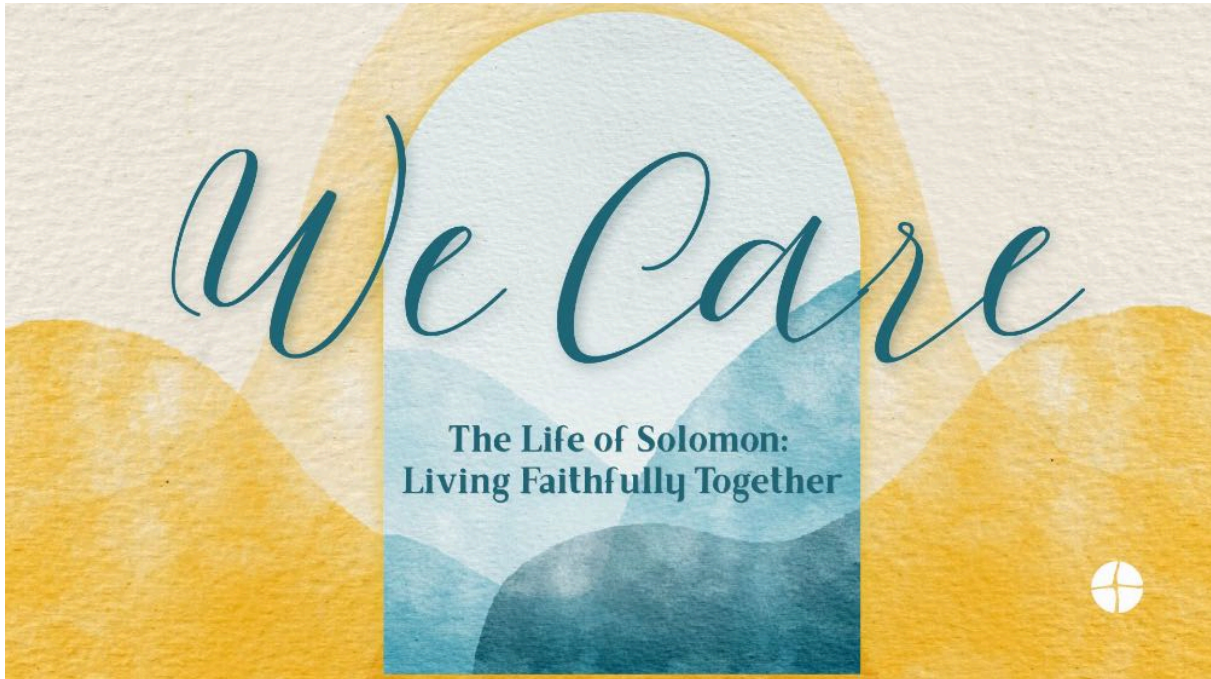


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Worship Set and Sermon Notes



Worship Set

Raise A Hallelujah

Washed

Trust In God

Holy Forever

We Care The Life of Solomon: Living Faithfully Together

The Heart Behind the Ask

1 Kings 3:5–15 .

We're starting a new series called **WE CARE: The Life of Solomon**.

Solomon had wisdom, wealth, and influence — everything most of us spend our lives chasing. But later he looked back and called it all "chasing the wind." Over the next several weeks, we'll follow his story from wisdom to worship, from abundance to emptiness, and ultimately toward restoration, asking one question the whole way: *How do we faithfully live the life God has entrusted to us?*

This week we watch Solomon's very first move as king. God offers him anything he wants, and what he asks for tells us something about every

prayer we've ever prayed. We'll look at what our requests reveal about our hearts, and what God wants to form in us through them.

What We Ask For Reveals What Matters to Our Hearts

Before Solomon asks God for anything, he remembers what God has already done: *"You have continued this great and steadfast love"* (1 Kings 3:6). Then he's honest about what he lacks — *"I am like a little child who doesn't know his way around"* (v. 7). Remember. Recognize. Ask.

And what he asks for is surprising. Not wealth, not long life, not victory over enemies — the things kings always asked for. He asks for a *lev shomea*, a hearing heart, so he can govern well. God is pleased — not by Solomon's ambition, but by what his request reveals about his heart (v. 10). What we ask for reveals what matters to our hearts. If someone listened to your real prayers this week, what would they learn about you?

A Heart Being Formed to Ask, "What Can God Do Through Me?"

Solomon asks to "discern between good and evil" — language that echoes Genesis 3, where Adam and Eve *took* that knowledge for themselves. Solomon does the opposite: he asks God for it. And twice he calls Israel "your people" (v. 9) — not his own. Before he leads them, he settles whose they are.

That's what God is forming in him: wisdom becomes a way to serve, not a way to secure himself. As Peter writes, *"Use them well to serve one another"* (1 Peter 4:10). What God places in our hands is never just for us. Solomon starts well here — but his heart won't stay this way, and that's a thread we'll keep pulling on through the series.

This Week . What we ask for reveals what matters to our hearts — and Solomon's prayer shows us a heart learning to ask, "What can God do through me?" instead of "What can God give me?" We don't have to earn this shift. In Jesus, we're already loved, forgiven, and held by God — so we're free to stop striving for ourselves and start asking how we can care for others.

Next Step: Begin each day this week praying, *"Lord, give me a wise and discerning heart."* As you go through your day, ask, *"Who have You entrusted to my care today?"* Let's become a family that seeks God's wisdom — not just for ourselves, but for the people He's placed around us.

