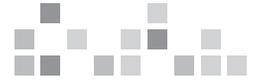




Solomon Turns Away From God

1 Kings 11:1-13

Preschoolers don't intentionally place other things before God, because they're too young to "worship" houses, jobs, money, or other people. That's why it's important for you to instill an unshakable devotion to God at this young age. Look for opportunities to affirm the children for their love and worship of God. Say, "God is so pleased when you praise him with this song!" or "What a nice prayer! God loves to hear you talk to him." Remind them how happy God is when we worship him.



► **Bible Point**
Worship God only.

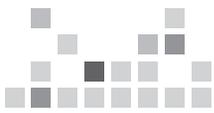
Key Verse
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart"
(Proverbs 3:5).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will put God first above other things.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started <i>about 5 min.</i>	Welcome and Celebrate Welcome each other, and praise God through music.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i>	With Your Heart Pass around a heart shape, and tell what they can trust God for.	Bible, chenille wire	
3 Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i>	Puppy Pointers Hear how a paper heart reminds Theo about the Bible Point.	CD player, Theo puppet, 1 red paper heart, marker, tape Teacher Pack: CD	Write "Theo" on the heart, and tape the heart to Theo's paw.
	Bible Time: Worship God Only Hear the Scripture, and use chenille wires to remember that God is number one in our lives.	Bible, chenille wires, tape Teacher Pack: "Wise King Solomon" poster	Hang the "Wise King Solomon" poster on a wall.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p style="text-align: center;">4 Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> (Choose two centers.)</p>	<p>Center 1: He's Number One! Add a number 1 to their papers.</p>	<p>My Bible Hugs, glue, crayons, scissors Teacher Pack: yarn</p>	<p>Remove the Lesson 7 pages from My Bible Hugs, and write children's names on them. Cut a 6-inch piece of yarn for each child.</p>
	<p>Center 2: Number One Snack Make a special snack.</p>	<p>pudding snack cups, plastic spoons, napkins, shaker of rainbow sprinkles, antibacterial gel (optional)</p>	
	<p>Center 3: Sing and Praise! Sing a song and do motions.</p>	<p>CD player Teacher Pack: CD</p>	
	<p>Center 4: Praise Shakers Make noise shakers, and sing a song.</p>	<p>CD player, 1 sheet of construction paper and ½ to 1 cup of pebbles or beads per child, scissors, masking tape, markers Teacher Pack: CD</p>	<p>Cut a sheet of construction paper in half for each child.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">5 Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Be a FaithWeaver Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	<p>My Bible Hugs</p>	
	<p>Action Prayer Get a reminder that God is the only one for them.</p>	<p>washable marker</p>	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		



Solomon Turns Away From God

1 Kings 11:1-13

BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

Solomon Begins His Reign

During his reign, David made preparations for a temple to be built, and he commissioned his son Solomon to make sure that it happened (1 Chronicles 22:2-11).

Once the Temple was built, Solomon dedicated it with a magnificent prayer (1 Kings 8:23-53). He praised God’s power, goodness, and mercy. He asked God to hear, forgive, and bless his people. After that prayer, God appeared to Solomon and reaffirmed his promise to establish an heir of David on the throne forever if Solomon and his descendants continued to walk before God in “integrity of heart and uprightness” (1 Kings 9:4-5). However, God also issued a warning: If Solomon or his sons turned away from the Lord and served other gods, God would reject them and make Israel an object of ridicule among all peoples (1 Kings 9:6-7).

Solomon’s First Mistake

Solomon’s wisdom and Israel’s prosperity made Solomon enormously wealthy. First Kings 10:14-29 describes some of his possessions, including huge amounts of gold, a fleet of ships, hundreds of chariots, and thousands of horses—all in spite of the fact that the accumulation of large numbers of horses and vast amounts of gold and silver was expressly forbidden in Deuteronomy 17:16-17.

Solomon’s Folly

The king of Israel was not to take many wives for himself because they would lead him astray (Deuteronomy 17:17). Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines. But having foreign wives was even worse than having many wives, and many of Solomon’s wives were from nations whose people the Israelites were expressly forbidden to marry (1 Kings 11:1-2). Indeed, the wives led him astray. After such an illustrious

beginning to his reign and many years of faithfulness and prosperity, Solomon turned to worshipping the gods of his foreign wives. The next time God spoke to Solomon, it was to tell him that the kingdom would be torn from Solomon’s son.

The Jesus Connection

Biblical wisdom isn’t primarily knowing facts about Jesus—it’s living out a friendship with and a respect for Christ. Wisdom produces transformation, not just information.

Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. Long before Solomon went astray, God gave him and his people a road map to restore their friendship with God. Take a minute to reflect and confess your own sin to God. As you pray, you can draw a road map below that symbolizes your sin and repentance.





Welcome and Celebrate Supplies

signal
CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Gather 'Round"
(track 13), "Worship
God" (track 18)

1 GETTING STARTED

Welcome and Celebrate

 **Tip** Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You'll Do

As the children arrive, greet each one with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to gather the children together in a circle on the floor.

Lead children in singing "Gather 'Round" to the tune of "London Bridge" (track 13 on the CD). Encourage the kids to join you in repeating the words.

 **Gather 'round, it's time to play,
Time to learn, time to pray.
Gather 'round, it's time to say,
"Welcome, friends!"**
(Repeat 3x.)

Say: **Now that we're all together, let's sing and praise God. We praise God because God is good, and we ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY.**

Sing "Worship God" to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" (track 18 on the CD). After singing the song a few times, let children think of other ways to praise, such as clapping, stomping, or dancing. When you sing "Praise with a..." let them demonstrate their unique ways to praise.

 **Worship God and God alone!** (*point up*)
Show God all your love. (*cross arms over chest*)
Worship God and God alone! (*point up*)
Praise his name above. (*raise both hands*)
Praise with a shout! (*cup hands to mouth*)
Praise with a cheer! (*punch fist in air*)
Show God that we love him here! (*cross arms over chest*)
Worship God and God alone! (*point up*)
Show him all your love. (*cross arms over chest*)
(Repeat.)

Say: **It's good to praise God for all the wonderful things he does. I'm so glad that we ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY.**





2

KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY

With Your Heart

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have the children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to Proverbs 3:5, and show children the words.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart." Let's say the verse together.** Lead the children in repeating the Key Verse: **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart" (Proverbs 3:5).**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- What does it mean to trust someone?

Say: **When we trust someone, we know that person will do what he or she says.** Hold up the chenille wire. **I'm going to bend this wire into a heart shape. Do you trust that I'll do what I say?** After children respond, shape the wire into a heart. Hold up the heart shape when you're done. **You could trust that I'd do what I said I would do! Because I'm a person, I might make a mistake, but we can always trust in the Lord with all our hearts. We know God will do what he says he'll do. Let's pass this heart around. When you're holding the heart, tell something you can trust God for.**

Pass the heart around the circle, and have children share things such as "God gives me food," "God takes care of me," or "God is always with me." When the heart comes back to you, hold it so everyone can see it.

Say: **One way we can trust in God is to ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY and trust that he is the one true God. In our hearts we can trust that God will always love us, forgive us, and give us what we need. God is good and faithful. That's why we can trust in the Lord with all our hearts.**

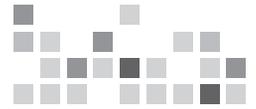
3

BIBLE
EXPLORATION

Puppy Pointers

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Listen, everyone, Theo's coming! He has something to show us. Let's find out what it is.**



With Your Heart Supplies

Bible
chenille wire

Puppy Pointers Supplies

CD player
Theo puppet
1 red paper heart
marker
tape
Teacher Pack
CD: "Here, Theo"
(track 4)

Puppy Pointers Easy Prep

Write "Theo" on the heart, and tape the heart to Theo's paw.





Play “Here, Theo” (track 4 on the CD), and bring out Theophilus the FaithRetriever. Then follow along with the script.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! It’s nice of you to come to church with us today. Do you have something to show us?

Theo: I brought this paper heart with my name on it.

Teacher: Why is your name on the heart?

Theo: Because I love God with all my heart.

Teacher: That’s great, Theo. Friends, can you tell Theo some of the ways that you love God?

(Pause for children to answer your question.)

Teacher: The Bible tells us to ► **WORSHIP GOD ONLY**. One way that we can worship God is by loving him with all our hearts.

Theo: I’m going to go home and take my red paper heart back to my house as a reminder to love God with all my heart and to ► **WORSHIP GOD ONLY**.

Teacher: That’s a good idea! Friends, let’s say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week’s use.

Bible Time: Worship God Only

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 11:1-13, and show the children the words.

Say: **The Bible tells us to ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY. To worship God means that God is most important in our lives. I’m going to give you something that looks like a number one!**

Give each child a chenille wire. Keep one to demonstrate what to do.

Say: **Let’s hold our wires straight and tall like the number one.** Point to the poster of King Solomon. **When Solomon first became king, he remembered to ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY. His dad, King David, worshipped God only, and Solomon did, too. God was number one in the lives of both kings.** Have kids hold up their chenille wires as they say, “Worship God only. God is number one.”

When Solomon got older, he started hanging around people who didn’t ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY. These people had pretend gods that they worshipped. Solomon soon forgot to worship God only. Take a minute and shape your wire into something silly. Let children shape their wires for about 30 seconds. **Those are silly things! They’re not number one!**

Lead children in saying: **“Worship God only. God is number one.”**

Say: **God wasn’t happy with Solomon. God said that because Solomon forgot about**

Bible Time: Worship God Only Supplies

Bible
chenille wires
tape

Teacher Pack
“Wise King Solomon”
poster

Bible Time: Worship God Only Easy Prep

Hang the “Wise King Solomon” poster on a wall.



God, Solomon would no longer be king. God was sad that Solomon forgot to keep God number one in his life. Have kids shape their wires into the shape of a frown, to show that God was sad. Lead children in saying: **“Worship God only. God is number one.”**

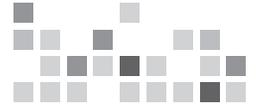
Say: **God must’ve been sad when King Solomon forgot him. But God is pleased when we worship only him. Make your wire into a nice, straight, tall number one again.** When each child has straightened his or her wire, lead children in saying: **“Worship God only. God is number one.”** Then collect the wires so they won’t be a distraction.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- **What did Solomon do to make God number one?**
- **What can you do to make God number one?**

Say: **When we make God number one in our lives, God is very happy. We can sing, pray, love, and praise God, and remember to always ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY.**



**4 WEAVING FAITH
INTO LIFE**

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today’s Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you’re ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they’d like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center’s description.

■ **CENTER 1:**

He’s Number One!

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child a Lesson 7 page from My Bible Hugs. Set out glue, crayons, and the yarn pieces. Point to each picture on the My Bible Hugs page and ask how each child is worshipping God.

Let children color the pictures. Then help each child glue a yarn piece on the number “1” as a reminder that God is number one.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- **What can you do to show that God is number one?**

Center 1: He’s Number One!
Supplies

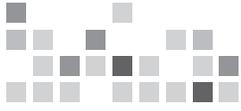
My Bible Hugs
glue
crayons
scissors

Teacher Pack
yarn

Center 1: He’s Number One!
Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 7 pages from My Bible Hugs, and write children’s names on them. Cut a 6-inch piece of yarn for each child.





Center 2: Number One Snack Supplies

pudding snack cups
plastic spoons
napkins
shaker of rainbow
sprinkles
antibacterial gel
(optional)

! ALLERGY ■ ALERT

Center 3: Sing and Praise! Supplies

CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: "Praise Him"
(track 19)

! CHOKING ■ ALERT

Say: **When we pray, read the Bible, and sing praise songs, we show that God is number one. It's important to ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY.**

■ CENTER 2:

Number One Snack

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have children wash their hands (or use antibacterial gel), and sit down to make their snack. Set out the supplies. Let kids add sprinkles in the shape of a number one on top of their pudding. Have someone pray, thanking God for the snack. Then have kids enjoy their snack.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

As children eat, talk about what a special, pretty snack this is. Remind them that when we worship God, we show that God is special and beautiful, too.

■ CENTER 3:

Sing and Praise!

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lead children in singing "Praise Him" (track 19 on the CD). Explain that singing praises to God is just one way to show that ► **WORSHIP GOD ONLY.**



Praise him! Praise him!

Praise him the morning; praise him in the noontime.

Praise him! Praise him!

Praise him when the sun goes down.

(Repeat the verse using "Love him!" and then "Serve him!")

(Repeat all.)

■ CENTER 4:

Praise Shakers

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out the supplies. Help children follow these instructions to make shakers.

- Decorate one side of each rectangle.
- Tape three sides of the rectangles securely.
- Pour ½ to 1 cup pebbles or beads into the shakers, and then tape each shaker securely shut.





Encourage kids to use their “Praise Shakers” as you lead them in singing “Praise Him” (track 19 on the CD).

 **Praise him! Praise him!**
Praise him the morning; praise him in the noontime.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him when the sun goes down.
(Repeat the verse using “Love him!” and then “Serve him!”)
(Repeat all.)

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- What are things you praise God for?
- What can you do this week to ► **WORSHIP GOD ONLY?**

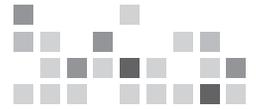
Say: **You can worship God anytime! Take your shakers with you so you can use them while you listen to music at home. Remember that it’s important to ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY—he’s number one!**

5 LASTING
IMPRESSIONS

Be a FaithWeaver

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

After the children have cleaned up their centers, bring everyone back to a circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they learned from the Bible today.



Center 4: Praise Shakers Supplies

- CD player
- 1 sheet of construction paper per child
- ½ to 1 cup of pebbles or beads per child
- scissors
- masking tape
- markers

Teacher Pack
CD: “Praise Him”
(track 19)

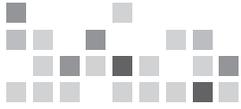
Center 4: Praise Shakers Easy Prep

Cut a sheet of construction paper in half for each child.

Be a FaithWeaver Supplies

My Bible Hugs





Action Prayer Supplies

washable marker

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Say: **Today we learned to put God first and ► WORSHIP GOD ONLY. I would like each of you to choose a way that this week you can make God number one.**

Give kids these three ideas to choose from:

- **Thank God for a meal before you eat it.**
- **Sing a song to God while you play.**
- **Pray to God before you get up in the morning.**

Have kids whisper in your ear or tell you which idea they've chosen, and then circle it on each child's My Bible Hugs page. Make sure you tell kids the challenge you choose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

Action Prayer

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Before praying, use a washable marker to draw a "1" on each child's hand. As you draw it, remind kids to ► **WORSHIP GOD ONLY** because God is number one. Have the children repeat each line of this prayer after you.

Pray: **Dear God, I will worship you only. You are number one in my life. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Hugs pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the "Be a FaithWeaver" activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment throughout the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about e-mailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.