Solomon’s Dream—Every Teacher’s Dream

1 Kings 3:5-15 tells the story of God visiting Solomon during a dream shortly after he became king. When God asked Solomon what he wanted, the humble king answered:

“Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.”

“And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.”

“And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.”

Here, Solomon admits that he:

- Lacks wisdom
- Lacks an understanding heart
- Lacks discernment
- Lacks judgment

Immediately after this dream, and still within chapter 3 of 1 Kings, there’s a story of two harlots and… their children.

In brief, there are:

- 2 harlots
- 1 dead baby boy
- 1 live baby boy

Yes, this is a story about Solomon’s wisdom. Yes, this is a story filled with symbolism. It is also a story about discerning truth from error.

Teachers, you are all Solomons amid a great multitude of parents and children. Do you have the necessary wisdom, understanding heart, discernment and judgment?

In your classrooms, are you teaching your children how to divide truth from error, good from bad, right from wrong? Are the children’s lessons also teaching the parents?

Teachers, you are employees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Your mission is the same as the Seventh-day Adventist Church: To spread the everlasting gospel as well as a warning of God’s judgment and soon return.

This mission is not to be taken lightly nor shied away from.

How does a preschool share the messages of God’s mercy, judgment and soon return?

Obviously, it’s a focus of our teaching, but it’s more than well-planned lessons.

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Solomon’s Dream

In the early years of a child’s life, we focus our teaching on God’s love, power and goodness. We teach extensively about His love, creations and Heaven. These are lessons in faith.

We also teach children to obey, the importance of obedience, and the consequences of disobedience. Obedience to mommy, daddy and teachers are lessons in obedience to God. These are lessons in judgment.

Lessons about nature pre-requisite lessons about creation.

Lessons about Heaven pre-requisite lessons about Christ’s second coming.

Teachers, you are all Solomons amid a great multitude of parents and children. You need:

- God’s wisdom
- God’s understanding heart
- God’s discernment, and
- God’s judgment.

And God has given you a measuring rod for every concept, every lesson, every activity, every toy. It’s in Philippians 4:8:

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

Measure everything in your classroom against this verse and you will be able to hold true to the mission of your church and school. And, if at any time you lack wisdom, ask of God and He will give it to you liberally – He has made you that promise, just as He made the same promise to Solomon.

Nature Studies

One of the responsibilities of adults is to educate young children’s interests by alerting them to phenomena and events around them that are worthy of their deeper knowledge, understanding, and appreciation. Young children are surrounded by a wide range of natural phenomena that we can encourage them to appreciate and observe closely. We can help them take note of changes and other aspects of the natural events around them. These phenomena can include the many aspects of the weather, local puddles and streams, surrounding trees, bushes, plants, blossoms, as well as rocks and stones. Finding out more about any of these items could launch a lifetime of interest. (Lilian G. Katz, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign)

With the above in mind, take the children outside the classroom to study a tree. Have them feel the bark and watch the ants and other insects as they travel up and down the trunk. Find a bird’s nest and observe the birds as they make a home for their eggs and soon-to-be chicks. Find (or even better, grow) a garden of flowers in order to observe the bees as they pollinate the flowers. There is a free science laboratory just outside the classroom door with endless possibilities. Why not take advantage of it and shape a child’s interest in God’s second book?

Fundraising

Are you looking for a fundraiser that does not require you to sell one single thing?

No candy. No wrapping paper. No discount cards or books. Sound like something you could sink your teeth into? Then Funding Factory may be the right place for you.

100% Free! No selling, no paperwork, and zero cost to you - just a simple, green way to earn cash and rewards for your group or organization.

The product. Recyclables likes printer cartridges, cell phones, digital cameras, mp3 players, GPS units and laptops. These items should not be dumped in the garbage. You can save the environment and earn money too!

Online Administration. Track earnings, order materials (free), take advantage of promotions, and market your program to parents and business supporters.

Friendly Customer Service. Available by phone, email, and online chat, our reps are known for coaching participants with creative solutions and dedicated support.

How it works. Visit FundingFactory. Set up an account and determine a goal for your organization. Make business contacts through email messages, fliers, posters and a website set up just for your group (all free). Your company supporters can either bring the items to you OR print shipping labels (free again!) to send the recycle items directly to the company.

Sounds easy. Why not check it out?

One generation shall praise Thy works to another, And shall declare Thy mighty acts.

-Psalms 145:4
Lake Union. Our certified preschool/daycare program in Troy, Michigan is looking for a new director. Applicant must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and have a bachelors degree in early childhood education or child development OR a degree in a child related field that includes at least 18 semester hours of classes in early childhood education and/or child development and at least 480 hours of experience. Full or part-time - salary and hours to be determined.

For more information, please call Terri Morgan at 248-225-2565 and/or email your resume.


Little Angels Learning Center is a new preschool that is being established by the Kansas City Central SDA Church. We are looking to hire an SDA director to spiritually lead children in the Kansas City area. Please submit resume and transcript to Kansas City Central SDA Church, ATTN: Pastor Edye Campos: 14651 Peterson Road, Kansas City, MO, 64149. Requested information may also be submitted via email to kccsdachurch@hotmail.com. For questions regarding the position, please call Pastor Campos at 816-331-9933.

North Pacific Union. Cedarbrook Early Learning Center Port Hadlock, Washington is looking for a part-time Office Assistant and part-time Program Supervisor.

Office Assistant candidate must: (1) be proficient in Microsoft Office, QuickBooks and accounting practices, (2) type a minimum of 40 wpm, and (3) have the ability to multi-task.

Program Supervisor candidate must: (1) have a 2-year degree in Early Childhood Education, (2) be familiar with the Washington Administrative Codes (WACs) for Licensed Childcare Centers, and (3) have a minimum of 1-year experience.

All candidates must be able to pass an extensive background check. If all the requirements are met, then one person could fill both positions, as is the current arrangement. Please call 360-379-2271 for an application or mail your resume to: Cedarbrook Early Learning Center PO Box 460, Port Hadlock, WA 98339.

Southern California Conference. If you are SDA, have a degree in Early Childhood Education/Child Development or the core classes (Child/Human Growth & Dev.& Child, Family & Community) & other EC Program/curriculum (6SU/8QU) and are interested please fax your resume ASAP to 818-547-4824. A+ Adventist Children’s Center, 234 N. Isabel Street, Glendale, CA 91206. 818-241-9353.

Visit our website to find (or list) job openings in your area. This is another way to stay connected within the Adventist system.

The Purposes of ACCN:

1. To affirm, encourage and empower all engaged in the weekday ministry to children.
2. To provide opportunities for professional and spiritual growth.
3. To provide networking opportunities for Seventh-day Adventist Child Development Centers.
4. To set certification standards for child care providers.
5. To foster unity between all areas of child development within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
6. To encourage the incorporation of Early Childhood Education in the nurture and outreach programs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
7. To foster working relationships with the world church, unions, conferences, local churches, and schools.
8. To encourage surveys and research in the area of Child Development and Early Childhood Education in cooperation with the North American Division.
9. To counsel with the North American Division and General Conference in the development and review of programs and strategies for Child Development.
10. To provide guidance and resources to training organizations, colleges, and universities.
11. To advocate the hiring of Early Childhood specialists at all organizational levels of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
12. To develop working relationships with other Early Childhood Education organizations.
13. To encourage child care centers to obtain national accreditation.

Join ACCN

ACCN website
An Education Worth Having

At the opening plenary session of the 2012 NAEYC Conference, the CEO of the Council for Professional Recognition, Valora Washington, recognized Brenda Acero, who was awarded the Council’s 300,000th Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Acero says she felt honored and privileged to be recognized at the conference. "It makes you feel proud that you've accomplished something so big," she says. Acero developed a passion for early childhood education in college. She says she decided to earn her CDA credential after becoming a lead teacher at her center and encourages other early childhood educators to do the same. "It's worth doing it for your own education, but you also give the children a better quality education when you become more educated."

For more information on how you can complete your CDA, AA or BS degree in early childhood education, contact Charaine Lucas at Pacific Union College, chlucas@puc.edu or (707) 965-6340.

Free Advertising!

Does your preschool get involved in service activities for the local community? The Journal of Adventist Education is looking for some photos and short descriptions of service activities at Adventist preschools. You may submit your photos and descriptions via ACCN and we will forward them on to JAE. We'll also share them on the ACCN website and Facebook page with your program's contact information and links to your website. Free advertising for you!!