



Sermon Study Guide

Sunday, June 21, 2020, Happy Father's Day

Desiring The Kingdom: The Big If

1 Kings 12

Key verse: *If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants forever.* 1 Kings 12:7 (ESV). **Key idea:** As the kingdom is divided, Jeroboam's golden opportunity and golden failure point us to ourselves and to Jesus.

Read through 1 Kings 12. We also recommend watching Sunday's sermon again on the White Fields website, YouTube channel, or Facebook page. Pause the video, reflect on, and discuss areas that challenge you or speak to you in a significant way.

1.In 1 Kings 12 We see the full effects of Solomon's divided heart become reality. The nation of Israel is divided under the rule of Rehoboam (the son of Solomon and the rightful heir to the throne) and Jeroboam. Read 1 Kings 12:6-15 aloud and consider/discuss the events in these verses. What, do you believe, led Rehoboam to act in this manner? Do we sometimes make wrong decisions for the same reasons?

2.Read from the following passages aloud: Romans 10:9; 1 John 1:9; 1 Corinthians 15:2; Colossians 1:23-23. Discuss the common theme in these passages. What response is required from us to receive God's promises according to these passages? What would prevent you or others to fail to respond?

3.Consider and discuss this question posed by Pastor Nick in his sermon: Are God's blessings and acceptance of us conditional or unconditional? Explain your answer.

4.There is a Christian song many are familiar with called *The Joy of the Lord Is My Strength*. The words are taken from Nehemiah 8:10 after the children of Israel had returned to Jerusalem from exile and had listened to the reading of the law. What does this saying mean? How does it affect your relationship with God?

5. The Bible states that God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. Read Philippians 3:8-10 and discuss how what the Apostle Paul says in these verses relates to this statement. What should our response be? Do we count all as loss when we consider the gift of salvation given to us through faith in Jesus?

Continue to pray for our nation in this troubled time. Pray for our pastors, our church, and our community. Pray that God will use this time to draw others close to Him.