

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT QUEEN OF SHEBA

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

Lesson 17 • February 27, 2013

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Bathsheba** has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read 1 Kings 10:1-5

2. a) From **V1**, what brought King Solomon to the attention of the Queen of Sheba, and what was the purpose of her visit?

b) What questions do you think she may have wanted Solomon to answer?

c) What "hard questions" would you have asked him?
3. a) Sheba is in modern day Yemen. How would you describe the Queen's journey from Yemen to Jerusalem, and what does that tell you about her? Locate these two places on a map to understand the magnitude of her journey.

b) What did she bring with her to Jerusalem in **V2**? What more does that tell you about her?

c) What convicts you about the costly journey she made to quench her spiritual curiosity?
4. According to **V2b-3**, describe their time together?

5. From **V4-5**, what impresses you about the things she noticed about King Solomon and his surroundings?

SECTION II: Read 1 Kings 10:6-10

6. a) Summarize what the Queen said to Solomon in **V6-7**?
- b) What truth can you draw from what she said?
7. a) In **V8**, notice the shift of focus to Solomon's people. What blessing does she highlight?
- b) Share a time when you've been blessed by hearing wisdom.
8. a) What amazing things about God does the Queen of Sheba recognize in **V9**?
- b) Do you think the Queen of Sheba's praise was a profession of her faith in Solomon's God? Why or why not? (Read **Matthew 7:21-23** and **Hebrews 11:1, 6b** as you wrestle with this.)
9. According to **V10**, how did she express her gratitude to the king?

SECTION III: Read 1 Kings 10:13, 23-25

10. From **V13**, how did King Solomon treat the Queen of Sheba, and what did she do after her questions were answered?

11. a) Read **V23-25**. What do you learn about Solomon and the source of his great wisdom?
- b) How does **Colossians 2:2-3** describe our source of great wisdom?
12. a) Thinking Question: Read **Luke 11:29-32**. How does Jesus use the Queen of Sheba as an example?
- b) What does Jesus say about Himself, and what response does He desire from His audience?
13. The Queen of Sheba was a woman who had it all: power, riches, and intellect. As you marvel at the lengths this foreigner would go to in order to find answers on her spiritual journey, how does this inspire you or give you hope, especially for those who seem so far away?
14. Pray specifically for someone you know who is asking the hard questions so that his or her search for answers would end in a personal profession of faith in the God of the Bible.

DIGGING DEEPER

The Queen of Sheba came from the ends of the earth seeking wisdom. The pursuit of wisdom is a worthy endeavor and is a subject God addresses elsewhere in Scripture.

1. Read **1 Kings 3:5-12**. How did Solomon become wise?
2. What does **Psalm 111:10** say is the beginning of wisdom, and what does that mean to you?
3. Skim **Proverbs 3** which is packed full of the benefits of wisdom. Pick 1 or 2 of your favorites.
4. Read **1 Corinthians 1:19-25**. Contrast man's wisdom with the wisdom of God.
5. Suggested Memory Verse: **Ephesians 1:17**

