

Discussion Starter – What have you learned about the impact that fear can have on our lives as we try to live out a life by faith?

Obedience to God Brings Success (Joshua 1:8-9, 1 Kings 11:1-13)

- It appears that Solomon starts out well, following God, and using his gifting of wisdom and leadership as king to complete his father David's wish to build a temple for the LORD. Read 1 Kings 9:1-5. Why do you think the LORD chose this time to appear to Solomon the second time in his life? What are some of the signs that Solomon might have been leading a duplicitous life and what can we learn from this?
- When we do not read the word of God we make up our own god. In the book of Deuteronomy, God had a special section for His selected kings of Israel. Read Deuteronomy 17:14-20. Discuss what insights you gain from reading this passage.

God Raises Up Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:26-39)

- Jeroboam is introduced to us in this chapter as servant of Solomon and also as a rebellious adversary. Solomon promoted Jeroboam to be the officer over his entire construction labor force. Where do you think Jeroboam's rebellion came from? Read 2 Chronicles 8:7-8. What addition information do these verses give us on where the strife may have occurred?
- Summarize in your own words, what Ahijah the prophet says the LORD... God of Israel tells him to reveal to Jeroboam.
- What parts of this message might have been really difficult for Jeroboam to absorb and why?

Jeroboam's Fears Trump His Faith in God (1 Kings 1:11-40-43, 12:1-33)

- How did Jeroboam respond to Solomon's threat and what does this show us about his faith? What should he have done in this situation?
- What was is the first thing we see Jeroboam doing after he hears of the death of Solomon? Do you think this was an act of faith or fear? Why?
- What do we learn from Rehoboam's folly in how he listened or not, to requested council?
- What are some of the major compromises that we see in Jeroboam's life and leadership? What had Jeroboam forgotten? How did Jeroboam set up a "Cheap Church" system and how do we see this same tactic being done today?