



THE GOSPEL PROJECT JR. Unit 11.4 Solomon's Sin Divides the People

Date: Sunday May 24, 2026 **Teachers:** Susan D (lead) Abbey F (co-lead)

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 11–12 **Key Passage:** Proverbs 2:10

Props: from home: none

At centre: activity sheet, construction paper, cut out before class a heart and rip paper and hide before class

Review Rules:

One Mouth speaking at a time (Teacher points to mouths/kids point to their mouths)

Two Hands kept to myself (kids wiggle hands and keep them to themselves)

Two Feet kept to myself (kids cross legs)

Speak Kind Words like our God 3 in One

ACROSTIC OF JESUS

Vicky

INTRO TO BIBLE STORY:

Susan

materials: (Before class, cut out a large paper heart, tape/whiteboard to tape onto for the group to see/ tape)

Ask for 4-5 volunteers. Give the heart to one child and tell her to tear off a piece of the heart and keep it, and then pass the rest to another child. Continue until each child has a piece of the heart. Allow the children to try to put the heart back together like a puzzle. You may choose to give them clear tape to use. Even when we tape our heart back together, it still doesn't look the same as it did before, does it? We have been learning about the wisdom of Solomon, and that wisdom comes from listening to God's voice, but today we see how Solomon stops listening to God's voice and we are going to see what happened to King Solomon when he allowed his heart to be divided.

Let's review our story up until now.

BIBLE STORY INTRO materials: (whiteboard) (Write these statements on the board with blanks to fill in)

Solomon asked God for (**wisdom**) to (**lead**) God's people.

Wisdom comes from (**listening to God's voice**) and (**obeying**) His Ways.

God chose Solomon to build a (**temple**) where He would (**dwell**) with His people.

God's goal is to **BE WITH US!**

Solomon had wisdom from God but his heart chased other things ... and he no longer feared the Lord or obeyed Him and there were great consequences for his sin, his heart was divided and that caused the kingdom to be divided (Split the class in two and put painters tape down the middle). See if you can spot where Solomon began to go wrong as we watch the video.

BIBLE STORY (VIDEO)

DISCUSSION VIDEO

Nate

Discuss why the two smaller groups could not play Lobster Tag. Ask what happens when we follow the wrong leader. What are some ways we can know if we are following the right leader? Who is the perfect leader we should follow? When Solomon stopped trusting God, God split the kingdom into two weaker kingdoms. When we follow Jesus, we are following a perfect leader! Jesus' kingdom can never be split or weakened.

DISMISS JR. KIDS

GOSPEL GEMS

Susan

God made King Solomon WISE
Solomon turned away from God's ways
King Solomon had his nation fall apart.

Where does wisdom come from? Wisdom comes from listening to God's will and His ways.

SING A SONG: Sing to the tune of "The More We Get Together" :

Abbey

"The Bible is God's words; it's God's words, it's God's words!

The Bible is God's words, and God's words are *true."

*Substitute good, right, and wise in subsequent rounds.

ACTIVITY: "Divided" materials: (Coloured Paper ripped in half hid around the room before class)

Susan

Rip some colour paper in half and give one piece to each student, tape the other piece somewhere in the room where it's slightly hidden. Tear a piece of paper in half before the kids: this is what happened to Solomon's Kingdom, when Solomon refused to obey God. His sin had a huge effect on His people. Our sin hurts other people too. Solomon's sin tore His people apart.

Your piece of paper was torn in half. Go find the other half of your paper. (when they bring it back) Solomon was not a perfect King and His sin and bad choices destroyed things. God had a plan to not only repair the world but repair our hearts. The perfect King Jesus came to give His life for us and give us new hearts that are not divided, and He is coming again to make all things broken WHOLE again.

ACTIVITY: "N, S, E, W"

Susan

materials: (printed map of the divided kingdom (in PDF PK, ** use a compass app on your phone)

Our world is divided and there is only one King who can unite it. King Jesus is coming back to earth to make everything right again.

God is going to unite all people in heaven and on earth who are a part of His church the Body of Christ, whom Christ is the Head. He will bring together people from every tribe and tongue from the North, the South, the East and the West. There is still so much division especially in the Middle East where this story takes place.

We are going to pray right now for God to establish his peace and justice in the Middle East. Show the kids where N, S, E and West are in the room.

Play a game... ask all the kids to lie down and when you say a direction they have to jump up and face that direction. (Then call out directions fast/slow repeating ones, and eliminate anyone that flinches.

COLOURING SHEET/SNACK/ FREE PLAY