

# Old Testament Bible Heroes

## Solomon - Wisdom

### Ready (*Plant the seed*)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. – James 1:5

### Set (*Get the conversation started*)

If God came to you and He would give you whatever you desired, what would you choose? Don't answer yet! That very thing happened to Solomon when his father, King David, died and passed the throne along to him. God asked Solomon what he wanted and he asked for Wisdom to be a good king for his people. God was pleased by this and not only gave Solomon kingly wisdom, but also honor and riches. Solomon used his gift wisely to settle disputes among the people and build a temple to the Lord. He gained great respect from the Israelites and honor from God. God rewarded Solomon because he did not ask for something for himself, he asked for a way to help others. He wanted to be a good leader.

Playing sports requires both athleticism and game knowledge. Knowledge is the information you receive: the things you know! Wisdom is what you do with that information and how you apply it to your life: your experience. Wisdom is knowledge in action! On the court, you learn about positions, rules, skills and plays. Figuring out how all of those things work together becomes your wisdom. It takes time and experience to gain that wisdom. As you gain wisdom and pair it with other characteristics of a Christian athlete such as kindness, loyalty, putting others first and honoring God; you become a good leader just as Solomon asked for. When you use your gifts to help others, God rewards you as He did Solomon. So, I'll ask you again, if God came to you and said He would give you whatever you desired, what would you choose?

### Grow (*Talk it over*)

Use this time to let each player answer the above question.

### Pray

Father God, we love you. We thank you for the story of Solomon's wisdom in scripture. It helps us to understand how to use the gifts you give us and discernment in what we ask for. May all the knowledge we gain turn into wisdom that glorifies you, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Overtime (*Team Building Game to Support Concept*)

Button, Button (Can use a coin, pebble, button, etc.)

-One player stands in the middle, the rest form a circle around him/her, each holding their palms tightly together. The kids pass their hands through the person's hand to their left, motioning like they're secretly dropping a button into the other child's hands. Everyone's hands keep doing this motion while only one button is really being passed. The trick is to catch someone passing the real button. If you guess wrong, you're out of the game. If you guess right, both people involved in the passing are out of the game, until the next game starts.

-Say: *Part of the wisdom of being a good leader is making wise choices. That's called discernment. Use your eyes to focus on the body language of your teammates to gain knowledge that will help you make wise choices in deciding who really has the button.*

-Play!

-Say: *Great job everyone! Making wise choices can be difficult, right? That's why we should always pray and ask God to help us discern what is the right thing to do.*