

## Solomon Asks for Wisdom - 1 Kings 3:1-15

*Topics:* Administration, Approval, Choices, Covenant, Discernment, Faithfulness, Government, Honor, Justice, Kindness, Law, Love, Obedience, People, Pleasure, Promises, Righteousness, Sacrifice, Spiritual Gifts, Wealth, Wisdom, Youth

### Open It

- \* 1. What have you fantasized you would ask for if you had three wishes?
- 2. If you had to stand trial, what qualities would you value most in a judge?

### Explore It

- 3. With what country did Solomon make an alliance by marriage? (3:1)
- 4. What major projects did Solomon undertake? (3:1)
- 5. Where were the people of Israel making sacrifices at this time? (3:2)
- 6. How did Solomon show that he loved God? (3:3)
- 7. What was one area in which Solomon did not entirely please God? (3:3)
- 8. What impressive sacrifice did Solomon offer at Gibeon? (3:4)
- \* 9. What did God say to Solomon in a dream while he was at Gibeon? (3:5)
- 10. How did Solomon see his own place in the history of God and Israel? (3:6)
- 11. What did Solomon find humbling about being king? (3:7-8)
- 12. In Solomon's view whose nation was Israel? (3:8)
- \* 13. What request did Solomon make of God and for what purpose? (3:9)
- 14. How did God feel about what Solomon had chosen to request? (3:10)
- \* 15. What difference did it make that Solomon asked God for wisdom? (3:10-14)
- 16. What other things might Solomon have asked for when God gave him one request? (3:11)
- 17. What did God promise to Solomon in response to his request? (3:12)
- 18. What did God promise to Solomon that he had not asked for? (3:13)
- 19. What blessing did God offer to Solomon if he would walk in His ways as David had? (3:14)
- 20. What did Solomon realize when he awoke from his sleep? (3:15)
- 21. How did Solomon offer his praise and thanksgiving to God? (3:15)

### Get It

- 22. What was one practice of Solomon that had evidently not been the custom of David?
- 23. What did God reveal about His nature by meeting Solomon at the most important high place?
- \* 24. Given the opportunity to ask God "for whatever you want [Him] to give you," what sort of request would you expect from our human nature?
- 25. Why are awe and humility appropriate reactions to the responsibility of governing a nation?
- \* 26. Why are riches and honor of less ultimate value than wisdom?

### Apply It

- \* 27. What practical steps can you take to place a higher value on wisdom this coming week?
- 28. What can you request from God and be fairly certain that He will say yes?
- 29. How can you seek God's wisdom as a matter of habit?