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).

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TRY IT @ HOME

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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?

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