

Harmonychurch.life

Each month we have a special memory verse and Life App. All of our stories revolve around those.

This month's Memory Verse is:

Choose my teaching instead of silver. Choose knowledge rather than fine gold.

Proverbs 8:10

This month's life app is
Wisdom
Finding out what you should do and doing it.

Our basic truth, that **never** changes is that "I can trust God no matter what."

Each week, we have a different bottom line that goes with our story.

This week's bottom line is;

"If you want to be wise, ask God for wisdom,"

Our story for this week is 'Solomon chooses wisdom'. (1 Kings 3:4-15)

(During the first part of the story there is a good spot to use visuals if telling the story.

Get some play money, a power cord, magazine cover of someone famous, a play castle, Hot Wheels fancy car.

Put all these items into a box)

** Today we have a great 'true' story about Kings, Power, Fame and Fortune. But before we get into that, I have a question for you to think about. If God came to you and told you that you could ask for one thing—any one thing in the world—and He would give it to you, what would you ask for? Don't answer out loud; just think about it. Close your eyes and imagine you have a box. In this box are several different awesome things you can just pick to have. You could pick money, power, fame, even more money, palaces, fancy cars ... any one of these things would be fantastic to get, right? How in the world could you choose?

(Using Visual: Well, if that were to happen to me, I think I would probably ask for one of the things that's in this box. (Open your box.) Check out all the things that are in here! (Hold the items up while you talk.) We've got money, power, fame, more money, palaces, fancy cars ... any one of these things would be fantastic to get, wouldn't they? How in the world could you choose?)

Today we're going to talk about a time when God actually did ask someone that question. I mean, God didn't use a box, but He gave someone that exact opportunity. And their answer might surprise you. But let's back up our story a little.

Our bible tells us that King David was one of the best kings to ever rule God's people. He had many sons, but not all of them followed God. So, before he died, he chose one of his younger sons, Solomon, to be the next king.

So, when King David died, Solomon became the new king of Israel. But there was one problem: when you think of a king, you probably think of an older, more mature man, but Solomon was only—in his own words—a little child. Probably 17-20 years old, the bible doesn't say exactly. Being King though is a really big job. Especially for someone so young, but when you're chosen to be king you don't turn it down. So, King Solomon it was.

Solomon wanted to start out on the right foot, so the king traveled to Gibeon, the most special place to worship God, where he offered 1,000 sacrifices to God. Then late that night as Solomon slept, God appeared to him in a dream.

Can you imagine? God Himself talking to you through a dream...WOW. It gets even better though, because God had a question for Solomon. In 1 Kings 3:5 God said,

'Ask me for anything you want me to give you.'

SERIOUSLY ...God saying you can have ANYTHING you want...Holey Moley!!

Well, Solomon was given that chance. That brings us back to our box and all of the great stuff the world has to offer. You could choose money and never worry how to pay for things again. Power! Fame! Or what about a palace? Who needs Disney World when you've got a castle bigger than Cinderella's, right? Let's see what Soloman chose. In 1 Kings 3:7-9 we read Soloman's choice...

"Lord my God, you have now made me king. You have put me in the place of my father David.

But I'm only a little child. I don't know how to carry out my duties.

I'm here among the people you have chosen. They are a great nation.

They are more than anyone can count. So, give me a heart that understands.

Then I can rule over your people.

I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong."

Wow! The Bible tells us that Solomon could have asked for anything—anything!—and he chose WISDOM! **Best choice ever!** He wanted a heart that could 'tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong.'

What a great choice. He is going to make an AWESOME king.

Solomon could have had Power, Fame, Fortune, ANYthing he wanted, and he chose wisdom. That should tell us something. If Solomon chose to ask for wisdom over anything else in this world, he realized just how important and valuable wisdom is! In the book of Proverbs, Solomon himself said, 'Wisdom is worth more than rubies. Nothing you want can compare with wisdom.' (*Proverbs8:11*)

Solomon knew that nothing is better than wisdom. And he also knew that all he had to do to get wisdom was to ask God for it! Believe it or not, the same is true for you and me.

"If you want to be wise, ask God for wisdom."

God wants us to be wise, so if you ask Him for wisdom, that's what you're going to get! In fact, the Bible says that God was pleased with Solomon's choice. Check out what God said to Solomon.

So, God said to him, "You have not asked to live for a long time. You have not asked to be wealthy.

You have not even asked to have your enemies killed. Instead, you have asked for wisdom.

You want to do what is right and fair when you judge people.

Because that is what you have asked for, I will give it to you.

I will give you a wise and understanding heart. ... And that is not all.

I will give you what you have not asked for.

I will give you wealth and honor. As long as you live, no other king will be as great as you are.

Live the way I want you to.

Obey my laws and commands, just as your father David did. Then I will let you live for a long time."
(1 Kings 3:11-14)

In case you didn't get all that, God was so pleased with Solomon's request that He actually gave Solomon a lot of other stuff too. Now that doesn't mean that you and I are going to get money and power just because we ask God for wisdom. But here's one thing for sure—when you ask God what you should do, and then you do it, your life will be MUCH better than when you try to do things on your own. Because God is the source of all wisdom, we can **trust God no matter what.**

Obviously, when you have wisdom, you'll make better decisions. Better decisions when it comes to your family, your friends, what you read, what you watch, what to do with your time, and really just everything. When you think about it, we need wisdom. There is always a lot going on in life and since God is the source of all

wisdom, we just need to ask Him for it. Let's do that now.

PRAY

"Dear God, You are wiser than anyone in this whole world. Wisdom comes from You and everything You do is wise. But the best part is that You don't keep wisdom to Yourself. You want to share it with us! God, please give all of us wisdom. And help us to remember to ask You for help in making wise choices every day. We ask these things in Jesus' name, amen."

*People spend much of their lives searching for treasure...fortune & fame, when they should be searching for the best treasure of all— wisdom! And what's great is that it doesn't really even be have to searched for it. We just need to ask God for it!

Do you know where you go to find a treasure that's worth more than rubies? Your bible. God's wisdom is written on every page. And get this... James, who was Jesus' brother so he knew a little something about wisdom, wrote,

'If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it.

He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.'
(James 1:5)

Simple, if you need wisdom, ask God for it. That's what Solomon did. And God gave him wisdom. And He can give you wisdom, too—wisdom to help you pick friends that will be good for you, wisdom to help you know what to say and what not to say, and wisdom to help you avoid danger and all kinds of trouble.

So, the one thing to remember is "if you want to be wise, ask God for wisdom".