

1 KINGS 1:1-31

September 5, 2024

1. This semester, we will study King Solomon as he reigns in Israel following the reign of David. Who is Solomon according to 2 Samuel 12:24?
2. We will begin with a brief review of David, the king of God's choosing, who was anointed by Samuel while Saul was king. Read 1 Samuel 13:13-14; 16:6-7, 11-13. What do we learn about David? What do we learn about God?

David waits 15 years between his anointing and taking the throne. What is King Saul doing during this time? Read 1 Samuel 19:11-12; 23:14-15.

Read 2 Samuel 5:1-5. What happens to David after King Saul dies?

Read 2 Samuel 7:16-17. What is the incredible promise God makes to David?

At the close of 2 Samuel, David disobeys God by taking a census which results in a plague in Israel. Read 2 Samuel 24:10,14, 25. What do we learn about David toward the end of his reign as Israel's king? What do we learn about God?

3. Read 1 Kings 1:1-4. What is David's situation as 1 Kings opens?
4. Read 1 Kings 1:5-10. Describe Adonijah.

Who are Adonijah's parents? Read 2 Samuel 3:2-5.

What comment do you see about David's parenting in 1 Kings 1:6?

Discuss the negative consequences which can come from this parenting style.

What phrases give us a clue that Adonijah might have known his plan to be king was not God's plan?

5. Read 1 Kings 1:11-14. What is Nathan's plan?

What did Nathan the prophet know? Read 1 Chronicles 22:6-10.

6. Share a time God's Word helped you determine if a certain course of action was right or wrong.

1 KINGS 1:32-2:12

September 12, 2024

1. Begin by reviewing 1 Kings 1:1-31. Briefly summarize the family and political turmoil surrounding the end of King David's reign.

Why did King David choose Solomon, who was not his eldest son, to succeed him as ruler over Israel? Reread 1 Kings 1:17 along with 1 Chronicles 22:6-10.

2. Read 1 Kings 1:32-2:12. What sequence of events define the end of King David's rule and the beginning of Solomon's reign as the third king of Israel?
3. Read 1 Kings 1:32-36. Record King David's specific actions demonstrating his firm obedience to God.

Benaiah was one of King David's loyal military leaders who would also serve in Solomon's army. How do the words and actions of Benaiah reflect his faith in God and love for Israel?

9. The phrase “Be strong, and show yourself a man...” in 1 Kings 2:2 speaks of bravely standing up for what is right and against what is wrong in the eyes of God. Consider a current circumstance in your life that requires bravery. What fears and obstacles do you face?

How do the following Scriptures strengthen you to follow God even when it is difficult?

Deuteronomy 5:32-33

Psalm 112

John 14:21

10. Read 1 Kings 2:5-9. King David’s advice moves from a spiritual to a political focus. What acts in Joab’s and Shimei’s history cause David to advise Solomon to punish them?

What wisdom do you see on display in David’s parting words to his son regarding these men?

11. Read 1 Kings 2:10-11. Ponder the great King David’s last acts in 1 Kings 1-2. What is one spiritual lesson that stands out to you the most?

Why is it significant to you?

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

1 KINGS 2:13-46

September 19, 2024

1. David has died and Solomon has taken over as Israel's king. Although Solomon was not the next in line for the throne, what occurred in 1 Kings 1:38-40 that established Solomon as David's successor to the throne?
2. Begin by reading 1 Kings 2:13-18. Adonijah was the first to challenge the security of Solomon's throne. Describe how Adonijah planned to overthrow King Solomon and take his place as Israel's king.

Although Adonijah was next in line for the throne by birth order, Solomon is anointed by God as David's successor. What does this tell us about the character of God? Look at Isaiah 55:8-9 for insight.

Does knowing this about God strengthen your faith or challenge your faith? Explain your answer.

3. Read 1 Kings 2:18-25. King Solomon sees through Adonijah's plan to overtake the throne. Who does King Solomon accuse of being co-conspirators?

How does King Solomon deal with his brother's betrayal? On what does he base his decision according to verse 24?

4. Continue by reading 1 Kings 2:26-27. Why did King Solomon decide to spare Abiathar's life and send him to his home in Anathoth?

Look back at 1 Samuel 22:17-23. What transpires in these verses which leads to David's deep devotion to Abiathar?

5. According to 1 Kings 2:27, what was the importance of King Solomon's decision to remove Abiathar from his position of priest to the king?

Abiathar was from the priestly line of Eli. Look back at 1 Samuel 2:12-14, 22-25, 30-31 and explain this prophecy.

Look ahead to 1 Kings 2:35. Who does King Solomon appoint as the new priest to the king?

6. Read 1 Kings 2:28-38. Joab, the commander of King David's army, was loyal but often disobeyed orders. Read the following portions of Scripture and record how Joab disobeyed King David.

2 Samuel 3:26-30

2 Samuel 18:5, 9-14

7. Upon hearing of Adonijah's death, why did Joab flee to the tabernacle and take hold of the horns on the altar? Look at Exodus 21:12-14 for insight.

To be buried on one's own land was considered an honor. What does the act of burying Joab on his own land tell us about King Solomon's character?

8. Finish by reading 1 Kings 2:36-46 along with 2 Samuel 16:5-8. Why did King Solomon sentence Shimei to house arrest in Jerusalem?

What were the rules King Solomon put in place for Shimei's house arrest?

What do we learn about Shimei from these verses?

9. When God anointed Solomon as King David's successor, He established King Solomon's throne. Read 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 and explain how God establishes our hearts in Christ.

As we have studied, King Solomon took his responsibility to guard his throne seriously. What do the following portions of Scripture tell us about guarding our hearts for the Lord?

Psalms 119:11

Proverbs 4:23

Philippians 4:6-7

10. What are ways you are actively guarding your heart for the Lord?

What areas of your life do you need to be more mindful of this discipline?

11. Write out a prayer asking God to guide you as you seek to guard your heart.

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

1 KINGS 3:1-28

September 26, 2024



1. Write down your definition of wisdom.

Think of people you consider wise. In what ways do they exemplify your definition?

2. Look back at 1 Kings chapters 1 and 2. What are some things you have learned about Solomon?
3. Read 1 Kings 3:1-4. Write down Solomon's actions as chapter 3 begins.

Read Exodus 1:8-14. Compare Israel's past relationship with Egypt to their current standing with Egypt as Solomon takes an Egyptian wife.

What are Solomon's possible motives for this marriage?

Reread 1 Kings 3:2 along with 2 Chronicles 1:3-6 and explain why Solomon would go to Gibeon to worship the Lord.

4. Read 1 Kings 3:5-8. What is unusual about Solomon's time at Gibeon?

What has Solomon observed about his father David's relationship with the Lord?

How does Solomon describe himself?

What concern does Solomon voice to the Lord?

5. After listening in on Solomon's conversation with the Lord, what words would you use to describe Solomon?

6. Read 1 Kings 3:9-15. How does Solomon respond to the Lord's gracious offer to ask Him for something?

What does Solomon's request reveal about his heart for God's people as their earthly king?

What does it reveal about his relationship with God?

Why do you think God is pleased by Solomon's answer?

How does God answer Solomon's request in a way that will set Solomon apart from other kings?

List the additional blessings God bestows on Solomon that go beyond giving him wisdom and discernment to govern the people.

7. Consider your own life. Share some blessings God has generously given you that went beyond what you asked for or expected. Read Matthew 6:33 and Ephesians 3:20.

8. Read 1 Kings 3:16-22. Summarize the difficult situation that is brought before King Solomon.

List some of the challenges faced by Solomon as a judge in this situation.

9. Read 1 Kings 3:23-28. What does Solomon decide after hearing the women's stories?

Explain how his just solution reveals his God-given wisdom and heart of discernment.

What was the reaction of the people of Israel to Solomon's wise judgment?

What does it reveal to them concerning Solomon and God?

10. Consider your own life and share some ways navigating life's choices with godly wisdom can influence others and point them to God.

11. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.



1 KINGS 4:1-34

October 3, 2024

1. Look back at 1 Kings 3:9. What did Solomon ask of God?

How did Solomon plan to use this gift from God?

2. Read 1 Kings 4:1-6. Solomon begins to govern Israel by choosing his officials. What are some of the key leadership roles?

Three of these men served under King David. Who are they and what was their role while David was king?

2 Samuel 8:16

2 Samuel 23:20-23

1 Kings 1:32-34

Why would these three men be considered wise choices for Solomon?

3. Read 1 Kings 4:7-19. Solomon's household included his family, officers, bodyguards and foreign visitors. What is Solomon's plan for supplying food for his household?

What are some advantages of having twelve officers working on an annual rotation?

4. After reading the lists of Solomon's leaders in 1 Kings 4:1-19, what leadership qualities do you see in Solomon as he begins to govern Israel?

5. Read 1 Kings 4:20-25. What words or phrases describe the quality of life in Israel while Solomon was king?

What do these verses tell you about the relationship between Solomon and the people he leads?

What does this reveal about God's relationship with Solomon and Israel? Read Deuteronomy 7:12-13 and 1 Kings 3:3 for insight.

6. Read 1 Kings 4:26-28. Also read 2 Chronicles 1:14. How many chariots does Solomon own? How many horses (for his horsemen) does Solomon own?

Read Deuteronomy 17:16-17. What was the law Moses gave to the Israelites concerning their kings?

Read an additional warning in Isaiah 31:1. What are some problems Solomon might experience in the future by accumulating a large army of chariots and horses?

7. In what areas of your life do you struggle to trust the Lord to provide for you?

Do you have a verse that encourages you during these times? Please share.

8. Look at 1 Kings 4:27-28. What impresses you the most about the way the Israelites work together?

What benefits came from the Israelites working together?

9. Read 1 Kings 4:29-34. What area of Solomon's vast knowledge stands out to you the most?

Read the following proverbs written by Solomon. Record next to each proverb what he observed and what practical wisdom he gained from his observations.

Proverbs 6:6-8

Proverbs 27:8

Proverbs 28:1

10. Read Psalm 19:1-6 and Romans 1:20. What wisdom can you gain from observing God's creation?

Share a time when you grew in your knowledge of God by observing nature. What did you learn?

11. Reread 1 Kings 4:29, 34. Who came to hear the wisdom of Solomon? Who gave him this wisdom?

What opportunities did God give Solomon with his large and varied audience?

12. God promises in James 1:5 to give us wisdom when we ask. Where in your life do you need wisdom right now? Consider taking a moment and asking God for that wisdom.

13. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

1 KINGS 5:1-6:38

October 10, 2024



1. Read 1 Kings 5:1-5. According to verse 5, what is Solomon going to do?

Why was David not able to build a house for God?

What is true now in Israel that makes it a good time for Solomon to build God's house?

2. What does God foretell in 2 Samuel 7:10-13 that happens in 1 King 5:1-5?

What does this tell you about God?

In what ways does the fact that God is a promise-keeper encourage you?

3. Though David did not build God's house, he was a part of the process. Read these verses and list what David did in preparation for this building project.

1 Chronicles 28:11-12

1 Chronicles 28:20-21

1 Chronicles 29:1-5

1 Chronicles 29:18-19

4. Solomon sets up a way to build God's house. Read 1 Kings 5:6-18. How is Solomon's wisdom displayed as he coordinates and executes this construction project?

5. Based on what we have read so far, list the people who participate in the Temple project.

God creates people to work together. What are some of the key advantages to partnering with other Christians to accomplish a group goal?

Why do we sometimes shy away from partnership, and how do we fight that temptation?

In what ways are you partnering with other people in your own life?

6. Read 1 Kings 6:1. The Temple was a symbol of God's presence, as was the tabernacle. The tabernacle was a temporary, movable sanctuary used before the building of the Temple. Why do you think the Temple as a reminder of God's presence is important for Israel?
7. Read 1 Kings 6:2-10. As you read these verses, and the rest of the chapter, refer to the attached illustration of the Temple to see that section as the Scripture explains it. How do you see care and reverence given to God as Solomon builds the Temple?
8. Consider 1 Kings 6:11-13. Rewrite verses 12-13 in your own words.

Does God care more about a building or obedience?

What is one way you have seen growth in your own obedience this year or an area in which you want to improve your obedience?

9. Read 1 Kings 6:14-38. Choose one aspect in the design of the Temple that you think illustrates an important characteristic about God. Explain your thoughts.

How has this specific characteristic changed or marked your life, or led you to worship?

10. Reread 1 Kings 6:16-29. The Most Holy Place, the ark of the covenant, and cherubim (angels) were key parts of both the Temple and the tabernacle. Read the following verses and explain what you learn about God and the significance of these three elements.

Exodus 25:17-22

Numbers 7:89

Joshua 3:13, 17

Isaiah 37:16

Hebrews 9:2-7

Based on your observations and interpretation, why are the Most Holy Place, the ark of the covenant, and cherubim key parts of Solomon's Temple?

11. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.