

CATEGORY

Biblical Manhood

TITLE

Godly Dependence

REFERENCE

1 Kings 3:5–14

• orange merit •

# 1 Kings

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 4



## FOR THE LEADER

### KEY POINT

I will trust God to help me make the right choices.

### KEY VERSE

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. **Proverbs 3:5,6**

*Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion credit for this lesson.*

As godly men, we must learn that we must depend on God to work things out for us even in rough times.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

### REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys' sheet.

- Give Solomon wisdom to govern the people.
- God gave Solomon what he requested and more.
- Answers will vary and may include these: God answers unselfish prayers. God sometimes gives us more than we ask for.



## MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 4



## KEY THOUGHTS

### KEY POINT

I will trust God to help me make the right choices.

### KEY VERSE

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. **Proverbs 3:5,6**



## READ

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

Solomon answered, “You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

“Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”

The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, “Since

you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life.” 1 Kings 3:5–14

Have you ever had to choose between an easy choice and a hard choice? For example, you asked your mom if you could go out and play. And she asked, “Is your homework finished?” If your homework isn’t done, you could lie, and go play while hoping to do your homework later without getting caught. If you lie, you will have to rush on your homework. You also risk getting in trouble if your mother finds out that you lied. If

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## 1 KINGS—Lesson 4

she does find out, and she always does, she may keep you from going out and playing for several days. Or you could say no, do your homework, and then go play. If you do that, you won't get to play as long, but you will get your homework done, and there is no way you get in trouble.

The second option is often a harder choice. That's because we don't want to wait for it. It is the better option though because we still get what we want and then some. We still get to go play, we make better grades, and we please our mom.

Early in his reign, Solomon made a choice that pleased God. God told Solomon that He would give him whatever he asked for. That's a pretty cool offer!

Solomon could have asked to be the richest guy in the world. He could have asked to live a long life. He could have asked that he never lose a battle and that his country always prospered. Instead of asking for those things, he asked for wisdom. He wanted to be a good king and a good man. And as a result, God honored him. Not only did God give him wisdom, God made him the wisest man to ever live. And because Solomon acted so selflessly, God made him the richest man alive. God also gave him great honor and made him the most powerful king in the world. And God promised Solomon a long life, if Solomon would obey God's instructions.

We will all face tough choices, especially as we grow older. As godly men, we must learn to choose the best way and depend on God for everything else. Someone once said, "Take care of God's business and He will take care of yours!" This means that if we do what God expects of us, we don't need to worry about anything else. God will take care of us. He will be with us.

Some people try to force things and even try to cheat to get ahead. Others just don't depend on God to take care of things for them. Depending on God doesn't mean we are lazy and don't work. It does mean that we act with honesty, integrity, and perseverance. It also means we trust God and allow Him to work for us. When we take care of God's business, He takes care of ours!



### REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- What did Solomon ask God to do?
- How did God respond to Solomon's request?
- What can we learn from this story?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

**PRAYER:** Dear God, I want to make You proud of me. Help me to make the right choices in my life. Also help me to depend on You for all my needs. I don't want to force things. I want You to be my provider. In the name of Jesus. Amen.



### RESPOND

Before coming back to Rangers next week, talk to your parents or guardians about things you can do at home that will make it a more comfortable and happy place for everyone. Do those things for at least one month.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. The Fire Bible: Student Edition provides a reading plan that follows a two-year design for reading the entire Bible. Follow that reading plan in order to earn the green Bible Reading merit.

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