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Choosing and Losing; Royalty and Loyalty; Wise to Advise

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Lesson Writers:

Bob Bittner, Charlotte, Mich. (introductory anecdotes for lessons 1–2, 4, 7, 12); David Shirk, Colorado Springs, Colo. (introductory anecdotes for lessons 3, 5–6, 8–11, 13); Greg Ritchie, Reading, Penn. (Bible material for lessons 1–2); Jonathan Brentner, Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Bible material for lessons 3, 5–10); Larry Crutchfield, Colorado Springs, Colo. (Bible material for lessons 4, 13); Dan Liroy, Salem, Oreg. (Bible material for lessons 11–12); David Shirk, Colorado Springs, Colo. (other material for lessons 1–2); J. Isamu Yamamoto, Carol Stream, Ill. (other material for lessons 3, 5, 7–10); Victoria Johnson, Milwaukee, Wis. (other material for lesson 4); Jan Johnson, Simi, Calif. (other material for lessons 6, 11); Bonnie Helms, Portland, Maine (other material for lesson 12); Christine Dallman, Everett, Wash. (other material for lesson 13).

How to Use LESSON LEAFLET

This booklet consists of one set of leaflets based on lessons in Comprehensive Bible Study, the adult Bible-in-Life quarterly. Each leaflet is perforated for easy removal. If you have a visitor, or if a regular student for some reason lacks a copy of Comprehensive Bible Study, give that person the leaflet for the les-

son to be studied. He or she will then be able to follow the lesson easily with the use of the summaries, printed Scripture passages, and discussion questions.

Lesson Leaflet enables you to make sure that everyone who shows up for your class can participate fully.

Making the Right Choices

As an election day approaches, politicians try to convince voters of their worthwhile goals, their experience, and their power to get things done. But there was a time when leaders were chosen based on a different set of criteria. Morality was more important than message. Discernment outweighed demographics.

Thankfully, we do not have to enter politics to live as moral leaders. We each can seek a discerning heart that chooses to follow God in wisdom and truth.

1. *How does personal morality affect a person's ability to lead others?*

2. *Discernment plays an important role in a leader's life. Identify several ways that it might be used to lead a nation.*

3. *Name the most "discerning" leaders that you have known, or known of, in your lifetime and describe how they exemplified discernment.*

DAVID'S DIRECTIVE TO SOLOMON 1 Kings 2:1-4

1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;

3 And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

4 That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

4. *What primary instruction did David give to Solomon on his deathbed?*

5. *What did David promise Solomon in response to his obedience?*

SOLOMON'S SACRIFICE TO GOD 1 Kings 3:3-4

3 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

6. *Solomon made sacrifices on the “high places” (1 Kings 3:3) of Gibeon, but did not come under God’s severe judgments. Why?*

SOLOMON’S REQUEST OF GOD
1 Kings 3:5-10

5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7 And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

10 And the speech pleased the

LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing.

7. *What did Solomon request from the Lord? Why?*

8. *What did God promise Solomon in response to his request?*

SEEING THE FLOWER IN THE SEED

9. *Describe ways that discernment might be of help to a*

- *cardiologist*
- *personnel director*
- *marriage counselor*

10. *If you can, describe an instance that your own “discernment” revealed truths that were beneath the surface.*

11. *Identify some ways that discernment might save a person from future trouble or sorrow.*

HAVING DISCERNMENT IN YOUR LIFE

► *Ask the Lord for more discernment in your life, as Solomon did. Also, write down a problem area in your life where you need more discernment.*

KEY VERSE

Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? —1 Kings 3:9

Thanks for Visiting Our Class Today!