

## Getting Ready for Chapter 13

# Take Home



## Disobedience and Guidance

This chapter explores what happens when people feel that they no longer need God, concentrating on the period of King Solomon's rule of Israel. Israel enjoyed a time of renown and riches when Solomon ruled. Good fortune began to cloud the people's ability to focus on God. Prophets stepped in and tried to remind the Israelites of their covenant with God. Who plays the role of prophet in your family's life of faith?

### ACTIVITY

**There's an Old Saying . . .** Solomon gained fame for his wise sayings, or proverbs. Work together on a poster listing some proverbs that are popular in your home. Contact grandparents or great-grandparents for their input.

### WEEKLY PLANNER

#### On Sunday

At the Sunday liturgy, listen for wise sayings in the readings that can provide guidance for particular areas of your life.

#### On the Web

[www.blestarewe.com](http://www.blestarewe.com)



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

#### Saint of the Week



**Saint Francis Xavier**  
(1506–1552)

Saint Francis Xavier is known as the "Apostle of the Indies and Japan" because of his missionary work in India and Japan. As a young man studying at the University of Paris around 1530, Francis met Ignatius of Loyola and became one of the first seven Jesuits.

**Patron Saint of:** Catholic missionaries

**Feast Day:** December 3



**A Prayer  
for the  
Week**

Lord, give us the wisdom and courage to follow your will for our lives and to lead others to you. Amen.

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### Scripture Background

#### Before the Time of Jesus

**King Solomon's Wisdom** Solomon was the son of King David and Bathsheba. After David's death, Solomon inherited the throne. Early in his reign, God asked Solomon in a dream to name a gift he wanted. Solomon asked for wisdom (1 Kings 3:5–15). Solomon built the First Temple and played an important part in Israel's development, but his reputation as a man of wisdom surpassed all his other accomplishments. Solomon became the patron of wisdom literature, inspiring a long tradition of scholars who wrote books such as Proverbs, the Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, and Wisdom. Read about Solomon's wise judgment in 1 Kings 3:16–28.

## OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Language

**The Origin of Everyday Words** Many everyday sayings come from the Bible or from Catholic tradition. Have you ever said that someone "got off Scot free"? This used to refer to being exempt from a tax to support the clergy, paid with a coin called a *scat*. Do you call important days "red letter days"? This referred to saints' feast days and holidays, traditionally printed in red on calendars. The word *tawdry* is a corruption of the name of Saint Audrey, at whose annual festivals showy, low-quality jewelry once could be seen. When you say, "Leopards never change their spots," you echo the feelings of Jeremiah about the sinfulness of Jerusalem (Jeremiah 13:23).