



Rhinos = Year 5 – 6



Tigers = Year 3 – 4



Meerkats = Year 1 – 2

## Wildlife – Journeying with God (7/8)

*In Wildlife we have been looking at an 8-week series focused on Old Testament characters and their journeys with God, in particular how their faith is tested and grows. So far, we have looked at Noah's journey of faith, how God used Moses for amazing things even though he felt like he wasn't good enough, Gideon's journey in finding strength in God, Ruth's loyalty, Hannah's faithfulness to God despite being bullied and David's obedience to God's plan!*

*Each week also has a **gospel element** threaded through where we will be using these O.T characters to point to Jesus (the series will end by looking at the whole purpose and meaning of Easter).*

### **Session 7: Solomon's Wisdom**

*Teaching point: This is week 7/8 and we are going to be looking at King Solomon! Solomon was David's son and became the next king after him. Solomon is renowned as one of the wisest people. When God asked him for a blessing, Solomon asked for wisdom! And he then not only shared this with the way that he led the Israelites, but also through writing books of wisdom in the Bible – Song of Songs and Ecclesiastes.*

### **Introduction**

*Teaching Point: It might be worth explaining to the children (if not done so already!) that we're not going to be meeting at Church or Wildlife for a couple of weeks. And whilst this is really sad, we are going to send a pack out to the parents each week which will aim to be like a portable/online version of Wildlife to do between children and their parents.*

This week the next person we're looking at is David's son Solomon! Now Solomon was renowned for being wise! But what does it mean to be 'wise'? Wisdom is all about having **experience, knowledge and good judgement** in a situation. Like you can be smart by knowing that a tomato is a fruit (because it has seeds in it), but wisdom is knowing not to put a tomato in a fruit salad! Because that would be gross!

### **Game**

This is just an idea but in wildlife we would usually play a game about now! You could play something like 'Simon Says', or musical bumps/statues! Or 'Duck, Duck, Goose!'



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## Message

Teaching Point: *This is the story and the teaching part of Wildlife! Feel free to read all of the message prepared or summarise bits, or just read the story straight from the Bible (might be a good idea for the older Rhino's).*

Last week we looked at King David and how he lived by **obedience** to God and his word by not killing Saul even though he could've done! Solomon is David's son and he becomes king when David dies. One of the big things that Solomon does is build the Temple for God! But what we're going to focus on today is how Solomon was blessed as one of the **wisest** people, starting with the beginning of his journey.

*Video -> very brief overview of God asking Solomon what he would like to be blessed with [Link at the bottom of the page]*

In **1 Kings 3:5-14** we read all about how God asked Solomon what he would like to be blessed with. And, instead of choosing money, or gold/silver, another house or more land, Solomon asked God to give him wisdom to be able to look after his people! And God was very happy with this answer! Why do you think that was? [Because it meant that Solomon was putting his people and ultimately God before himself and what he wanted]. And so God gave him wisdom! But not only that, but he also gave King Solomon riches as well!

And then a little further on in the Bible there is a story about how Solomon proved how wise he was to the people. In those days, if there were any quarrels between neighbours/family members, or there was any issues, then you would go to the King and his advisors and priests who would ask God for help and decide what you should do.

Let's read the story of what happened when two women went to see king Solomon, and what their problem was. [**Read 1 Kings 3:16-28**]

So, in that story, who was the real mother? [The one who said the other woman could keep the child because she didn't want it to die!] The true mother decided that it was best to sacrifice her role as being the child's mother and give him to another woman, rather than let him die! Isn't that amazing?! What an amazing example of love! And I'm sure all our mum's/dad's/grandma's/aunts/sisters love us like that too! A term we can use to describe this is 'sacrificial love' or an act of love. Can you think of any other stories that show sacrificial love? Here is a video with some ideas of sacrificial love happening in films!

*Video -> Top 10 Sacrifices in Disney films [Link at the bottom of the page]*

Some of these are so sad aren't they!? But they're also so powerful! And do you know what is amazing? That these acts of sacrifice are **tiny** compared to the sacrifice that Jesus made for us!! He loved us **so much** that he actually died for us! So that we could have a relationship with him and be with him forever! This is such an amazing truth for us to remember!

And so today, on Mother's Day, when we think of all the amazing people who look after us and help us in life, we can think of all the sacrifices they make for us and thank them! All of these amazing things they do are evidence for their love for us. And Jesus shines through their love and the sacrifices they make!



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### Connect Activity: Craft

Have a go at making the two women from the story!



#### What you will need:

- 2 paper plates
- 2 pieces of coloured card
- White card or two plastic spoons for the faces
- Scissors
- Wool for the hair
- Jewels or stickers to decorate the women!

#### Instructions:

1. Start by folding the two plates into cone shapes, like the picture above.
2. Then do the same thing with the two pieces of coloured card (you might need to cut these into circles first to make it easier!)
3. Then either cut out the head shape for each woman – one happy and one sad. Poke these through the holes in the top of the cones and glue.
4. Stick on some hair (using wool or shredded paper) and then cut out some arm shapes and stick these to the sides of the cones. You can use ribbon if you want the woman to hold her baby as above!
5. Decorate the women's dresses!



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### Rhinos Discussion questions:

Let's see how wise you all are! I'm going to ask you some questions, see how many you can answer!

- 1) Why does round pizza come in a square box?
- 2) If the earth is round, why don't people on the bottom part of it feel like they're upside down?
- 3) Why is it called a funny bone, when it's not funny when you hit it?
- 4) Which is more wise to fight? 100 duck sized horses, or 10 horse sized ducks?
- 5) If the shower is where you get clean then how does your towel get dirty?
- 6) How come your nose runs, but your feet smell?
- 7) Why is it called a building when its already built?
- 8) Who do you think is really in control, the Coronavirus or God?

Because in **Proverbs 9:10** it says

*'Fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgement.'*

And this is referring to God being all-powerful and awesome! That we should be so full of awe when thinking of God that that should come **way before** any fears that we have. That **knowing** that this is what God is like shows wisdom! Choosing to believe in God truths, rather than humans!

And we can show this wisdom in our lives, not by answering silly questions like the ones you just answered. But **by believing in Jesus**, and then by being wise in the decisions you make in life – showing God's love to others!

So why don't you answer these questions now, with the wisdom of knowing that God should come first in every decision.

- 1) **Is it doing you/your friends/family any good by worrying about things in the world like the Corona virus?** [God is there for you to take all of your worries and anxious thoughts to him! And he is the only one who can give us strength and peace in hard times.]
- 2) **What should be our first step in trusting God and putting him first in every decision?** [Praying to Jesus and leaving all our worries with him. Because worrying doesn't help anyone! But praying to an amazing and all-powerful God for strength and healing and protection does help!]
- 3) **So, what should we do with these worries that we've talked about?** [Why don't you take this opportunity to pray to Jesus and ask for his help in this situation? And if you're not scared or anxious about the Coronavirus then you could pray for other people that are – especially older people and those who aren't that well already. We can pray for strength, healing, protection over people and help to those who feel scared or are all alone.]



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## Worship

*Teaching Point: In Wildlife we like to worship together, and whilst it won't be the same as when we're all together in Wildlife that doesn't mean we can't worship! Why not play the songs and dance to them together? Or put worship songs on whilst you're all getting lunch ready?*

In Wildlife we have been looking at this series 'Journeying with God' and the song 'All Through History' is like our theme song for the series! I have attached a link to the YouTube videos – one with lyrics and one with the actions. Have a go – I'm sure your children will love teaching you the actions!

We have also been singing the song 'Waymaker', which we have also been starting to introduce into the adult meeting. And it's a great song to listen to and sing along together – a strong reminder that God is so powerful and strong, that we can take anything to Him and there's nothing that is above him!

**He's our 'way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness'!**

## Links:

10 big sacrifices made in Disney movies video -> <https://youtu.be/rxFI2MywXTc?t=40>

Saddleback video of Solomon -> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9-4sGPeBuE>

All Through History song -> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQS2HHayr38>

Actions for 'All Through History' song -> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Ixs2I2hzv4>

Waymaker -> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wyotu9Ttko>



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[Activity Sheets for additional fun!](#)

**WHAT DID SOLOMON ASK FOR?**

**SHADE THE LETTERS WITH A ★ IN THEM**





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# THE WISE KING SOLOMON

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.





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SOLOMON  
SACRIFICE  
DAVID  
LOVE  
MUM  
JESUS

WISDOM  
SON  
KING  
DAUGHTER  
FAITH  
CHILDREN

TEMPLE  
SILVER  
FORGIVENESS  
GOLD