

WEEK 1: THE WISE KING - Focus: 3:1-15 - Section: 1 KINGS 1-4

PRAY	This term we're going to be looking at 1 and 2 Kings. Tonight we'll spend some time getting into the context and big picture then look at one passage in Kings	
	Pray for our mission partners and your time in the Bible	
SET UP	As we start thinking about Kings, we're going to take a few minutes to get our bearings.	
	<p>1. What do we know about where Kings sits in the Bible</p> <p>a) What's come before in the story so far?</p> <p>b) How does it relate to what comes after?</p> <p>2. How do these passages set our expectations for what might come in Kings? What can we be looking for?</p> <p>a) Deuteronomy 4:25-31</p> <p>2 Samuel 7:1-17 (especially 12-16)</p>	<p>Suggestions/Prompts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draw a timeline on some butchers paper (See Daily Reading Notes as an example). b) Note Kings as backdrop to prophets and writings. Anticipating Christ 2. a) 2 Sam 7: "What is David's son going to do? What is God going to do for David?" b) "What's happened since 2Sam7? " "What is on David's heart?"
1st RESPONSE	<p>Read the passage: 1 Kings 3:1-15</p> <p>3. From a first read, what stood out to you as interesting or significant?</p>	
STRUCTURE	<p>4. We're not going to spend time breaking down the passage today. We'll look at it in these two parts: 3:1-5, 6-14</p>	
ZOOM IN	For each section discuss:	Suggestions / prompts
	<p>a. What's going on in this section? What seems important?</p> <p>b. What do we learn about Solomon? What do we learn about God?</p>	<p>3:1-5 Solomon marries Pharaoh's daughter. Why is this significant? in pairs look at: Deut. 17:15-17 1 Kings 11:1-4 The high places get mentioned a bunch. Why do you think that is? in pairs look at Deut 12.1-6, Lev 17:1-5</p> <p>3:6-14 You may want to discuss what "wisdom" is and why it matters</p>
ZOOM OUT	As we zoom out, what seems to be at the heart of this passage?	<p>Suggestions / prompts (things to draw out)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God's grace, meeting us where we are • value wisdom over material things (and our failure to do this) • The need for forgiveness in Jesus, to learn from his wisdom. • The beauty of Jesus kingdom and the fullness of his wisdom (col. 2:2-3)
	How does this passage help me appreciate Jesus and his kingdom?	
DEEP RESPONSE	How might God be prompting you to respond to this passage?	<p>Suggestions / prompts: (choose 1 or 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there material things you value too much? • What might it look like to value wisdom more? • Read James 3:17-18 and consider what might wisdom look like in your life this week?
PRAY	<p>Pray as a group from the passage</p> <p>Pray in your smaller prayer groups</p>	