

The Junior Observer

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Q&A

Who talked to Solomon in a dream?

What did Solomon ask God for?

Read more about it in 1 Kings 3

A Good News Story

God Gives Solomon a Wise Heart

Catholic News Service

Not long before he died, King David fulfilled a promise that he had made to his wife Bathsheba.

Even though their son, Solomon, was one of David's younger children, David made Solomon his successor as king of Israel.

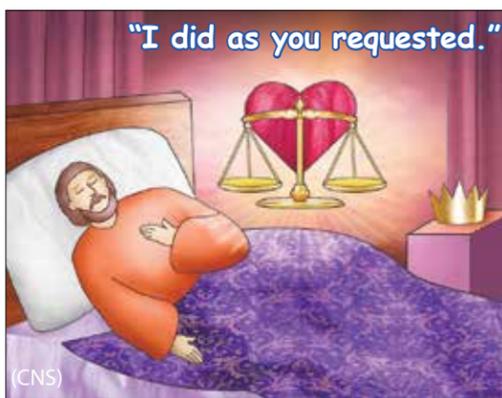
David advised Solomon to keep God's statutes, commands, ordinances and decrees as written in the law of Moses so that Solomon would succeed in whatever he did.

After David died and Solomon established his kingship, the new king went to Gibeon to sacrifice on the high place there. At that time, the people sacrificed on the high places because a temple had not yet been built for God.

While Solomon was in Gibeon, God appeared to him in a dream.

"Ask something of me and I will give it to you," God said.

"O Lord, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my



Bible Trivia

Which of David's older sons thought he would become king? (Hint: 1 Kings 1:5)

Answer: Adonijah

father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. ... Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong," Solomon replied.

God was very pleased with Solomon's answer.

"Because you have asked for this — not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right — I do as you requested," God said. "I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you."

God didn't stop there, however.

"In addition," God said, "I give you what you have not asked for: I give you such riches and glory that among kings there will be no one like you all your days. And if you walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and commandments, as David your father did, I will give you a long life."

When Solomon awoke, he went to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, sacrificed burnt offerings and communion offerings, and gave a feast for all his servants.



Clare Kindelin



Tonee Scaletta



Allie Cook

Contest Winners Receive Prizes

DIOCESE—The three winners of the Diocesan Appeal coloring contest have received their prizes.

Each of the girls received gift boxes with items from the Vineyard Catholic Book Store, the diocesan Education Office and The Junior Observer, and a \$10 Culvers gift card.

"Our daughter, Clare, was thrilled to have won the coloring contest," wrote Catherine Kindelin. "Thank you for sending such a generous gift. We will pray for you!"

Clare, 6, attends Holy Cross School in Batavia.

Yonee Scaletta, 8, attends St. Thomas More

School in Elgin.

"Thank you so much," wrote Tanaya Cook. "Allie loved getting a package in the mail with goodies. She had to go to Culver's right away for custard."

Allie is a 13-year-old at St. Andrew School in Rock Falls.