

Welcome to Kids Corner!

Sunday, October 29, 2023

THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29

Key Verse:

[The elders] answered him, “If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them... then they will be your servants forever.”

1 Kings 12:7

The Point:

We lead best when we listen to and serve others.

Making Connections:

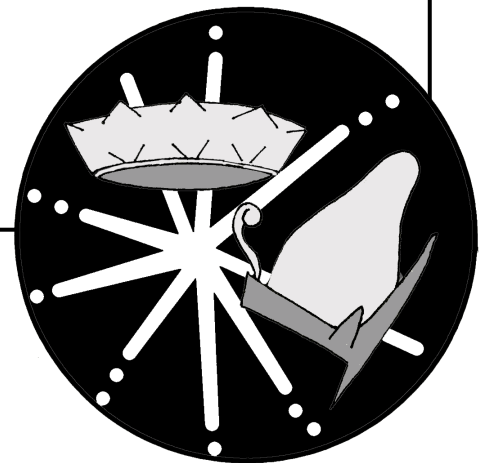
God’s Way of Leading

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Divided Kingdom

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

Last week, we heard the story of David's rise to kingship and the glory of the Lord. It seemed to be a time of triumph and joy as Israel ushered in a new king and praised a loving God. David's reign lasted 40 years followed by another 40 years of leadership by his son, Solomon. Upon King Solomon's death, his son Rehoboam became king. Today we will explore his quick rise and fall.

Story Summary:

The Kingdom Divided

Upon being made king as his father and grandfather were, Rehoboam was almost immediately faced with a difficult decision. The tribes from the north came and asked for a change. Solomon had taxed them and forced them into difficult labor. They desired the new king to lighten the load a bit, and they promised their loyalty and service to him in exchange.

This must not have been an easy decision for him, as Rehoboam sent them away for three days and turned to his consultants for advice. First, he asked some men of his father's generation, who advised him to be a servant leader and to establish a relationship of mutual loyalty. Next, he asked for advice from men of his own generation, who recommended that he show his strength and power in order to provide discipline and strong leadership.

When the men from the north returned for their answer, they were spoken to harshly and promised more work and additional taxes. The lack of trust, listening, and respect from Rehoboam and his advisers led to rebellion and the division of the kingdom.

The Point

We lead best when we listen to and serve others.

God calls for leaders to love, serve, and care for their people. Sin always divides—it separates God's people both from God and from one another. We are called to love and care for one another when we achieve positions of leadership.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Divided Kingdom

Solomon was a wise and wealthy king, but was not faithful like his father. He married hundreds of foreign women and worshipped their foreign gods. He sacrificed to their idols in disobedience to the God of Israel. The kingdom was in a state of confusion and disobedience because of its disobedient king. The Lord allowed opposition to mount against Solomon. When his son Rehoboam inherited the throne, he made a poor leadership choice, and the kingdom split in two. Only the tribes of Judah, Benjamin, and Levi remained loyal to Rehoboam, and they became the kingdom of Judah. The others rebelled and became the kingdom of Israel.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

Creating a strong, healthy community comes from hearing each other's needs and lifting up each other's strengths. During times of difficult and challenging leadership, worshipping together and praying for one another becomes even more crucial. God will care for God's people!



King Rehoboam
1 Kings 12:1-19

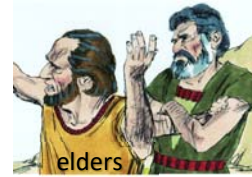
1. Who told Jeroboam that Solomon was dead?



Rehoboam



friends



elders

2. How did the people want Rehoboam to treat them compared to Solomon?

better

worse

same

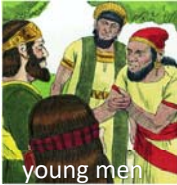
3. How many days did Rehoboam need to consider his decision?

1

2

3

4. Who did Rehoboam listen to?



young men



old men



Jeroboam

5. What did Rehoboam threaten the people with?



hard work



no food



beatings

6. How many tribes deserted King Rehoboam?

12

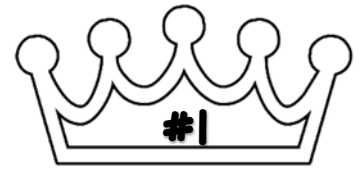
10

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7. How did Rehoboam feel when he found out that his official was killed?



l s r e d l e n m s n
m d j h e v s s e n p
e n t g h b n t v e m
b e n j a m i n i e e
k i n g d o m i l t g
k r e h o b o a m n y
t f e n k i s l l e p
k h h a d u j p h v t
g m r o r v i m g e r
s d l e i h s o b s l
v s j i e s e c j i e



Rehoboam

King of Judah

King

Judah

Rehoboam

complaints

elders

friends

three

Benjamin

Jerusalem

idols

kingdom

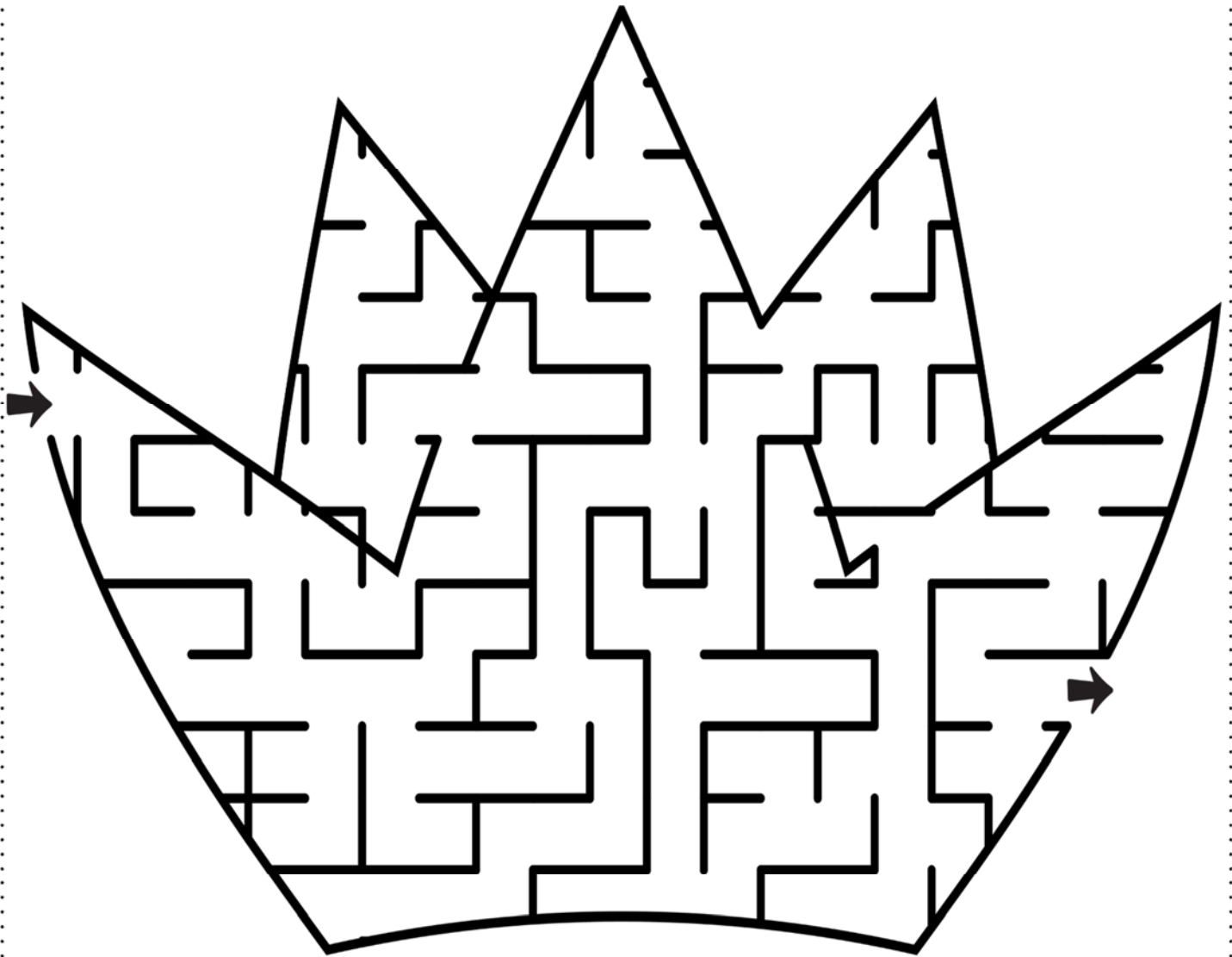
Egypt

shields

seventeen

evil

King Rehoboam of Judah



Northern Kingdom



Kingdom of Israel

(10 Tribes)



Southern Kingdom



Kingdom of Judah

(2 Tribes: Judah & Benjamin)

The Divided Kingdoms:

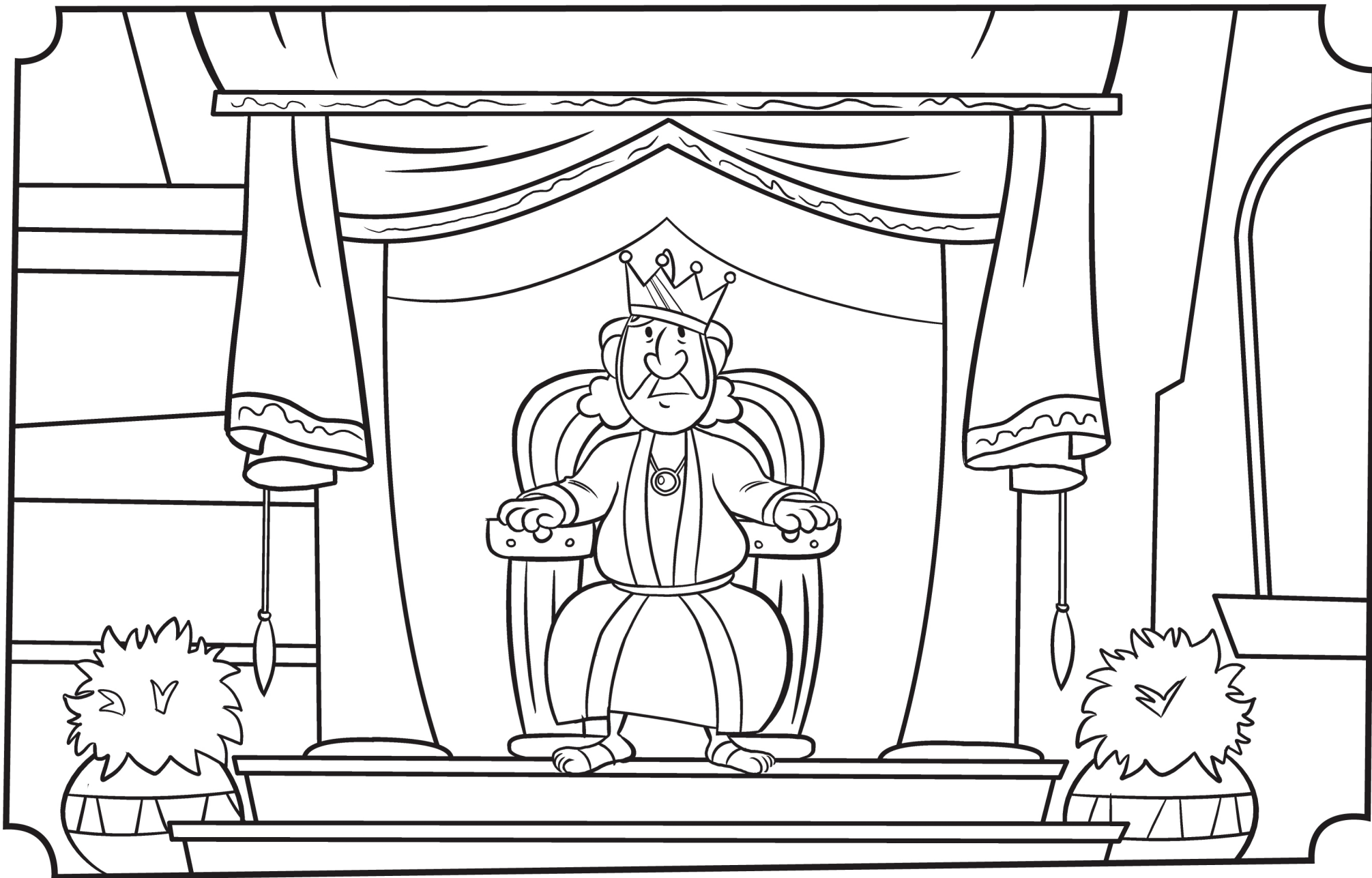
Northern:
Kingdom of Israel

Southern:
Kingdom of Judah

Northern
Kingdom

Southern Kingdom:





Rehoboam became king after his father Solomon died. Rehoboam was foolish and was mean to the Israelites, who then chose Jeroboam to be their king. - **1 Kings 12**

ELECTION

Who would you choose?

Candidate A

Good morning! Thank you for being here today. I am interested in being the leader for the rest of the year in this class and you should listen to what I have to say. Here is why I think you should vote for me:

1. My Bible and other items I bring to church can get heavy. I would allow you to take turns carrying my things into and out of the classroom each week.
2. When you are carrying my items, I would walk down the hallway beside you. Being seen near me would certainly be a thrill for you.
3. You would have other opportunities to serve me as well. Each one of you could take turns bringing treats for the class. The only one who would not ever bring treats is me. I would simply be the judge. And the one I say brings the best treats could bring them twice as often as anyone else.

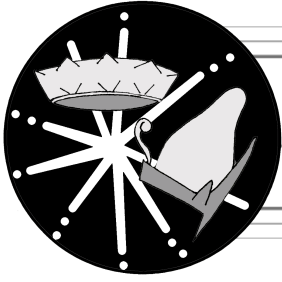
Thank you for your vote. I look forward to having you serve me in the future.

Candidate B

Thank you very much for giving me a few minutes of your time. I am also interested in being the leader of this class because I would like to work with you to make some great things happen in our room and in the whole church. Here are a few of my ideas:

1. First of all, snacks are good! Maybe we could start having treats each week and I would definitely offer to be the first one to bring something.
2. We have people in our church that could use our help. There are parents with little kids who could use help carrying diaper bags and Sunday school supplies. There are older folks who would appreciate the doors being held open for them. I would like to invite any of you who want to join me to come ten minutes early each week to find ways to serve others.
3. Finally, I think everyone will enjoy class more if we listen to their ideas. So, we will put a suggestion box out and read the comments each week. And I promise we will consider each one and make a group decision about how we can try to make it work.

Thank you for considering voting for me. I look forward to serving you in the future.



THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

Lesson #2-8
1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29

LAST WEEK

Ruth's faith and loyalty are passed down to her great-grandson, the most famous, and faithful, king of Israel: David (2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150).

THIS WEEK

A selfish decision by King Rehoboam, David's grandson, leads the ten northern tribes of Israelites to leave the united kingdom and form their own kingdom (1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29).

STORY SUMMARY

Upon being made king, Rehoboam was faced with a difficult decision. The tribes from the north came and asked for a change. Solomon had taxed them and forced them into difficult labor. They desired the new king to lighten their load, and they promised their loyalty and service to him in exchange. Rehoboam sent them away for three days and turned to his consultants for advice. First, he asked some older men who advised him to be a servant leader. Next, he asked some friends who recommended that he show his strength and power. Rehoboam listened to his friends, and the northern Israelites rejected him as their king.

PRACTICE: WORSHIP

Creating a strong, healthy community comes from hearing each other's needs and lifting up each other's strengths. During times of difficult and challenging leadership, worshipping together and praying for one another becomes even more crucial. God will care for God's people!

THE POINT

We lead best when we listen to and serve others.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Divided Kingdom

Solomon was a wise and wealthy king, but was not faithful like his father. He married hundreds of foreign women and worshipped their foreign gods. He sacrificed to their idols in disobedience to the God of Israel. The kingdom was in a state of confusion and disobedience because of its disobedient king. The Lord allowed opposition to mount against Solomon. When his son Rehoboam inherited the throne, he made a poor leadership choice, and the kingdom split in two. Only the tribes of Judah, Benjamin, and Levi remained loyal to Rehoboam, and they became the kingdom of Judah. The others rebelled and became the kingdom of Israel.

NEXT WEEK

King Ahab has the people worship Baal. He is confronted by Elijah and a powerful display of the power of the one true God (1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39).

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text teach about the theme about God's Way of Leading?
- ✚ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29

The kingdom divided.

The next time your family decides to watch a movie or read together, divide up the room so everyone has to stay in their own area. How does it feel to be divided? Rejoice when the time is up and you can be together again.

Monday—Read 1 Kings 16:29-33

Ahab's evil actions.

Ahab worshipped Baal instead of God. What things get in the way of worshipping God for you?

Tuesday—Read 1 Kings 17:1-7

Elijah announces a drought.

In the wilderness, God took care of Elijah so he would have enough to eat. Take a donation to your local food pantry to help care for people in your community.

Wednesday—Read 1 Kings 17:8-16

Elijah and the widow.

Make some play dough using flour, water, salt and oil (recipes are easy to find online.) Take turns making "food" for and serving each other.

Thursday—Read 1 Kings 17:17-24

The widow's son.

God performed miracles through Elijah. Who can you think of that God performs miracles through today?

Friday—Read 1 Kings 18:1-6

The good man Obadiah.

Obadiah protected the prophets and fed them. Eat bread and drink water while you read this story.

Saturday—Read 1 Kings 18:7-16

Elijah and Obadiah.

Obadiah was afraid to talk to Ahab. What are some things that God asks you to do that make you fearful?