

Series: Wisdom & Obedience, a study in 1 Kings

Sermon: Wisdom & the Cost of Foolishness

Primary Text: 1 Kings 11-16

Discussion guide:

- Do you have a story from your life or someone else's where a person's act or life of obedience to God has affected other people's lives?
- Do you have a story from your life or someone else's where a person's act or life of disobedience to God has affected other people's lives?
- Read 1 Kings 11:9-13
 - What effect will Solomon's disobedience have on his family and nation?
 - What effect will David's obedience have on his family and nation?
- Compare 1 Kings 4:20, 24-25 with 1 Kings 12:4
 - What has changed?
 - Why do you think Solomon went from bringing prosperity and rest to his people to bringing heavy burdens?
 - How does your obedience bring peace to those around you? (see John 14:25 & Philippians 4:6-7)
 - How does your disobedience disrupt peace in the lives around you?
- Read 1 Kings 14:22; 15:3-6, 11, 14, 26, 34; 16:2, 8-10, 13, 18-19, 25-26
 - Note how many times the text associates the kings doing what is evil or good with their father or a grandfather, note how many times it says that these kings caused Israel to sin.
 - What does this tell you about obedience and disobedience?
 - Why does our obedience or disobedience cause others to do the same?
- Read again 1 Kings 15:3-6, 11, 14:
 - What is the significance of the acknowledgement of David's sin here?
 - Why or how is David still seen as a man whose heart is wholly true to the Lord despite this sin?
 - What did David do with his sin? (Psalms 51:1-4)
 - Why does this give us hope?
- Read 1 John 1:8-9; 3:6
 - What does this tell us about what to do with our sin?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - Whose obedience are we judged by now?
 - So, what is our motivation to obey now?
 - How is this different from before Jesus?