



THREE KINGS

CREW LEADER GUIDE: THE POWER OF NOT KNOWING - THREE KINGS PART 5

Message Summary:

This message explores what it means to begin well in faith by acknowledging God as the source of all placement, provision, and purpose. Solomon's request for a discerning heart rather than wealth or power serves as a model for believers who are called to align their desires with God's purposes. The sermon challenges believers to move beyond a passive, Sunday-only faith and embrace the reality that God has entrusted each person with a divine mission in every sphere of life. Just as Solomon acknowledged his inadequacy before God and was met with divine generosity, believers are called to recognize their dependence on God and ask for wisdom in all areas of life, trusting that the Holy Spirit empowers them to live as God's representatives throughout every ordinary moment of the week.

Key Points:

- God places people where they are with intention and purpose, and acknowledging this removes the sense of accident or inadequacy from one's calling
- Solomon's humility before God, describing himself as a little child, reflects the kind of honest dependence on God that invites divine wisdom and blessing
- Believers are called to ask God for a discerning heart in every area of life, not just the areas where they feel they are struggling
- God's response to Solomon's request demonstrates that when our desires align with His purposes, He often gives far more than what was asked
- The Christian life is not confined to Sunday worship but is a continuous, Spirit-empowered mission in every environment God places a believer
- The two pillars of Solomon's temple, Jachin and Boaz, meaning "he shall establish" and "in his strength," serve as a constant reminder that God is the source of all strength and establishment
- The presence of God filling Solomon's temple illustrates the same Spirit that now dwells within every believer, making each person a vessel for God's glory
- The gospel has been entrusted to every believer, and passive faith fails to honor the weight of that responsibility

Key Scripture:

- **2 Corinthians 6:1-10** - Paul's description of enduring trials as servants of God
- **Isaiah 49:8** - Quoted within 2 Corinthians 6, regarding the time of God's favor and salvation
- **2 Corinthians 12:9** - God's grace being sufficient and power made perfect in weakness
- **1 Kings 3:5** - God appearing to Solomon in a dream at Gibeon and inviting him to ask for anything
- **1 Kings 3:7-12** - Solomon's request for a discerning heart and God's response of delight
- **1 Kings 3:13-14** - God promising Solomon wealth, honor, and long life conditional on obedience
- **2 Corinthians 3:5-6** - Competence as ministers coming from God, not from ourselves
- **James 1:5** - If anyone lacks wisdom, ask God, who gives generously without finding fault
- **1 Kings 8:10-11** - The cloud of glory filling the temple so the priests could not perform their duties
- **Matthew 6:33** - Seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness



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Discussion and Reflection

1. Solomon began his reign by acknowledging that God placed him where he was rather than taking credit for his own position. In what areas of your life do you struggle to recognize God's hand in placing you there, and how might that acknowledgment change your perspective?
2. The sermon highlights that Solomon, despite having unmatched wisdom and wealth, still made deeply foolish decisions. What does this reveal about the danger of relying on our own strengths and perceived competencies rather than continually seeking God's guidance?
3. Solomon asked God for a discerning heart rather than wealth, long life, or power. If God asked you today what you wanted most, what would your honest answer reveal about your heart's true priorities?
4. Ps. Jesse describes a season in his own faith when he compartmentalized his Christianity to Sunday mornings. How do you treat your faith as a part-time identity rather than a full-time calling?
5. The two pillars of Solomon's temple were named to declare that God establishes and saves in His own strength. How does this imagery challenge how you approach the trials and responsibilities of daily life?
6. Paul's words in 2 Corinthians describe a believer who is sorrowful yet always rejoicing and poor yet making many rich. What does it look like practically to hold both the reality of hardship and the reality of God's grace at the same time?
7. Ps. Jesse underscores that the enemy's strategy is to convince believers they do not need God in the areas where they feel competent. Can you identify areas in your life where you have stopped praying for wisdom because you assumed you could handle things on your own?
8. The sermon closes with the reminder that God used a man who hid on a mountainside for forty years and a man who murdered Christians to accomplish His purposes. How does this challenge any belief you hold that your past failures or current limitations disqualify you from being used by God?

Practical Challenge:

Here are a few ways to help activate key next steps this week:

- **Acknowledge God's placement in your life.** Before you go to work, school, or any recurring environment this week, take sixty seconds to acknowledge that God placed you there intentionally. Ask Him to use you right where you are.
- **Audit your "off" areas.** Identify one area of your life where you have been living as though God is not involved. Take one practical step this week to invite Him into that space -- whether through prayer, Scripture, or a conversation with a trusted believer.
- **Memorize a reminder.** Consider writing the phrase "he shall establish in his strength" somewhere you will see it daily: your phone, your mirror, your desk. Let it serve the same purpose the temple pillars served for Israel.
- **Pray for discernment this week.** James says that if you lack wisdom, ask God for it, and He gives generously to all without finding fault. Identify one specific area where you need God's wisdom and bring it to Him in prayer every day this week.