

Discussion Starter: What person(s), book(s), or resource(s) do you seek out when you are looking for a source of wisdom?

### Time of Prayer

#### Discussion Questions:

What do you know about King Solomon (*for a decent summary, you can reference the “biblical account” section of the article found at [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King\\_Solomon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_Solomon); key points are son of David, rich and wise king at pinnacle of Israel’s empire, many foreign wives led him to turn away from faithfulness to God, wrote Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, and most of Proverbs*)?

In **Matthew 12:42**, Jesus mentioned that His audience had something greater than Solomon – what is He talking about (*see 12:39-42 if more context is needed – Jesus is talking about Himself*)? Pastor Ramel mentioned that King David and King Solomon are a “type” of Jesus Christ. What does this mean (*these Israelite kings point ahead to Jesus Himself, and He fully embodies/fulfills the role that they failed to live up to; ie, Jesus perfectly follows through on the godly wisdom that Solomon failed to utilize*)? Since Solomon is a “type” of Jesus, why is it so important to study and understand his life?

What is the difference between wisdom and knowledge (*knowledge is having information vs. wisdom is knowing how to apply/utilize your knowledge*)? Why is it important to make a distinction between the two terms? Can you think of a person or fictional character who shows the folly of mistaking knowledge for wisdom (*teenagers!, most socially awkward “nerd” characters such as on Big Bang Theory, a college professor as opposed to a person seasoned by extensive field experience*)?

**1 Kings 11:1-6** describes Solomon’s fall away from faithful worship of God. In your own words, what are the reasons that it happened? Since “idols” and “hundreds of foreign wives” are not situations to which most American Christians can relate, what types of people and situations do you think are the biggest danger zones for pulling you away from your Christian walk?

What is the central point of **Proverbs 1:8-10** and **Proverbs 22:24-25**? Can you describe a time when you or someone you know created problems by being too closely associated with people of bad influence?

Read **1 Kings 11:11-13**. As a parent or grandparent, what warning (from Solomon) and what hope (from David) do you find in this passage? When this passage is viewed in combination with **2 Chronicles 7:17-20**, do you conclude that God’s faithfulness to His Word is contingent upon our faithful obedience or not (*key point: despite Solomon’s failure, God maintains His promises to David and Abraham – who also made big mistakes*)?