

# OCTOBER 4-10

## FOR PARENTS

Israel continued to struggle to survive against its enemies. Reluctant heroes came to the rescue, and surprising things happened through Samuel, King Saul, and King David. Failure! Love! Forgiveness! Faith! The life of King David shows a person who both trusts God and sins. He is a great king, leads warriors, plays the harp, and writes poetry. When he makes some pretty big mistakes, God forgives him and gives him faith.

**We cannot obey the 10 Commandments perfectly. Yet there is more grace in God than sin in us. While we must confess our sins to God and resolve not to commit them, we can be confident that God is forgiving and will give us the grace to grow in love and knowledge day by day.**

**These last six commandments teach us how to live rightly with our neighbor. Jesus summed them up with a commandment that is like the greatest one about loving God: *You shall love your neighbor as yourself.***

**Honor your father and your mother. Though we owe reverence to God alone, we owe genuine respect to our parents, both mother and father. God wills us to listen to them, be thankful for the benefits we receive from them, and be considerate of their needs, especially in old age.**

**You shall not murder. God forbids anything that harms our neighbors unfairly. Murder or injury can be done not only by direct violence but also by an angry word or a clever plan, and not only by an individual but also by unjust social institutions. We should honor every human being, including our enemies, as a person made in God's image.**

**You shall not commit adultery. God requires fidelity and purity in sexual relations. Since love is God's great gift, God expects us not to corrupt it, or confuse it with momentary**

**desire or the selfish fulfillment of my own pleasures. God forbids all sexual immorality, whether in married or in single life.**

**You shall not steal. God forbids all theft and robbery, including schemes, tricks, or systems that unjustly take what belongs to someone else. God requires us not to be driven by greed, not to misuse or waste the gifts we have been given, and not to distrust the promise that God will supply our needs.**

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. God forbids us to damage the honor or reputation of our neighbors. We should not say false things against anyone for the sake of money, favor, or friendship, for the sake of revenge, or for any other reason. God requires us to speak well of our neighbors when we can, and to view the faults of our neighbor with tolerance when we cannot.**

**You shall not covet what is your neighbor's. Our whole heart should belong to God alone, not to money or the things of this world. *Coveting* means desiring something wrongfully. We should not resent the good fortune or success of our neighbor or allow envy to corrupt our heart.**

## KID CONNECTION

Only Jesus is perfect. We can try as hard as we can, but we will still fall short of following all of God's commands. Solomon asked for wisdom, but he made mistakes that caused consequences for the nation of Israel. Our role as parents and caregivers is to help children understand that their mistakes may have consequences, yet mistakes are always forgiven through grace offered through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. And just because we make mistakes doesn't mean we stop trying to live up to God's commands. Grace is provided for times we fall short.

# READING PLAN

Day	Chapter Titles From <i>Read and Learn Bible</i>	Scripture
10/4	A Brave, New Leader	Judges 4
10/5	A Prayer Is Answered; Samuel the Prophet	1 Samuel 1-3
10/6	The First King	1 Samuel 9-15
10/7	A Future King; David and Goliath	1 Samuel 16-17
10/8	David's Friend; King David's Songs	1 Samuel 18-19; 23; 2 Samuel 8
10/9	A Wise King; King Solomon's Temple	1 Kings 3-4; 5-8
Sunday	Solomon's Wisdom	1 Kings 6

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Instructions and discussion tips are available on the church website.

Choose one or more activities that will interest your family as you make this week's stories your own.

### **Solomon's Temple**

Check out a 3D look at Solomon's Temple using the website provided in the materials.

### **Make Shepherd's Pie for Dinner.**

Israel always believed that David was the best king they ever had. Celebrate the humble shepherd beginnings of this famous king with a casserole that the whole family can help prepare.

Supplies needed: meat, potatoes, vegetables.

### **What makes a person wise?**

This activity is a family discussion.

### **Puppets**

Using materials you have at home, invite family members to make a puppet of their favorite Bible character that you read about this week. Use the puppets to retell some of the stories of these famous Bible heroes.

---

## REMEMBER 1 THING

**Solomon asked for wisdom and God granted it. God will grant us wisdom, too. Seek it with all your heart!**

## October 4-10

We cover a big chunk of Israel's history with this week's reading. There are wonderful stories about Samuel, and David that you can spend time exploring with your children as well as looking at the temple that Solomon built.

### Solomon's Temple:

If you have older children, you might check out this YouTube video about the Temple of Solomon. It's a 3-D rendering of the temple <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y2tha7ogpec&t=16s>

If you want to learn more about the symbolism in the building of the Temple, check out this 10-minute video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xt6lQAe8ues>. It is not necessarily appropriate for children.

### Make Shepherd's Pie for dinner

David began his life as shepherd for his father's sheep. As shepherd, he learned to be courageous, and that God was with him in all situations. Work together to make a special dinner and share the Bible stories about David as you eat.

You can use your own recipe or check out this easy recipe for Shepherd's Pie.

[https://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/easy\\_shepherds\\_pie/](https://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/easy_shepherds_pie/)

Make this a mindfulness activity by inviting your child to take notice of how each ingredient smells and seeing if they can smell that ingredient as your Shepherd's Pie bakes.

### What makes a person wise?

When God gave Solomon permission to ask for anything, Solomon asked for wisdom. Talk as a family about what makes someone wise.

- How is wisdom different from knowledge? (Does a wise person know everything? Or are they a good listener? Don't jump to conclusions? Are fair?)
- Why do you think Solomon asked God for wisdom instead of money or other things?
- If God told you that you could have anything you asked for, what would you ask for?

### Puppets

Pick a story from this week's readings and invite your family to make puppets of the characters.

Puppets can be stuffed animals who become the characters, or your "artists" can make them from supplies you have around the house including lunch sacks, socks, paper plates attached to craft sticks, characters drawn on paper than attached to upside down paper cups or anything else your child can imagine.

Invite family members to use the puppets to retell the story, concentrating on the feelings and emotions that the characters might have felt during the story.