## **Journal Page**

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

## **FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS**

- Talk about a time your family felt divided by conflict.
- How can you pray for leaders in your church, city, and country?
- Talk about a time your family was affected by someone else's foolish choices.

## **The Kingdom Divided**

1 Kings 11-12

## STORY POINT: GOD DIVIDED ISRAEL INTO TWO KINGDOMS BECAUSE SOLOMON SINNED.

King Solomon loved God, but he did not love God with his whole heart. He began to worship the false gods that his wives worshiped. God said to Solomon, "Since you have done this, I

will take the kingdom away from you. You will be king the rest of your life, but when your son becomes king, he will lose everything except

for one tribe."

When Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king. The people told Rehoboam, "Your father, Solomon, made us work too hard. We will gladly serve you if you make our work easier."

Rehoboam told the workers. "My father did not make you work hard enough! I'll make you work even harder!"

The people did not want to serve a king like Rehoboam, so they made Jeroboam king. Ieroboam had been one of Solomon's officials. Now he was king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Only one tribe remained under Rehoboam's rule, and that was the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

Now Jeroboam was the king of Israel, but he wasn't a good king. Jeroboam led all the people to worship the false gods instead of the one true God.

Christ Connection: King Solomon failed to lead God's people perfectly. God's people needed a better king, a perfect king! Through David's family, God would send His own Son, Jesus Christ, to be a perfect King over God's people forever. Jesus is greater than Solomon. Jesus brings His people together and leads them back to God.



