



SERMON SERIES: 1 Kings

SERMON TITLE: The Ripples of Dysfunctional Leadership

KEY TEXT (NKJV): 1 Kings

OTHER TEXTS (NKJV, ESV): 1 Kings 12:1-15, Deuteronomy 6:1-9, Romans 15:4, Leviticus 18:21, Proverbs 29:2, 1 Kings 14:21, 2 Corinthians 13:5.

Big Idea: The book of 1 Kings is more than a historical record; it is a powerful mirror reflecting how our choices shape the course of our lives and communities. Through the rise of Solomon, the glory of the temple, and the tragic decline of Israel's unity and worship, 1 Kings shows that obedience to God brings blessing, while compromise leads to downfall. But even amidst disobedience and national decline, God remains faithful, raising prophets like Elijah to call His people back to covenant loyalty. This call echoes into the New Testament, where Jesus, our perfect King, fulfils what Israel's kings could not. His Spirit now empowers us to live with the wholehearted devotion that 1 Kings demanded. As we walk through the series, we are invited to examine our worship, our obedience, and our leadership responsibilities. God is sovereign, His standards are holy, and His invitation to return to Him remains open.

In this third sermon of the series, Pastor Moffat teaches that godly counsel and obedience to God's Word are essential to lead wisely, preserve unity, and pass on a righteous legacy to the next generation.

1 Kings 12:1-15 ESV

Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him King. And as soon as Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, heard of it (for he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), then Jeroboam returned from Egypt. And they sent and called him, and Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel came and said to Rehoboam, "Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke on us, and we will serve you." He said to them, "Go away for three days, then come again to me." So the people went away. Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he was yet alive, saying, "How do you advise me to answer this people?" And they said to him, "If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants forever." But he abandoned the counsel that the old men gave him and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him and stood before him. And he said to them, "What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me, 'Lighten the yoke that your father put on us'?" And the young men who had grown up with him said to him, "Thus shall you speak to this people who said to you, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you lighten it for us,' thus shall you say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's thighs. And now, whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.....'"

God Bless You!
The Connection Groups Office



Leader Heads-Up: *A good shepherd knows the condition of their flock and pays careful attention to their numbers!* Are all members of your group accounted for? Take attendance of all the members present, including the visitors.

A. Start Talking:

Each One Reach One: Share the name of the person you invited to the CG Family Fun Day, and what practical steps will you take to ensure they participate in an activity during the event?

B. Start Thinking

1. Rehoboam chose to listen to the advice of his peers instead of the elders, and his decision impacted the trajectory of an entire nation. Whose counsel do you listen to most when making life decisions, and how is it shaping the spiritual legacy you are building? Read **Proverbs 12:15 ESV**.
2. Read **Deuteronomy 6:7 ESV**. How are you intentionally teaching and modelling God's Word in your home, workplace, and community so that the next generation learns to love and obey the Lord?
3. Rehoboam chose self-preservation over servant leadership, rejecting wise counsel to protect his own position. Sometimes we do the same by chasing status, money, comfort, etc., instead of trusting God. In what areas of your life have you been tempted to build your own 'golden calves' (substitutes for God's presence and guidance) out of selfish ambition? Read **1 John 5:20-21 ESV**.

C. Start Praying

Pray that you will humble yourself, seek God's wisdom above human opinion, make choices that honour Him and bring peace to those you influence.

D. Start Doing

1. **Seek** godly counsel before making decisions that impact your life and those you influence.
2. **Obey** God's Word wholeheartedly, even when it challenges personal ambition or popular opinion.
3. **Guard** your heart from pride and rebellion that can sow seeds of discord and dishonour.
4. **Commit** to nurturing and teaching the next generation in the ways of the Lord.

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