

St John's Baptist Church
38-40 Everett Street, Woburn, MA.
Rev. Dr. Neal E. Pearson, Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Larry Edmunds, Senior Pastor

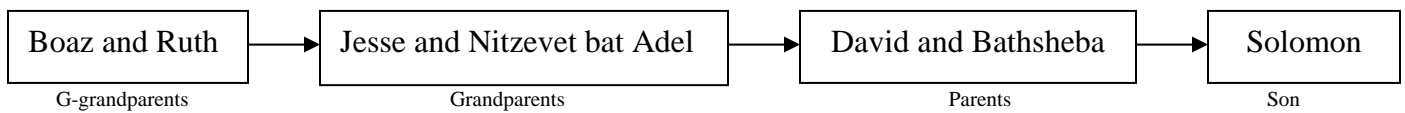
ECCLESIASTES AND PARENTING

Facilitator: Deaconess Esther Pearson

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Introduction: Ecclesiastes provides reflections on life and God of an old man, believed to be King Solomon, most of whose life was meaningless because he had not himself totally relied on God. King Solomon was from an ancestry that worshiped God and acknowledged God's purpose in life and sought to develop a close relationship with Him.

Solomon's ancestry included:



Solomon's father David provided him with a legacy of knowledge and worship of God. Acts 13:22-23 states,

“²²After removing Saul, he [God] made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found *David son of Jesse a man after my own heart*; he will do everything I want him to do.'
²³"From this man's descendants God has brought to Israel the Savior Jesus, as he promised.” NIV

God brought forth the Savior, Jesus Christ, from the ancestral line and legacy of King David. One of King David's sons, Solomon, became king of Israel and reigned as king for 40 years.

The legacy we leave includes 'our words', 'our works', and 'our faith'.

Background:

Each of us has a legacy to leave to our children or other youth we come in contact with during our lives. This lesson will focus on the legacy we leave to our children and youth in general.

King Solomon's legacy was blemished as he went astray from God by focusing on worldly pleasures. He built idols to his many wives. These idols offended God, because in God's Word it states in Exodus 20:3,

“³You shall have no other gods before me.” (NIV)

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. Do you have any of the IDOLS in your life? Is this the legacy or the values you are leaving your children or other youth you influence?**

What are ‘Christian Family Values’?

Values rule a person’s heart. Thus, the Christians Values must be centered on the Trinity, which is God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit. We give meaning and instill value in children’s lives when we teach them to put and keep God in the center of their lives.

- 2. What do you value in life and how do you pass that legacy on to your children or other youth you influence?**