

Life Group Lesson - Week of June 18

Solomon started out well when he first became king of Israel. Solomon honestly acknowledged his inexperience in leading God's chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they could not be counted. So when God appeared to him at Gibeon in a dream and asked the young ruler: "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you" (1 Kings 3:5), Solomon asked for wisdom. The Lord was pleased to answer his request. Not only did God give Solomon wisdom to lead, He gave him much more. In fact, no king in all the world could be compared to him.

Years later the queen of Sheba came to visit king Solomon. She had heard of his achievements but was determined to see his success with her own eyes. When she and her caravan arrived, not only did she witness his success firsthand, she was introduced to the Source of his success, the Lord God Himself: "Praise the Lord your God, who delights in you and has placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the Lord's eternal love for Israel, He has made you king so you can rule with justice and righteousness" (1 Kings 10:9).

Read 1 Kings 10:1-10

Can people tell you are a Christian by the way you live your life—by the way you lead in your family, the workplace, in the community? Solomon's Source of wisdom was God.

1. The Bible says we have access to that same Source. Read James 1:5-8. How can we make sure our faith is in God alone?

Notice Solomon's fame "brought honor to the name of the LORD" (1 Kings 10:1). A true and honorable mantle of leadership brings honor to God. How is good leadership (in the home, in the church, in the workplace, in the community, in the world) passed on from one generation to the next?

King Solomon's rule was not only just and righteous (something our world is in desperate need of today!) but it was impressive to the queen of Sheba and other nations. In fact, "She was overwhelmed. She was amazed at the food on his tables, the organization of his officials and their splendid clothing, the cup-bearers, and the burnt offerings Solomon made at the Temple of the LORD" (1 Kings 10:5). You may not be ruling an entire nation, but what about your home, is there an overwhelming sense of God's presence in your home? Do members of your household mutually love and respect one another? Do you conduct your business, your family finances, your day-to-day schedule with complete integrity?

2. As children of the Light we must not give any ground to the enemy—be it in the area of leadership, communication, expectations, respect, or intimacy with God. Oh that God would give us a glimpse of the bigger picture and what is at stake! We are commissioned to lead and lead well for His honor and glory. Read Exodus 33:8-23. What can we learn from Moses about meeting with God in the secret place?

In the song *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know* we are reminded that "we are weak, but God is strong." We all struggle, but don't let your weakness keep you from pursuing the Lord and living into His call upon your life. Meet God at the altar and confess any sin you have been carrying. The Lord promises not only to forgive, but heal and cleanse. You can start new today!

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**The Incomparable Solomon—Principles of
“What Men Want More of”**

Text: 1 Kings 10: 1-10

1. Mantle of _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____ with God



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