

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

WEEK 5

BIG IDEA

God helps us do big things.

BIBLE

The Queen of Sheba Visits: 2 Chronicles 9:1–12; Psalm 124

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Building on your own can take years and years, but that's why we have construction crews to help us. This week, we'll hear the story of the time when the Queen of Sheba saw God through Solomon's wisdom. Solomon knew his wisdom and kingdom weren't from his own efforts, and his generosity towards the queen shows us how God helps us do big things.

Large Group Time

Welcome

Wow, we've been *under construction* for a long time! We have been learning about how to follow God's directions, make requests to God, take time to worship God, and ask for God's true wisdom along the way. Today is the final day of construction, and that means something big. Let's see what it is!

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

POLL | Big, Bigger, Biggest

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Indicate three spots on the floor, like with tape, far apart from each other that indicate "big," "bigger," and "biggest." When you read off one of the challenges below, ask kids to move to whether they think it's a big thing (but doable), a bigger thing (so they'd need help), or the biggest thing (seemingly impossible).*
- **How big do you think the following challenges are?**
 - **Washing the dishes.**
 - **Getting a perfect score on a math test.**
 - **Becoming famous on YouTube.**
 - **Learning how to do a cartwheel.**
 - **Memorizing five phone numbers.**

- **Eating all your vegetables (including mushrooms, cauliflower, and brussel sprouts!).**
- **Getting along with someone who annoys you.**
- **Having no screen time for a month.**
- **Learning a new language.**
- Think about something you're really good at right now. Were you always good at it? It probably felt like a really big thing at first but over time and with practice, it got easier and didn't feel as big and daunting as it once did.
- Today's Bible story will remind us that God is leading us to do big things as we grow, but we have to always remember it's God who helps us achieve them because it is **God who helps us do big things!**

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SCRIPTURE | 2 Chronicles 9:1–12 (The Queen of Sheba Visits)

Well, crew, our construction is just about complete! We've worked really hard all month, and all that hard work is going to pay off big. The best part of a construction job well done is that lots of people can come to enjoy the fruit of our labors!

- King Solomon was no stranger to construction. He hired expert builders and imported all the finest materials for God's temple and his palace.
- Once all that building was complete, his kingdom was a wonder to behold ... so much so that rumors of Solomon's splendor spread to neighboring lands and beyond.
- **Let's read 2 Chronicles 9:1.**
 - At this time in history, there were no cell phones, Google, or social media. Someone couldn't go on the internet to look up pictures or chat online. If you wanted FaceTime, you'd have to travel and meet with someone face-to-face.
 - So the Queen of Sheba traveled somewhere between 1,200 to 1,500 miles to meet Solomon. She even brought a caravan of people carrying spices, gold, and precious gems.
 - **What would inspire someone to travel all that distance?**
- **Let's read 2 Chronicles 9:2–4.**
 - Not only had the queen heard about Solomon's riches, but she had also heard of his great wisdom. When she asked all her questions, even the most difficult ones she could think of, Solomon did not disappoint. He was able to answer all of them with ease.
 - **If you were the queen, what kinds of questions would you have asked?**
 - The queen was amazed and overwhelmed by all of the big things she encountered ... Solomon's wisdom, the grand palace he had constructed, the food he had laid out for meals, the clothes he and his servants wore, and the massive burnt offerings he gave in the temple. She was impressed with Solomon ... but even she knew that someone else deserved all the credit!
- **Let's read 2 Chronicles 9:5–8.**
 - The Queen of Sheba told Solomon that what she saw with her own eyes was far greater than what she had heard.
 - But she knew that all of this came from God—she praised God for placing Solomon on the throne and helping him rule over the people well. This was no small feat Solomon had accomplished, and it was only possible because of God!
- **Let's read 2 Chronicles 9:9–12.**
 - What an exchange. The Queen of Sheba brought many riches with her to give to King Solomon, but what she got in return was far greater than what she came with.

- He was able to be so generous because God had been more than generous in blessing him and his kingdom.
- God was with King Solomon, and because of that, Solomon was able to do some incredibly big things!

BIG IDEA | God helps us do big things.

God helps us do big things.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

RESPONSE | I Can Do Big Things

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use hard hats like [these](#). Give everyone one hat and a permanent marker. You can have kids write directly on their hard hats or write on blank labels or pieces of tape and attach them.
- **God helps us do big things, but what counts as a big thing?** Sometimes the biggest thing to someone can actually be really small, like a hug, encouraging words, or someone to just tell you everything is going to be okay. Sometimes these seemingly small things make the biggest impact. That makes it a big thing!
- **What are some big things you could do ...**
 - **For a family member?**
 - **For a friend?**
 - **For your teacher?**
 - **To help your community?**
 - Write your ideas on your hats and then put on your hats. It's time to get to work, everyone! We've got big things to do!

Prayer

God, thank you for all the big things you do! Help us to go to you when we have big things of our own to do. We know that we are always lovingly under construction by you, and we'll forever put our trust in your guidance and wisdom. Amen.

Small Group Time

Discussion

- **Why did the Queen of Sheba make the journey to come and visit Solomon?***To see for herself if everything she had heard about Solomon was true.*
- **How did the Queen of Sheba know that Solomon had great wisdom?***He was able to answer all the difficult questions she asked him.*
- **Who did the Queen of Sheba give credit to for everything Solomon has been able to do?***God.*
- **Read Psalm 124:8. Where can we look for help in anything we do?***God, the maker of heaven and earth.*
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**
 - **What are some big things you want to do for God?**
 - **How will others see God through the big things you want to do?**
 - **What can we do when we need help doing big things? Who can we go to? Who are some people who can help us with our tasks?**

ACTIVITY | Big Idea Toolbox

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you'll need to give each kid a [blank gift box](#). You may need to help them assemble the boxes. To make this toolbox, have kids write today's Big Idea (or all the ones from this series) then draw pictures of construction tools or vehicles to decorate. You can print out copies of the series graphic for kids to cut and paste and provide [construction stickers](#).*
- As we went *under construction* this month, we learned a lot through the story of Solomon:
 - **God listens to our requests.**
 - **God is worthy of our worship.**
 - **God gives us true wisdom.**
 - **God helps us do big things.**
- It's wonderful to have all of these amazing truths to carry with us in our toolbox for life!