

Together @ Home

Lectionary Edition
Sunday 15th August 2021
Eleventh Sunday after
Trinity

Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring the story of Solomon asking for Wisdom
You can find it in your Bible in:

1 Kings 2 v 10–12 and 3 v 3–14



Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

The other passages we may be thinking about at church this week are:

Psalm 111
Ephesians 5 v 15-20
John 6 v 51-58

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Solomon which reminds us that you care for us and give us good gifts. Help us to make wise decisions too and to be good stewards of the gifts you give us, to be humble putting others first.

We pray for those in leadership in our schools, churches, workplaces and nation that they would be wise leaders who know and follow you.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

Why do you think Solomon asked God for wisdom?

Solomon had seen how good a King his father was, David had been a caring King who loved and obeyed God. Solomon wanted to follow in his father's footsteps, but he knew he was young and inexperienced, he knew that wisdom would help him to be the best King possible.

A question for children to answer together

What is humility?

Humility is the ability to recognise your own weaknesses and to have a modest view of your own importance and abilities. Solomon recognised his own weaknesses, he chose to ask God for something which would help him to serve his people better, not something selfish to make himself rich or happy.

A question for children to ask adults

What is the best present you have ever been given?

Family Activity 1

Why not test your own brain power with one of these simple games.

20 questions: Pick any item in the whole world, everybody else has 20 questions to ask to try and work out what the object is.

Want to make it harder? Why not pick a fictional item e.g. Aladdin's lamp.

Name that object: Pick an object in the room, can you describe it to the rest of the group without naming the object?





A verse to remember

Psalm 111 v 10

Wisdom begins with respect for the Lord; those who obey his orders have good understanding. He should be praised forever.

Solomon showed respect and love for God by following the commandments he had learned from his father David. When Solomon was offered anything he wanted, he chose a gift from God that would best serve the people in his Kingdom. God was so pleased with his choice that He blessed Solomon with riches, victory and a long life as well.

Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Active Prayer for Wise leaders

Just as Solomon asked God for wisdom so that he might be a good leader we can pray for our own leaders that they might be wise and humble, seeking God's will and showing love and care for those they lead.

On pieces of paper write down as many names of leaders you can think of. Here are some categories you might like to cover.

School

World leaders

Work

Church

Politicians

Local government

Work together as a prayer team to pray and ask God for wisdom for each person on your list. You could mark each one with a tick as you pray for them. Don't worry if you end up praying for somebody you don't know, just trust that God does know who they are!

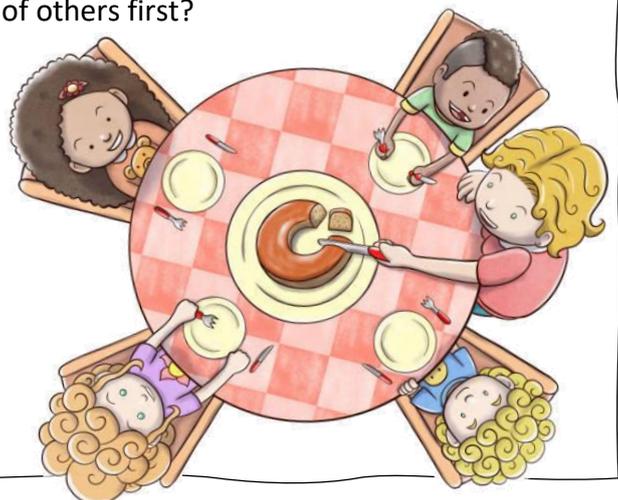
An object lesson to explore

Have a cake or edible item that can be cut – you might like to prepare the cake together as another family activity.

Have you ever heard the saying “one cuts, the other chooses”? It's a really fair way to share a slice of cake. The person who is cutting will do their best to cut the slice evenly and fairly because they don't get to choose which half they eat.

When Solomon met the two women over the baby, he tested their intentions. It was clear that one woman cared more about winning the argument than the wellbeing of the baby. Solomon knew that the real mother would not let her child be harmed.

How can we put the needs of others first and check our own intentions? Do we want what is best for us or can we put the needs of others first?



A colouring page you could print and colour together

Wisdom
begins with
respect
for
the LORD.

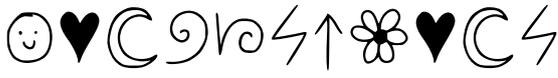


PUZZLE SHEET

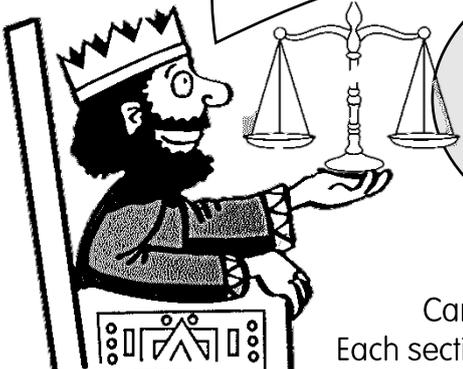
Decode the message to reveal what Solomon asked God for.





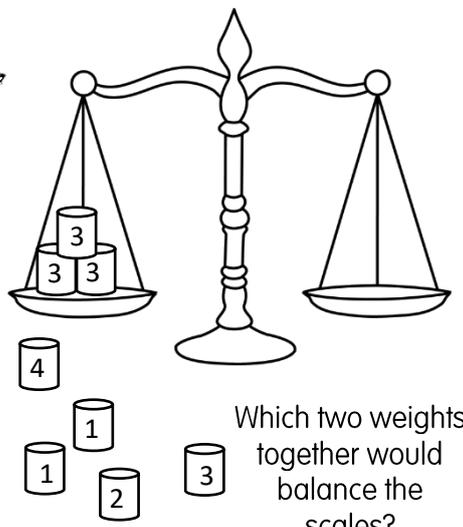


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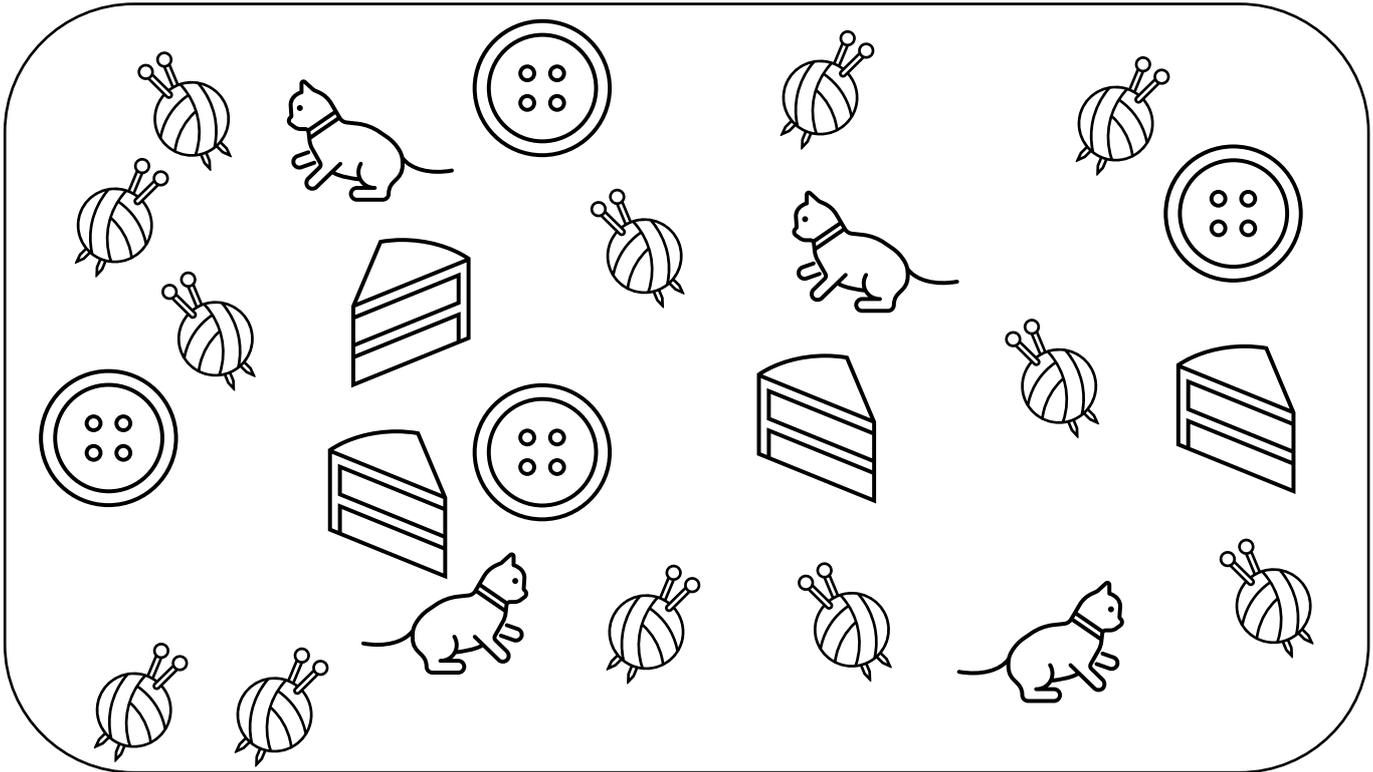
Solomon wanted to know the difference between right and wrong so that he could judge things fairly.

How many balancing scales can you find on the page?



Which two weights together would balance the scales?

Can you draw three lines to divide the box into sections. Each section needs to have an equal number of each object in them?



CLUE: Each section has 3 balls of wool, one kitten, one slice of cake and one button.