Solomon wrote the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. He also wrote a few of the Psalms.

Solomon was the son of King David. Even though Solomon had older brothers, King David made a promise to Solomon’s mother.

Bathsheba, I promise that your son, Solomon, will be king someday when I am gone.

Match the beginnings and endings of the proverbs below. You may use your Bible to help you.

- Gossip separates and delights in honesty. (Proverbs 16:28)
- Happy is the man the best of friends. (Proverbs 10:1)
- The Lord hates cheating with a level-headed son. (Proverbs 11:1)
- Hatred stirs old quarrels you must want to be taught. (Proverbs 10:12)
- Without wise leadership but love overlooks insults. (Proverbs 11:14)
- To learn controlling the tongue. (Proverbs 12:1)
- Self-control means a nation is in trouble. (Proverbs 13:2)

Make up a proverb that will help you remember to trust in God. Write it here:

Sure enough, when King David was older, Solomon’s brother, Absalom, caused a lot of trouble.
God knows all about you. He understands your thoughts. And if you are willing to follow His plan, He will help you use all your energy, creativity and intelligence to accomplish something wonderful!

It sounds like a happy ending to Solomon’s story, doesn’t it? He got even more than he asked for. Unfortunately, sometimes getting everything we want is not the best thing for us. Solomon was rich and famous. People came from all over the world with presents and wives for him.

Solomon had hundreds of wives, and they worshipped many gods. Soon he had made temples for them. Solomon forgot about his promises to God for a while and worshipped with his wives in their temples.

Before the end of his life, Solomon remembered God and came back to worship Him. God forgave him, but not all of the people who had copied him by worshipping other gods returned to the true God. Solomon realized then that it was his fault that many people in Israel forgot about God because of his example.

You can read all the stories about King Solomon in 1 Kings, chapters 1-11, and 2 Chronicles, chapters 1-9.
There was a terrible war in Israel and Absalom was killed. King David was very sad, but he was still king. Time passed and he became old and sick. One day David’s son, Adonijah, was talking to his mother . . .

Mom, Dad is too old and sick to be a good king. If I don’t do something soon, Solomon will be the next king, just as Dad promised.

That is not fair. Bathsheba’s son should never be king. David committed a terrible sin by marrying her.

What did he do?

Bathsheba was married to someone else. David had an affair with her while her husband was away fighting in the army.

Yes. When Bathsheba told David she was going to have a baby, he had her husband killed accidentally-on-purpose on the battlefield so he could marry her.

It is wrong to steal someone’s wife, and it was especially mean when the husband was away from home fighting in Dad’s army!

You have chosen wisely.
Because you made the best choice, I will give you all the other things too. You will be the wisest man who ever lived, and you will also be the greatest king of Israel with the most land and wealth in your control. You will also be the most loved and respected king.

You can read David and Bathsheba’s sad story in 2 Samuel 11.
Adonijah’s mother devised a plan . . .

You should be crowned king. The people will follow you because they know David is old and sick and about to die any day now.

What a good idea! I’ll do it!

And he did. Meanwhile, back at the palace . . .

David, you promised me that Solomon would be king someday.

What a good idea. I will call Solomon!

I am old and sick. I will die soon and I am already too sick to be king. Bring Solomon and we will have him declared king with me. We will be kings together until I die.

David named Bathsheba’s second baby Solomon. But God gave him a different name. Read 2 Samuel 12:24, 25 and write that name here:

This special name means “God loves the baby.” Maybe this was God’s way of telling David He had forgiven him.

Actually it was God who chose Solomon to be king instead of one of David’s other sons. God knew that even as a little boy, Solomon’s heart belonged to Him.

Read 1 Chronicles 22:7-10, and think about what special work God has planned for you to do. If you want Him to guide you, sign your name here:

Was that baby Solomon?

No, that baby died. David was terribly sad. He confessed his sin and asked God to forgive him and create in him a clean heart.

Did God forgive him?

Yes, but the rest of us never will! We do not like Bathsheba and we do not like Solomon! YOU should really be the next king!