

“The Tale of Two Mothers”

Sunday, May 12, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

MOTHER’S DAY

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

1 Kings 3:16-28

BIG IDEA: You get the idea.

*“[Children] are indeed a heritage from the LORD,
offspring, a reward.”
Psalm 127:3 (CSB)*

Mom #1	Mom #2
<u>Careless</u> (v19)	<u>Careful</u> (v21)
<u>Deceitful</u> (v20, 22)	<u>Truthful</u> (v17-21)
<u>Selfish</u> (v26)	<u>Selfless</u> (v26)

THINK: Think about these two mothers, then ask yourself these questions: *What are a couple of your best memories of Mom? Why is this account the first thing we read about upon learning that God granted King Solomon unprecedented wisdom and insight in governing the Nation of Israel? Why did this dispute between the two mothers end up before King Solomon’s court? What explains the first mother’s carelessness and neglect in the death of her child? Why did the first mother act so deceitfully and not just accept the consequence of her neglect? How does the first mother’s self-centeredness and hardness of heart strike you? Why does the second mother draw attention to her close examination of the dead child left in her arms? For what quality is Solomon testing these two mothers? Why? Would you be willing to give up you child if it meant saving that child’s life and sending them into a horrible situation? How do you explain Solomon’s method in solving the argument between the two mothers?*

DO: What has been your toughest decision as a parent this week? This year? In your whole experience as a parent? When could you have used the wisdom of Solomon to arbitrate the parenting of your children? Have you ever had the attitude, “If I can’t have it (him or her), then nobody can!”? What is your story behind that attitude?

READ: 1 Kings 3:16-28