
King Solomon - What is Wisdom?

1 Kings 3:5-14 (NLT) - That night the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!" ⁶Solomon replied, "You showed great and faithful love to your servant my father, David, because he was honest and true and faithful to you. And you have continued to show this great and faithful love to him today by giving him a son to sit on his throne. ⁷Now, O Lord my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn't know his way around. ⁸And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted! ⁹Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?" ¹⁰The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom. ¹¹So God replied, "Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies - ¹²I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! ¹³And I will also give you what you did not ask for - riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life! ¹⁴And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands as your father, David, did, I will give you a long life."

1 Kings 3:9b (NLT) - For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?

- I can't do this on my own.
- I need you to show me how to lead your people.

Godly wisdom comes from God through right relationship with God.

Earthly wisdom is knowledge gained through experience.

Study Guide

This week we spoke about Solomon and what we can learn from his life about the true nature of wisdom. Let's take a further look at that together.

When you think of a wise person, who stands out to you? What makes them wise? What stands out about their life that describes a person of wisdom?

Take a moment to read the James 3:13-18. Looking at these verses from James, what can you tell me about wisdom? What is the difference between worldly wisdom and wisdom from God?

Earthly wisdom is knowledge gained through experience. How do you gain Godly wisdom?

Godly wisdom comes from God (I know, shocking right?) so it serves to purpose that the best way to receive it is by making sure we are listening to Him as closely as possible. In your experience, what are some of the practices or patterns that help you hear from Him?

Take a moment to pray for each other and identify ways that you can draw closer to God and open yourself to His direction.