

PEOPLE LIKE US

July 5
Jacob
Divided heart, divided life...

A divided heart leads to a divided life.

Scripture

1 Kings 12:1-24 | 2 Chronicles 12:1-14 | 2 Chronicles 12:14

- What is some bad advice you received that sounded good at the time?
 - What made it appealing? What was the result?
- Have you ever had to make a decision where two different voices were pulling you in opposite directions?
 - How did you decide which one to listen to?

Diving IN

- When the people come to Rehoboam in *1 Kings 12*, what are they asking for?
 - What does their request reveal about the burden they had been carrying?
- What did the older counselors tell Rehoboam to do?
 - Why do you think humility and service would have strengthened his leadership?
 - What does this teach us about God's view of authority?
- Who did Rehoboam end up listening to? What do you notice about their advice?
 - Why might harsh or prideful counsel feel powerful in the moment?
- How does Rehoboam's decision affect the entire kingdom?
 - What does this show about the weight of our words and choices?
- In *2 Chronicles 12:14*, Rehoboam's life is summarized this way: "*And he did evil, for he did not set his heart to seek the Lord.*" What does it mean to "set your heart" toward something?
- What does this verse reveal as the deeper issue undergirding his decisions?
- Where do you see God's mercy in Rehoboam's story, even after his failure?
 - What does that teach us about the Lord?

Living It OUT

- Where are you
- Where are you most tempted to listen to voices that affirm your pride instead of voices that lead you toward humility?
- What lessons are there in inheriting a spiritual legacy yet still needing to seek and trust the Lord for yourself?
 - Where might you be relying on a "legacy faith" instead of personally pursuing God?
- What is one area of life where you need to "set your heart to seek the Lord" more intentionally?
 - What would that look like this week?
- What about Rehoboam's approach divided people?
 - Where might God be calling you to use your words to bring peace, wisdom, or healing instead?
- Here's a picture of an earthly king. Compare Rehoboam's kingship over Jesus'.
 - What about Jesus' humility, wisdom, and sacrificial love compared to Rehoboam's qualities make a difference?
 - What about this story help us see our need for Christ more clearly?

Lifting it UP

- Praise Jesus as the true and better King.
- Ask God to reveal where your heart has drifted from seeking Him.
- Pray for humility, wisdom, and courage to listen to the Spirit's voice.