

Solomon's wisdom—2 Chronicles 1:6-13

God appeared to Solomon and said, "Ask what I shall give thee."

In his reply, Solomon asked for wisdom. Not to puff up himself or to impress others, but so that he could better carry out his responsibilities as the king of a multitude of people.

He said to God, "Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?"

God was pleased with Solomon's request. He hadn't asked anything for his personal gain, but for the means to better serve his people. Just think! Even God's appointed leaders who loved the Lord, such as David and Solomon, still failed in many ways. So it should come as no shock when we see that today's leaders, many of whom do not live a Christian lifestyle, make many mistakes. We truly need to pray for them to lead with wisdom.

Now, just for fun, do you have the "wisdom and knowledge" to solve these puzzles?

1. How can two people stand on the same piece of newspaper and yet be unable to touch each other without stepping off the newspaper?
2. How many 3-cent stamps are there in a dozen?
3. A rope ladder hangs over the side of a ship. The rungs are one foot apart, and the ladder is 12 feet long. The tide is rising at four inches an hour. How long will it take before the ladder's first four rungs are underwater?
4. Which would you rather have, a trunk full of nickels or a trunk half full of dimes?
5. Steve has three piles of sand, and Mike has four piles of sand. If they put them all together, how many do they have?
6. In which sport are the shoes made entirely of metal?
7. If the Vice-President of the U.S. should die, who would be President?
8. How can you throw a golf ball with all your might and, without hitting a wall or any other obstruction, have it stop and come right back to you?

- Answers:**
1. Slide the newspaper halfway under a closed door and ask the two people to stand on the bit of newspaper on their side of the door.
 2. There are 12 (not four).
 3. Actually, the ladder will rise with the ship!
 4. Dimes are smaller than nickels, so choose the dimes.
 5. If they put them all together, there will be one pile.
 6. Horse racing.
 7. The President.
 8. Throw the ball straight up.

THE SDB Woman

A time of thanksgiving

Not so long ago, harvest time played a major role in many people's lives. Harvesting brought a flurry of activity and work to make sure the crops were brought in and stored properly before winter's bite had taken hold.

Even before this, a lot of labor and patience were involved from the very start of the planting season—from preparing the ground and sowing the seeds, to nourishing and protecting the young plants as they matured and brought forth fruit.

As the ingathering came to a successful close, there was a chance to enjoy and give thanks for the bounty that was the result of hard work and God's blessing.

In truth, God is a big supporter of work. We should not only be thankful for His blessings of bounty, but also for the opportunity to work toward an honest goal. If you stop and think about it, don't you usually feel much more satisfied reaching a goal if it's one that you worked hard to achieve? Think of Paul and how he thanked God for his trials and tribulations.

But let's not forget that God wants us to set aside time to rest and rejoice in His blessings. The Sabbath is a day God gave us to rest.

When I have put in a lot of work the six days prior to Sabbath,

I must admit that I am much more thankful for it and the opportunity to rest. God even set aside a time of "thanksgiving" for us, way before the pilgrims even thought of boarding the Mayflower.

Read Deuteronomy 16:13-17. In those verses, you will see where God set aside a special



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time for His people after they had gathered in their crops. It was a time for their families and friends to collectively rejoice, feast, and appear before the Lord with offerings and to ask His blessing. Perhaps the Pilgrims got their idea from this.

Even today, many Sabbathkeeping Christians come together at this time to rejoice in the Lord and give thanks for His blessings. It is a wonderful reunion of God's Family, involving many different congregations at many locations. Like Conference, it becomes one big family reunion of Seventh Day Keepers.

Potluck lickin's

Miss Simms, a 4th grade teacher, was conducting a class on various cultures and religions. Since her students comprised a diverse group, she asked each of them to select an item of significance to their particular religion and bring it to school.

Come Friday, the students were called up to the front of the room, one at a time. Joseph, a young Jewish boy, showed everyone his Star of David. Tony, who was Catholic, displayed his rosary beads. And Pete, a Baptist, proudly held up his mother's covered casserole dish!

It's true. We all like to eat and are very thankful for all of the good cooks who are willing to share their special creations during our church potluck socials. I'd like to add that I'm thankful for those store-bought creations, too. I've often been a giver of such, not being the most celebrated of cooks. I consider cooking an art form. Unfortunately, some of my culinary efforts are a little too

"abstract" for normal taste!

I would like to give everyone the opportunity to share their special recipes of tried-and-true potluck favorites. Wouldn't it be great to give the SDB "gangs" in Shiloh, Denver, and Los Angeles the chance to try Dee's special Carrot Soup or Laura's Chinese Barbecue Chicken Wings? I'd also like to try whatever's cooking in West Palm, Atlanta, and overseas.

If there's enough of a response, perhaps we can even put these recipes into an SDB cookbook. Wouldn't it be fun to use surefire, crowd-pleasing recipes from chefs we know personally? Perhaps we'll discover a new recipe and then meet the cook at our "family reunion," otherwise known as General Conference.

You can send recipes to:

SDB Yummm!

Carolyn Jacob

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Jacksonville FL 32224

Or e-mail to:

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Please take the time to write clear and precise directions in your recipes, and don't forget to give the name of the cook. A little family history or special information concerning this dish would be a nice addition. Thanks for your assistance.

And, now, for our first recipe. I would like to introduce Maggie Green's special banana bread. She and Mike, of Fort White, Fla., brought this bread to one of the potlucks at the Carraway SDB Church in Palatka, Fla., and it was an instant hit.

Best Banana Bread Ever

2 ripe bananas, mashed
2 eggs
1 & 3/4 cup all-purpose unsifted flour
1 & 1/2 cup sugar
1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans
1/2 cup oil
1/4 cup, plus 1 tbsp buttermilk
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp vanilla
1/2 tsp salt



a loaf pan or muffin cups. Combine all ingredients and mix well. Bake 1 hour and 20 minutes for loaf pan, and about 20 minutes for small muffins.

DO NOT double recipe. (It won't turn out right.)

Ad Hoc Committee Chosen

Just what is an Ad Hoc Committee and why do we need one?

It consists of women in various locations who can more easily find out what issues and needs different church groups feel should be handled by the Women's Society. The Committee can then bring this to the attention of the Women's Board, allowing it to promptly address these matters.

On October 7, 2000, the Woman's Board met to elect an Ad Hoc Committee. We would like to ask everyone to extend their welcomes and concerns to our founding gang: Patricia Thompsongordon, Nadine Lawton, Kerith Camenga, Amanda Snyder.

Thank you, ladies, for taking on this important "in the trenches" job to help best serve the needs of our church members. I'm sure you'll have lots of suggestions and helpful ideas.