday your life will come to an end. You will join the members of your family who have already died. Then I will make one of your own sons the next king after you. And I will make his kingdom secure. He is the one who will build a house where I will put my Name. I will set up the throne of his kingdom. It will last forever. I will be

his father. And he will be my son. I took my love away from Saul. I removed him from being king. You were there when I did it. But I will never take my love away from your son. Your royal house and your kingdom will last forever in my sight. Your throne will last forever." ' ' "

Nathan reported to David all of the words that the Lord had spoken to him.

David Prays to the Lord

Then King David went into the holy tent. He sat down in front of the Lord. He said, "Lord and King, who am I? My family isn't important. So why have you brought me this far? I would have thought that you had already done more than enough for me. But now, Lord and King, you have also spoken about what is going to happen to my royal house in days to come. Lord and King, is this your usual way of dealing with people? What more can I say to you? Lord and King, you know all about me. You have done a wonderful thing. You have made it known to me. You have done it because that's what you said you would do. It's exactly what you wanted to do for me. Lord and King, how great you are! There isn't anyone like you. There isn't any God but you. We have heard about it with our own ears. Who is like your people Israel? God, we are the one nation on earth you have saved. You have set us free for yourself. Your name has become famous. You have done great and wonderful things. You have driven out nations and their gods to make room for your people. You saved us when you set us free from Egypt. You made Israel your very own people forever. Lord, you have become our God. And now, Lord God, keep forever the promise you have made to me and my royal house. Do exactly as you promised. Then your name will be honored forever. People will say, 'The Lord rules over all. He is God over Israel.' My royal house will be made secure in your sight. Lord who rules over all, you are the God of Israel. Here's what you have shown me. You told me, 'I will build you a royal house.' So I can boldly offer this prayer to you. Lord and King, you are God! Your words can be trusted. You have promised many good things to me. Now please bless my royal house. Then it will continue forever in your sight. Lord and King, you have spoken. Because you have given my royal house your blessing, it will be blessed forever."

Talk About It

In today's story, David finally became the King over Israel, just as God had prepared the way. God took care of David over and over again, and David always put his trust in God and followed Him with his whole heart. As a result, David was able to experience the overflow of God's blessings.

Talk with your child and let him know that when we seek God and follow Him above everything else in our lives, then we are able to experience His blessings. When we follow God with our whole heart, just as David did, God is able to show us the plan He has for our life. Share with your child that God has a plan for each of our lives. When we seek Him and do our best to follow Him, then His plan will be able to become our reality. Talk about it.

E28. Psalm 23

Psalm 23:1-6

Memory Verse

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

--Psalm 23:1 (NKJV)

Bible Lesson

Message: Keep your eyes on Jesus, the good shepherd.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

²He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

³He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;

For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell^a in the house of the LORD Forever.

Psalm 23 was written by David, who spent his early years as a shepherd. Sheep are completely dependent on the shepherd for protection, provision and guidance. In the New Testament, Jesus is referred to as the good shepherd (John 10:11) and even the Great Shepherd (1 Peter 5:4).

Just as Jesus is the good shepherd, we are his sheep and we are to follow obediently, knowing that He will lead us to the right places and in the right ways of God. When we allow Him to lead us, we find peace and contentment. Jesus knows exactly where to find the green pastures and beautiful waters that will restore us.

Talk About It

Option #1:

Play a game of “Simon Says” with your child. After you play a few rounds, talk together with your child about how easy or difficult it is sometimes to keep our eyes and ears on “Simon” in order to stay in the game. Talk with your child about how as Christians, our goal is to keep our eyes and ears turned toward Jesus, so that we can become more like Him. Remind your child that when we are successful at following Jesus’ example, we will know

what is right. When we start to look at or listen to other people, we can get confused and not always make good choices or do the right thing. Share with your child how important it is to take a few minutes each day to spend quiet time and prayer time with God so that we can stay focused on Him and Jesus' example for us.

Option #2:

Talk with your child and remind him that Jesus is our Lord and Shepherd. He gave His own life to save us from the evil one (Satan). If we follow Jesus, then we are considered one of His sheep and we have nothing to be afraid of if we stay close to Him.

Look up Isaiah 41:10 and read it together. Remind your child that they have nothing to be afraid of when God is on our side. He is always with us, and we can call out to Him at any time. Talk about it.

Option #3:

Talk with your child about "mercy". Look it up in the dictionary to see what it means. Then, share with your child a time when you gave mercy to someone, OR a time when someone showed mercy toward you. Talk with your child about how God is extraordinarily merciful toward us, and so he expects us to also extend mercy to others in the same way.

Look up Luke 6:27-28 in your Bible and read it together. Remind your child (again) that God wants us to extend mercy to others, and that when we do, we are also sharing the love of Jesus with them. What are some ways that you could extend mercy toward someone this week? Talk about it.



E29. Solomon's Wisdom

1 Kings 1:28-40; 3:3-28; 4:29-34

Memory Verse

"...Because that is what you have asked for....I will give you a wise and understanding heart...."

--1 Kings 3:11-12 (NIRV)

Bible Lesson

Message: *God will give us wisdom when we ask for it.*

1 Kings 1:28-53 ~ David Makes Solomon King

King David said, "Tell Bathsheba to come in." So she came and stood in front of the king. Then the king took an oath and made a promise. He said, "The Lord has saved me from all of my troubles. You can be sure that he lives. And you can be just as sure that I will do today what I promised in the name of the Lord. He is the God of Israel. I promised you that your son Solomon would be king after me. He will sit on my throne in my place."

Then Bathsheba bowed low with her face toward the ground. She got down on her knees in front of the king. She said, "King David, you are my master. May you live forever!"

King David said, "Tell the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan to come in. Also tell Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, to come." So they came to the king. He said to them, "Take my officials with you. Put my son Solomon on my own mule. Take him down to the Gihon spring. Have the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan anoint him as king over Israel there. Blow a trumpet. Shout, 'May King Solomon live a long time!' ³⁵ Then come back up to the city with him. Have him sit on my throne. He will rule in my place. I've appointed him ruler over Israel and Judah."

Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, answered the king. "Amen!" he said. "May the Lord your God make it come true. You are my king and master. The Lord has been with you. May he also be with Solomon. King David, may the Lord make Solomon's kingdom even greater than yours!"

So the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan left the palace. Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, went with them. So did the Kerethites and Pelethites. They put Solomon on King David's mule. And they brought him down to the Gihon spring. The priest Zadok had gotten an animal horn that was filled with olive oil. He had taken it from the sacred tent. He anointed Solomon with the oil. The trumpet was blown. All of the people shouted, "May King Solomon live a long time!"

Then they went up toward the city. Solomon was leading the way. The people were playing flutes. They were filled with great joy. The ground shook because of all of the noise.

1 Kings 3:3-28

Solomon showed his love for the Lord. He did it by obeying the laws his father David had taught him. But Solomon offered sacrifices at the high places. He also burned incense there.

King Solomon went to the city of Gibeon to offer sacrifices. That's where the most important high place was. He offered 1,000 burnt offerings on the altar that was there. The Lord appeared to Solomon at Gibeon. He spoke to him in a dream during the night. God said, "Ask for anything you want me to give you."

Solomon answered, "You have been very kind to my father David, your servant. That's because he was faithful to you. He did what was right. His heart was honest. And you have continued to be very kind to him. You have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. Lord my God, you have now made me king. You have put me in the place of my father David. But I'm only a little child. I don't know how to carry out my duties. I'm here among the people you have chosen. They are a great nation. They are more than anyone can count. So give me a heart that understands. Then I can rule over your people. I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong. Who can possibly rule over this great nation of yours?"

The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for that. 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."

Solomon woke up. He realized he had been dreaming. He returned to Jerusalem. He stood in front of the ark of the Lord's covenant. He sacrificed burnt offerings and friendship offerings. Then he gave a big dinner for all of his officials.

Solomon Judges Wisely

Two women came to the king. They stood in front of him. One of them said, "My master, this woman and I live in the same house. I had a baby while she was there with me.¹⁸ Three days after my child was born, this woman also had a baby. We were alone. There wasn't anyone in the house but the two of us. During the night this woman's baby died. It happened because she was lying on top of him. So she got up in the middle of the night. She took my son from my side while I was asleep. She put him with her. Then she put her dead son with me. The next morning, I got up to feed my son, but he was dead! I looked at him closely in the morning light. And I saw that it wasn't my baby."

The other woman said, "No! The living baby is my son. The dead one belongs to you." But the first woman said, "No! The dead baby is yours. The living one belongs to me." So they argued in front of the king.

The king said, "One of you says, 'My son is alive. Your son is dead.' The other one says, 'No! Your son is dead. Mine is alive.' " He continued, "Bring me a sword." So a sword was brought to him. Then he gave an order. He said, "Cut the living child in two. Give half to one woman and half to the other."

The woman whose son was alive was filled with deep concern for her son. She said to the king, "My master, please give her the living baby! Don't kill him!" But the other woman said, "Neither one of us will have him. Cut him in two!"

Then the king made his decision. He said, "Give the living baby to the first woman. Don't kill him. She's his mother."

All of the people of Israel heard about the decision the king had given. That gave them great respect for him. They saw that God had given him wisdom. They knew that Solomon would do what was right and fair when he judged people.

God Makes Solomon Very Wise

God made Solomon very wise. His understanding couldn't even be measured. It was like the sand on the seashore. People can't measure that either. Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of all of the people of the east. It was greater than all of the wisdom of Egypt. Solomon was wiser than any other man. He spoke 3,000 proverbs. He wrote 1,005 songs. He explained all about plants. He knew everything about them, from the cedar

trees in Lebanon to the hyssop plants that grow out of walls. He taught about animals and birds. He also taught about reptiles and fish.

The kings of all of the world's nations heard about how wise Solomon was. So they sent their people to listen to him.

Talk About It

In today's story, Solomon had a great amount of wisdom when he responded to the two women and their claims about that little baby. Talk with your child about the word "wisdom." Make sure that he/she fully understands what that word means. Read together in your Bible [James 3: 13 and 17](#) to find out more about wisdom. Remind your child that wisdom is one of those qualities that we all need to have more of in our lives. God will give us wisdom each day if we remember ask Him for it. Talk about it.



E30. Solomon Builds the Temple

1 Kings 6:1-38

Memory Verse

"Work at everything you do with all your heart..."

--Colossians 3:23 (NIRV)

Bible Lesson

Message: *In whatever you do, do your BEST for God!*

Solomon Builds the Temple

Solomon began to build the temple of the Lord. It was 480 years after the people of Israel had come out of Egypt. It was in the fourth year of Solomon's rule over Israel. He started in the second month.

The temple King Solomon built for the Lord was 90 feet long. It was 30 feet wide. And it was 45 feet high. The temple had a porch in front of the main hall. The porch was as wide as the temple itself. It was 30 feet wide. It came out 15 feet from the front of the temple. Solomon made narrow windows high up in the temple walls. He built side rooms around the temple. They were built against the walls of the main hall and the Most Holy Room.

On the first floor the side rooms were seven and a half feet wide. On the second floor they were nine feet wide. And on the third floor they were ten and a half feet wide. Solomon made the walls of the temple thinner as they went up floor by floor. The result was ledges along the walls. So the floor beams of the side rooms rested on the ledges. The beams didn't go into the temple walls.

All of the stones that were used for building the temple were shaped where they were cut. So hammers, chisels and other iron tools couldn't be heard where the temple was being built.

The entrance to the first floor was on the south side of the temple. A stairway led up to the second floor. From there it went on up to the third floor.

So Solomon built the temple and finished it. He made its roof out of beams and cedar boards. He built side rooms all along the temple. Each room was seven and a half feet high. They were joined to the temple by cedar beams.

A message came to Solomon from the Lord. The Lord said, "You are now building this temple. Follow my orders. Keep my rules. Obey all of my commands. Then I will make the promise I gave your father David come true. I will do it through you. I will live among my people Israel. I will not desert them."

So Solomon built the temple and finished it. He put cedar boards on its inside walls. He covered them from floor to ceiling. He covered the temple floor with pine boards. He put up a wall 30 feet from the back of the temple. He made it with cedar boards from floor to ceiling. That formed a room inside the temple. It was the Most Holy Room. The main hall in front of the room was 60 feet long. The inside of the temple was covered with cedar wood. Gourds and open flowers were carved on the wood. Everything was cedar. There wasn't any stone showing anywhere.

Solomon prepared the Most Holy Room inside the temple. That's where the ark of the covenant of the Lord would be placed. The Most Holy Room was 30 feet long. It was 30 feet wide. And it was 30 feet high. Solomon covered the inside of it with pure gold. He prepared the cedar altar for burning incense. He covered it with gold. Solomon covered the inside of the main hall with pure gold. He placed gold chains across the front of the Most Holy

Room. That room was covered with gold. So Solomon covered the inside of the whole temple with gold. He also covered the altar for burning incense with gold. It was right in front of the Most Holy Room.

For the Most Holy Room Solomon made a pair of cherubim. He made them out of olive wood. Each cherub was 15 feet high. One wing of the first cherub was seven and a half feet long. The other wing was also seven and a half feet long. So the wings measured 15 feet from tip to tip. The second cherub's wings also measured 15 feet from tip to tip. The two cherubim had the same size and shape. Each cherub was 15 feet high.

Solomon placed the cherubim inside the Most Holy Room in the temple. Their wings were spread out. The wing tip of one cherub touched one wall. The wing tip of the other touched the other wall. The tips of their wings touched each other in the middle of the room. Solomon covered the cherubim with gold.

On the walls that were all around the temple he carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers. He carved them on the walls of the Most Holy Room and the main hall. He also covered the floors of those two rooms with gold.

For the entrance to the Most Holy Room he made two doors out of olive wood. Each doorpost had five sides. On the two olive wood doors he carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers. He covered the cherubim and palm trees with hammered gold.

In the same way he made olive wood doorposts for the entrance to the main hall. Each doorpost had four sides. He also made two pine doors. Each door had two parts. They turned in bases that were shaped like cups. He carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers on the doors. He covered the doors with gold. He hammered the gold evenly over the carvings. He used blocks of stone to build a wall around the inside courtyard. The first three layers of the wall were made out of stone. The top layer was made out of beautiful cedar wood.

The foundation of the Lord's temple was laid in Solomon's fourth year, during the second month of the year. The temple was finished in his 11th year. That was the eighth month. Everything was finished just as the plans required. Solomon had spent seven years building the temple.

Talk About It

When Solomon built the Temple of the Lord, he used the best material and best laborers. It took seven years to build, and Solomon didn't skimp on anything, because he knew God deserved the very best. The end result was an incredibly beautiful and unique Temple that God was pleased to fill with His presence.

Ask your child: "Do you try to do your best in everything you do?" Then tell them that doing your best takes effort. It means giving all you've got—and then doing more! When you feel like giving up or doing work that is not your best, remember, your efforts will show. Take pride in what you do and do everything as if you are doing it for the Lord. The results will be worth it. Talk about it.

E31. Solomon Turns from the Lord

1 Kings 11:1-13; 41-43

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God.....Do not put any other gods in place of me."

--Deuteronomy 5:6-7 (NIRV)

Bible Lesson

Message:

Choose your friends wisely.

Solomon's Wives Turn Him Away from the Lord

King Solomon had many wives that he loved, many who were from other nations. The Lord had warned Israel about women from other nations. He had said, "You must not get married to them. If you do, you can be sure they will turn your hearts toward their gods."

But Solomon continued to love them anyway. He wouldn't give them up. He had many many wives who came from royal families. His wives led him down the wrong path.

As Solomon grew older, his wives turned his heart toward other gods. He didn't follow the Lord his God with all his heart. So he wasn't like his father David. Solomon worshiped Ashtoreth. Ashtoreth was the goddess of the people of Sidon. He also worshiped Molech. Molech was the god of the people of Ammon. The Lord hated that god.

Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He didn't follow the Lord completely. He didn't do what his father David had done.

There is a hill east of Jerusalem. Solomon built a high place for worshiping Chemosh there. He built a high place for worshiping Molech there too. Chemosh was the god of Moab. Molech was the god of Ammon. The Lord hated both of those gods.

Solomon also built high places so that all of his wives from other nations could worship their gods. Those women burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods.

The Lord became angry with Solomon. That's because his heart had turned away from the Lord. He is the God of Israel. He had appeared to Solomon twice. He had commanded Solomon not to follow other gods. But Solomon didn't obey him. So the Lord said to Solomon, "You have chosen not to keep my covenant. You have decided not to obey my rules. I commanded you to do what I told you. But you did not do it. So you can be absolutely sure I will tear the kingdom away from you. I will give it to one of your officials. But I will not do that while you are still living. Because of your father David I will wait. I will tear the kingdom out of your son's hand. But I will not tear the whole kingdom away from him. I will give him one of the tribes because of my servant David. I will also do it because of Jerusalem. That is the city I have chosen."

1 Kings 11:41-43 ~ Solomon Dies

The other events of Solomon's rule are written down. Everything he did and the wisdom he showed are written down. They are written in the official records of Solomon. Solomon ruled in Jerusalem over the whole nation of Israel for 40 years. Then he joined the members of his family who had already died. His body was buried in the city of his father David. Solomon's son Rehoboam became the next king after him.

Talk About It

In today's story, something tragic happened. Solomon turned his heart away from the Lord because he chose to listen to the people around him. Talk with your child about their friends. Remind him/her that we all have friends from all different places. The big questions for us to consider are: 1. Who are my friends? AND 2. What kind of influence do they have on me? We want our friends to be a good role model in our lives, because if they are not, we may be led down a path that is not pleasing to God, just as Solomon was led by his "friends". Remind your child of how important it is to choose their friends wisely. Talk about it.



E32. Review

This lesson does not have a Bible text since the purpose is to review and build Bible skills.

Memory Verse

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true.”

--2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT)

Bible Lesson

Message:

The Bible is there to help you...use it!

Talk About It

Get out your family Bible and share with your child/children a verse that is special to you, or a scripture verse(s) that you have read recently. Talk with your children about how we can use the Bible as a source of strength, or when we need a word of guidance from our Heavenly Father to help us through life. Let them know that grownups need help from Him too. Ask your child if he/she has a favorite Bible verse or Bible story. Encourage your child to look through the Bible as well, and to become more familiar with using it. Talk about it.

