

**Lesson #1-8*****Solomon's Wisdom***

1 Kings 3:4-28

Key Verse:

Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil.

1 Kings 3:9

The Point:

God grants us wisdom through prayer.

Unit Theme (October 14—November 4)

Living Faithfully in the Promise

Protecting the Vulnerable

Explore justice for the oppressed today.

You will need:

- † Optional: denominational social statements on justice issues, information from denominational advocacy offices or a non-denominational organization like Bread for the World

Preparation:

1. Many denominations have social statements about issues related to justice or national public policy offices that might have positions for advocacy. Choose a situation in need of justice relevant to your congregational context and provide some information, discussion materials, and action points for the group.

Protecting the Vulnerable (Continued)

Explore justice for the oppressed today.

Instructions:

1. **Living faithfully in God's promises includes acting with wisdom and justice. In today's story, Solomon shows that he is already wise by choosing wisdom over riches and through the judgment he pronounces on the case of the two mothers. How do we carry out justice, especially for those with no legal protections such as the two women, likely widows with no legal rights? Who are those most in need of justice in our society?** *[Answers might include children, those with disabilities, immigrants, or those who are not the majority's race or religion.]*
2. The leader can provide the information gathered before class, either through a verbal presentation or a video provided by the organization, and ask discussion questions related to the selected issue.
3. At this time, or at a more convenient time, provide supplies and information to encourage participants to write letters to leaders to advocate for change.