THE GOSPEL PROJECT FOR STUDENTS

UNIT 12 | SESSION 4

A SON REJECTS WISDOM

1 Kings 11:1-4,9-13; 12:12-17

MAIN POINT:
Half-hearted devotion leads to foolish choices.

HIS STORY

- **Solomon disregarded God's command about having too many physical possessions. How can this serve as a warning for us? What are some physical possessions that have interfered with your walk with Christ?**
- **Solomon also allowed personal relationships in his life to direct his affections away from God. How can we avoid similar outcomes in our own relationships?**
- **How has God "set you up for success" to follow Him?**
- **Solomon's foolishness blinded him to the long term effects his sin would have on those around him. Why do you think people don't usually consider the negative impact sin can have on those around them?**
- **How have you seen your sin affect others? How have you see God's grace cover over it?**

Essential Doctrine

Sin's Effects in the World | Sin does not only impact our relationship with God; it is also the root of our broken relationships with the people around us. Human sinfulness is the reason the creation groans in anticipation for redemption and deliverance from its bondage to evil powers (Rom. 8:20-22). Sin has infected and redirected the social structures of society, leading to injustice and oppression. The distorting effects of sin are visible all around us, but the good news of the gospel is that the battle against these powers will be won through the work of Christ.

Christ Connection

Solomon was a king whose reign was marked by prosperity and peace, but in the end, Solomon's sinful compromise led to the division of the kingdom. During His earthly ministry, Jesus spoke of Himself when He claimed "something greater than Solomon is here" (Luke 11:31). Whereas Solomon's sinful choices divided the kingdom, Christ's righteous submission to God established a new unity for God's people.

HEAD

- **How does Solomon's story challenge the way we think about earthly rulers?**
- **What wisdom can we offer to others who have placed their security in earthly figures instead of in Jesus?**

HEART

- **What does Solomon's compromise in devotion to God on account of his relationships teach us about guarding our heart?**
- **What wisdom would you offer someone whose devotion to God is being compromised?**

HANDS

- **How does the story of Solomon challenge us to live from day to day?**
- **What are some specific ways you live differently this week as a result?**