THE STORY OF SOLOMON

February 15 & 16
GOD TEACHES US

KEY VERSE:

"Be strong and brave... I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go."

Joshua 1:9, NIRV

LESSON GOAL:

Background: Solomon, one of David's sons, became king over Israel. God visited Solomon in a dream one night and told him he could have whatever he asked for. Because Solomon was very young and didn't have experience, Solomon asked for wisdom and understanding to rule God's people well. God was pleased with Solomon's request and gave him great wisdom that can only come from God.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that God teaches us how to live with wisdom and understanding. Wisdom means to know what is right and doing it, and we have to follow God's teachings in the Bible to have wisdom.

1 Kings 3:5-15

MISSION FOCUS:

FEEDING FAMILIES

You can make a difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout El Paso County by bringing non-perishable food items to your campus.

Your non-perishable donations help Woodmen's ACTs team provide weekly food bags to over 300 local families at our partner schools.

While donations are needed year-round, sometimes our Feeding Families bins get low this time of year.

During the month of February, let's see if we can fill the Feeding Family bins!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Woodmen Worship Night
February 26th at 6:30pm
Woodmen Heights Campus

THEME FOR THIS SERIES:
Basketball

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.

WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.

SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, *(insert child/parent name)*! Do you have any offering to put in our offering bin? *(Direct child to offering station).* You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

(Insert parent name), do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!

DO:

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.

FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.

DO:

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

Examples:
- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.

MAKE: Bookmark

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: Bookmark, God statement sticker, crayons/markers

SAY:

God teaches us! He can give us wisdom. One of the ways God teaches us is through His Word (the Bible!). Let's make a special bookmark to keep in our Bibles to remind us that we can learn from God.

DO:

Pass out 1 bookmark per child. Have them color their bookmarks and put the God statement sticker on the front.

CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions.

SAY:

Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson

1. **Who is our story about today?**
   Solomon & God

2. **What is the problem?**
   Solomon needed wisdom and guidance from God to be a good leader

3. **What will God do?**
   God gave Solomon wisdom

CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.
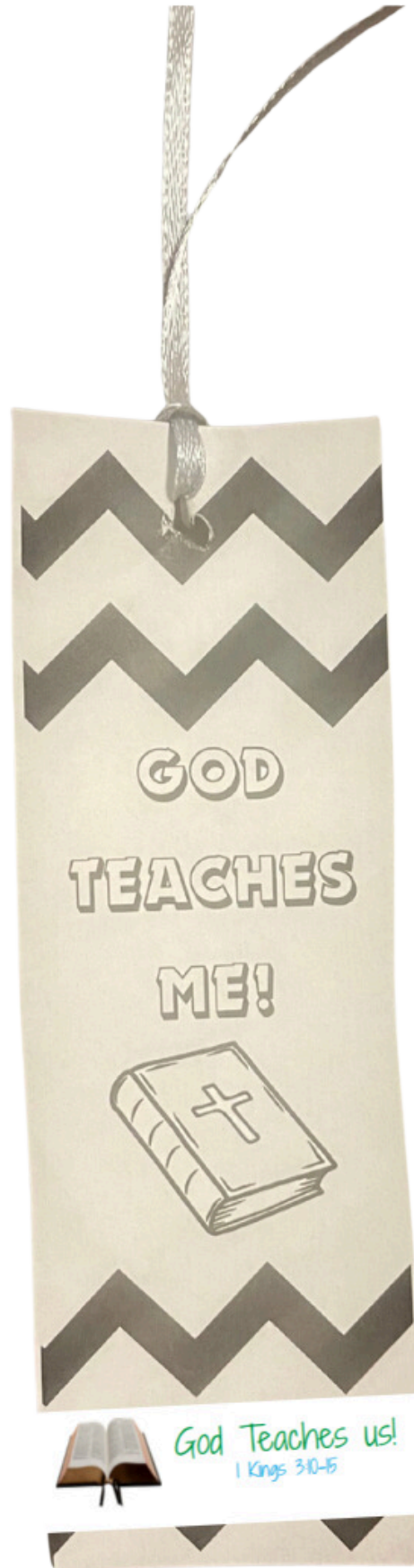
SAY:

Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

Sing: *"Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."*

GOD

TEACHES

ME!

God Teaches us!
1 Kings 3:10-15

2s & 3s

LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.

EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video **(Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s)**

📣 SAY:

We're glad to be at church today.
We will listen, we will pray.
We'll sit quietly in our spot.
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!

☑ DO:

PRAY before transitioning to worship.

WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

SONG 1: King of Me

SONG 2: Praise Ye the Lord

SONG 3: This Little Light of Mine

BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Supplies: none

Today we learned that **God teaches us!** God taught Solomon to be wise - to know what was right and do it. In the Bible, Matthew 5:17 says, "In everything, do to others what you would want them to do to you." That means that God wants us to love and be kind to others, just like we want to be treated! Let's practice what God teaches us right now. ***Invite kids to give someone else a high five, ask them a question, or share a toy to practice being kind.*** God teaches us because God loves us!

BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

May you listen to God as He teaches you how to love and care for others!

BIBLE STORY

INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON
Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.

📢 SAY:

Hi Hamilton! *Hamilton holding fake money.* What do you have there, Hamilton? *Hamilton waves money around.* Oh, you got some money from your mommy? That's a lot of money - what are you going to do with it? *Hamilton whispers in your ear.* Oh, you're going to use it to buy your friend something nice? That's very kind! That reminds me of the man in our story today. He could have had anything he wanted, but he didn't want money or riches…. Do you want to join us for our Bible story, Hamilton? *Hamilton nods excitedly.*

BIBLE STORY
Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.

📢 SAY:

Solomon was the king of Israel. One night, God talked to Solomon in a dream. *Let's all pretend we're sleeping for a moment.*

God told King Solomon he could ask for anything he could ever want. What would you ask for? *Have kids sit up. Let kids respond.*

Well, Solomon asked God for something called wisdom. *Let's all point to our heads.* Wisdom is knowing what is right and doing it.

God was very happy that Solomon asked for wisdom. God gave Solomon wisdom to be a good king to all of Israel. God also gave Solomon riches and fame.

Solomon followed God's teaching and was a very wise and good king. **God teaches us too!** God teaches us to be kind to others, to listen to our parents, and many more things. God teaches us through the Bible!

RESPOND

15 min

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.

SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the kids remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing the hand motions.

SAY:

Today our God statement is **God Teaches Us!**
Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.

DO:

God (hand vertical in front of face)
Teaches Us (point to self)

ACTIVITY- Good Idea/Bad Idea

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: None

SAY:

God visited Solomon in a dream one night and told him he could have whatever he asked for. Solomon asked for wisdom and understanding to rule God's people well. God was pleased with Solomon's request and gave him great wisdom that can only come from God. Wisdom means to know what is right and do it.

What are some things we do that are wise or good? *Let kids respond.* What are some things we do that are not wise or are bad? *Let kids respond.*

DO:

Come up with some good things kids can do and some bad things kids can do. *For example:* Giving a friend a gentle hug vs hurting a friend. Encourage kids to act out the nice/good things they can do.

EAT & PLAY

15 min

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.

SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).

GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.

☑ DO:

- Play "I Spy" focusing on color, shape, and letter recognition
- Freeze Dance
- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Hot Potato
- Charades
- Odd One Out Game
- Hokey, Pokey
- Popcorn Parachute Game
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

CHECK-OUT

5 min

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.

☑ DO:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft, utilize the prayer station or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.