

THE THREAD | A PEOPLE RISE. A PEOPLE FALL.

Lesson 7: The Rise And Fall Of Solomon

Dear Parents,

Hello! We just wrapped up the seventh of our 13 lessons looking at the story of Israel seeking to establish itself as a nation. These 13 lessons are all a part of our study of the big-picture story of the Bible called *The Thread: Discovering the Thread of the Gospel Through the Big-Picture Story of the Bible*. This lesson looked at a new perspective. While we know that God's grace is the only solution for our sin, it is important that we recognize that God desires our obedience. In this lesson, titled "The Rise and Fall of Solomon," students looked at God's covenant with Solomon. Just as with generations before him, Solomon learned that God disciplines us when we are disobedient. By comparing Solomon's story with the words of Jesus, students clearly saw that throughout time God has singularly desired our whole heart!

Lesson Overview: In this lesson, the legacy of David continues as his son, Solomon, is crowned king. But we will find that things don't go so well for David's son. David led the people to follow God. And Solomon kept this same thread for many years. But Solomon strayed from God in a very significant way. And because he was king, his wandering led the people away from God as well. And it set in motion a turn of events that would cripple Israel for generations. It's a powerful reminder of what happens when we fail to obey God's guidance.

What We Want Your Teenager To Learn: See how Solomon's rise was tied to God's blessing and his fall was tied to his own sinfulness. Understand that our motivation for obeying God should be born out of our love for Him.

What We Want Your Teenager To Do With What They've Learned: Examine their own attitudes toward obedience and motivations toward obedience.

Scripture Passages We Studied: 1 Kings 1:28-30; 1 Kings 3:4-15; 1 Kings 9:1-9; 1 Kings 11:1-13; John 14:23-24
Please Take A Few Minutes This Week To Read These Passages.

NEXT STEPS...

During the next week, as you engage in conversations with your teenager, remember that one way that will help them to understand and apply what they have learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- So, this week you studied how God views obedience. What did you think about the fact that God only promised to bless them if they obeyed Him?
- What did you think about Jesus' explanation that obedience is rooted in love?
- Based on that truth, can you better understand what parenting is like when we require you to obey us because we love you?

Thank you for all you do. As a parent, you are the primary spiritual influence in the life of your teenager, and they desperately need you. I'm praying for you! If you have any questions or if I can help with anything, please don't hesitate to let me know.