



**Series:** Learning from Leaders

**Passage** 1 Kings 15:9-32

**Title** Asa – Removing the Sin and Finishing the Race

**Speaker:** Pastor JC Cooper – 11/18/2018

**Discussion Starter** – King Asa started strong and remained strong, pleasing God in his reign as king for most of his 41 years, but he did not finish well. What have you learned from the life of king Asa?

### **Asa Reign in Judah (1 Kings 15:9-32)**

- How would you describe the impact that family history has in shaping a person? How do you think Asa was able to break away from the family tradition of being wicked before the LORD?
- Read Deuteronomy 17:14-17. What are the three commands given to kings which they are not to do and why do you think God specifically selected these three? How do these three commandments of God apply to us in our kingship or spiritual sphere of influence that God has given to us?
- Read Deuteronomy 17:18-24. Discuss why you think God asked the kings to write this law in their own book and what was the purpose of reading what they wrote every day?
- What did Asa do that was right in the eyes of the LORD?
- **Good leaders meditate on the word of God.** Describe in your own words what it means to meditate on God's word. What is God's purpose for us in meditating on His word?
- **Good leaders do things that are hard.** In Asa case, he went against the current culture and removed the idols, altars and banished the perverted persons from the land. What are some of the things we learn from Asa about wicked systems and wicked people? What are some of the things God has called you to tear down and burn in your life? Read Romans 8:13. Discuss the additional insights to we gained from this verse.
- **Good leaders take temptation seriously.** Read Mathew 5:27-30. What was Jesus conveying in this message? How does this apply us to the so called "Post Modern Society"?
- What are some of the deceptions of worldly power and pleasure? What do they keep us from experiencing as Christians?
- What are some signs of leaders with miss-directed passions? As Christians, how are we to deal with our own miss-directed passions?
- **Good leaders finish the race.** After thirty five years into Asa's reign as king, Baasha king of Israel comes to Judah and builds a fortress to prevent anyone from going in or out to Asa. How does Asa handle this threat, and why was the way he handled it not pleasing to God? Read 2 Chronicles 16:7-13 and 2 Timothy 4:6-8. What additional insights do we learn from both Asa and Paul on the importance of finishing the race and finishing it well?