

King Solomon Script

Teacher 1: *Open up your Bible.* Did you know that the book of 1 Kings tells of a time when God asked a person what he wished for? What would you wish for if you had one wish? *Take answers, then continue.*

Teacher 2: About a thousand years before Jesus came to earth, God said to a king named Solomon, “Ask what I shall give you.” Guess what he asked for? He asked for a wise, understanding mind so he could judge God’s people well and tell between good and evil (1 Kings 3:9). Red flag yet? *See if any wave them.*

Teacher 1: Solomon’s request pleased the Lord. God said that because Solomon had asked for this and didn’t ask for long life, riches, or the lives of his enemies, God would give him a wise and understanding heart. God added that he’d *also* give Solomon what he didn’t ask for: both riches and honor. Red flag yet? *See if any wave them.*

Teacher 2: Solomon became known as the wisest man ever. He made many wise judgments, and he loved God. He spoke 3,000 wise sayings called proverbs, some of which are recorded in the book of Proverbs. *Show your Bible.* He also knew about trees and animals, birds, bugs, and fish. And people all over the world came to hear the wisdom of Solomon. Red flag yet? *See if any wave them.*

Teacher 1: Then Solomon took on the project of building a temple to the Lord, which was a place of worship kind of like our churches today. God gave him directions, and he obediently completed it in seven years. Red flag yet? *See if any wave them.*

Teacher 2: Also, Solomon decided to build his own house, which took thirteen years to finish. During this time, he spent a lot of time gathering riches and caring for his own stuff. Red flag yet? *See if any wave them. (This is a possible red flag.)*

Teacher 1: He may have been letting down his guard. Also, King Solomon started marrying women he shouldn’t have. We know God intended for a man to have just one wife, as we see with Adam and Eve (Genesis 1). And in the New Testament, God tells us that he wants a Christian to only marry another Christian (2 Corinthians 6:14). But Solomon didn’t listen to God, and he started marrying women who weren’t part of God’s kingdom. Red flag yet? *See if any wave them. (This is a major red flag!)*

Teacher 2: Solomon wasn’t wearing his shield of faith and helmet of salvation. He was letting his guard down and making bad choices.

Teacher 1: And how about this? Solomon liked these foreign women so much he married lots of them—like 700! Red flag? *See if any wave them. (This is another major red flag!)*

Teacher 2: He sure didn’t do right in God’s sight! The Bible records that his wives worshipped false gods. There’s only one true God, the Creator King, who is the leader of the good kingdom. False gods are not gods at all but part of the bad kingdom. Solomon even built places to

worship the false gods of his wives. Red flag? *See if any wave them. (This is another major red flag!)*

Teacher 1: God told Solomon that because he’d done this, and hadn’t kept God’s commands, God would take the kingdom away from him and give it to his servant.

Teacher 2: And that’s exactly what happened. His kingdom was eventually taken away. *Hold up the KING SOLOMON POSTER.* Solomon’s life started out well, but it didn’t end well because he let his guard down.

Lead a brief discussion about what actions caused Solomon to let his guard down. Possible answers may include when he spent more time building his house than God’s house, when he spent much time and attention gathering riches for himself, and especially, when he loved many foreign women and built high places (altars) for them to worship their false gods. Talk about how he gradually let down his guard, and it eventually caught up to him.

Teacher 1: Solomon wasn’t careful about his wives and the people he spent time with, and he let his guard down. He’s an example of how Satan can use the people in his kingdom, in this case, the wives of Solomon, to get a child of God to sin. If the wisest man let down his guard and was tricked by the enemy, don’t you think you need to be careful? Let’s practice with our red flags for a minute.

Give the kids some modern examples and have them wave their red flags if it would be letting their guard down. Some possible examples include hanging out with friends who love the Lord (good—don’t wave flag), talking bad about a good teacher to your friends (wave red flag), sleeping in and skipping church (red flag), memorizing a Bible verse (good), watching a movie filled with bad words (red flag), watching a show where the kids talk back to their parents and then doing it yourself (red flag), telling someone something you’ve learned from the Bible (good).

Teacher 2: Solomon reminds us that we must “learn to discern,” or tell right from wrong, so we won’t be tricked by the enemy. *Show the DAY 4 RHYME TIME POSTER.* Let’s say that together. *Do so.* We find in the Bible that “bad company ruins good morals” (1 Corinthians 15:33; see also Proverbs 22:24–25). What do you think that means? *Take answers, then say:*

This means that the people we hang out with can lead us away from God. And this doesn’t just mean friends we’re with in person. This can mean people in books, music, movies, video games, and on the internet or TV. Satan will use these things to attack people in the good kingdom.

Teacher 1: You may be surprised to see that many of the people we read about in the Bible started out well but didn’t end well because they didn’t continue to obey God’s Word. You can never let down your guard. You need to turn to Jesus every day! He’s the one who will help you in good times and in hard times. It’s super important to read and study God’s Word and keep asking him to help you do right. Pray for God to help you learn to discern and finish well.