

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**A Kingdom Divided**

1 Kings 12-13

APPLY // 1 KINGS 11**Main Idea:** Solomon's sin leads to a tearing a way of the Kingdom, but not forever.

1. Read 1 Kings 11:1-8. Take some time to go back and document the small compromises by Solomon. Try and even see how you might think they were reasonable actions. Then discuss the areas related to money, sex, power, and people that each of you are tempted and why.
2. Find some Scriptures that not only counsel these temptations, but discuss WHY it is better to go God's ways instead of your/world's ways.
3. Discuss how Christ was faithful with money, sex, power as the better Solomon. Discuss how that faithfulness was needed at the Cross. How the resurrection embolden and empower a life of faithfulness together?

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // 1 KINGS 12-13**Main Idea:** Sinful kings result in a divided kingdom, according to God's promise.

1. Read 1 Kings 12:1-24. What do you notice about Rehoboam's actions? Who does Rehoboam choose to listen to? Why? What's the result of Rehoboam's actions?
2. How do you see God's sovereignty at work even amidst human foolishness and sin?
3. Read 1 Kings 12:25-33. Discuss the ways Jeroboam institutes and facilitates idolatry. What does this tell us about Jeroboam? What does this tell us about Israel?
4. What comparisons do you see between this and the "golden calf" event in Exodus 32? What does this tell us about Israel?
5. Read 1 Kings 13:1-10. Notice the repetition of the "word of the Lord." What is the author telling us with this emphasis?
6. How does this episode show us the Lord is still in control despite the sinful reign of Jeroboam?
7. In what ways do you see God's mercy and judgment in this story?
8. How do these chapters point us to the need for Jesus, a better King, and prepare us for his life, death, and resurrection?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: What has the Lord been teaching you through our study in Kings?