

Old Testament

King Rehoboam

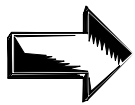
2 Chronicles 10-12

Younger Verse

May the God of hope fill you with all peace as you trust Him. Romans 15:13

Older Verse

May the God of hope fill you with all peace as you trust Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember always to include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God’s ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Have you ever asked someone a question or advice and really wanted them to answer in a way so that you got what you wanted? In today’s lesson, King Rehoboam did this. Let’s see what happens.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

We have been learning about many different kings of God’s people. Some really loved God and others did not follow God at all.

There are several books in the Bible that describe the same things. First and Second Kings have some of the same stories as First and Second Chronicles. We have been in Second Chronicles learning many things.

Today we are going to go back in time. Remember King David? He was a king that loved God very much. He was the same person who killed Goliath. His son was named Solomon. He was the king who asked God for wisdom to rule the kingdom. Solomon’s son was Rehoboam. We are going to learn about Rehoboam today.

After king Solomon died, the people made Rehoboam king. Once he was king, many of the people of the country came to him with a request. Solomon had made them work very, very hard. They were tired and wanted relief. They asked Rehoboam for a lighter load.

Rehoboam asked them to come back in three days. During that time, he asked very smart and wise people what he should do. They told him to be kind to the people and honor their request. They explained that they would follow him and live in peace.

Then, Rehoboam asked some of his good friends that he grew up with. They told him to make their work harder!

Lesson Goals

See how bad choices affect our lives
Explain how God is so good to forgive even when we do wrong
Understand how we must follow God with ALL our heart

After three days the people returned. King Rehoboam told the people his answer. He told them that they would work harder than they ever had.

When the people heard this, they rebelled against King Rehoboam. They began fighting. Rehoboam jumped in a chariot and fled to the capital city, Jerusalem. There his men fought to keep him king.

One of God's messengers told Rehoboam to stop fighting and go home. Rehoboam listened and followed God's instructions. God was pleased that Rehoboam obeyed.

However after Rehoboam was a strong king again, he stopped following God. He did things his way and even worshiped idols.

God sent another message to Rehoboam to let him know that God had abandoned them and let another group overtake them.

When they heard this news, they were very sorry and asked God to forgive their mistakes. God did forgive them but He also told them that they would see the difference between serving God and serving others.

The other group attacked the city and took all the beautiful treasures in God's temple church and the palace. There were beautiful gold shields and gold objects that were taken away. When Rehoboam saw what had happened, he had them remade out of bronze. Bronze is not as expensive as gold.

Rehoboam was king for seventeen years.

We can learn several lessons for King Rehoboam's life. When he had a choice to make, he listened to people that he liked rather than wise people. Also, he did not even ask God what to do. It caused much fighting in his country. When we have decisions to make, we should ask God to show us what to do.

When the fighting group took all God's beautiful treasures, Rehoboam replaced them with bronze. Instead of using the best, he used a cheap substitute. In his life, he even substituted other things for God and loved idols more than God.

What did God do? God saw his disobedience and punished him. God had mercy on Rehoboam when he told God he was sorry for his actions. Rehoboam still had to live with the consequences of his actions, but God did not totally destroy him.

How can we be forgiven of our mistakes? God made a way. God sent His only Son, Jesus, to make a way for all people to come to Heaven. Jesus died on a cross for all the wrong sins that we have done. If we believe in Jesus and ask Him to come into our life and forgive all our wrongs, Jesus will come into our life and forgive us. He will help us live for God and do things God's way. He will also take us to Heaven to be with God one day.

Learning Activities

See how you can help the kids learn lessons from today's story.

Memory Verse Activities

We only have peace in following God. In King Rehoboam's life, there was much fighting because he did not follow God. We must choose who we will follow. If we follow God, we have peace. If we follow what we want, we will not have peace.

Prayer Time

Ask God for help in all our decisions. Ask Him to help us serve Him with ALL our hearts.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Tell the kids you brought "OK" snacks instead of "great" snacks. See their reaction. Remind them of how God felt when Rehoboam substituted bronze for gold in God's temple church.

Preschool Lesson
For
King Rehoboam

Do you get to spend time with your grandmother or grandfather? Sometimes we have family members that live close to us and sometimes our family lives far away.

Remember King David in the Bible. He was the man who killed the mean giant Goliath. David loved God very much. David's son was named Solomon. Do you remember Solomon? He was the king who asked God to help him make good decisions about things. God helped him do what was right for the kingdom.

Solomon's son was named Rehoboam. King David was Rehoboam's grandfather.

When Rehoboam became king, many of the people of the kingdom asked him a question. They wanted to know if he would make them work hard like his father Solomon.

He asked them to come back in 3 days while he thought about what to do. During that time, Rehoboam asked very smart people what he should do. These people helped his father make good decisions. They told Rehoboam to let the people have a rest and not work as hard.

Then, Rehoboam asked his friends what he should do. They told him to make the people's work **HARDER!**

After three days, the people returned. What did Rehoboam tell them? He told them that they would work harder!

The people were sad to hear this news. They begin to fight Rehoboam's men. Rehoboam caused much fighting in his kingdom because of his bad decision.

Do you know what he forgot to do? He forgot to ask God for help. He did not pray and ask God to help him make the right choice.

God wants us to ask Him for help. God promises to help us make right choices and He will promise to stay with us.

Pray and sing this fun song to the tune of "BINGO."

When you have a choice to make,
Remember what to do-o.
Ask God for the help, ask God for the help,
Ask God for the help,
He'll show you what to do-o.

Hands-On Activities
For
King Rehoboam

King Rehoboam chose good instead of best when he replaced the things in the temple and in the palace. Talk about what it means to do good versus doing your best. Make up some crazy examples of what would happen if people only did good instead of doing their best. Use examples from famous people or athletes and talk about how only doing “good” doesn’t go as far as doing your “best.”

Even though Rehoboam did wrong things, God forgave him. Look up Matthew 1:7 in the Bible. Rehoboam’s name is mentioned. He is the great, great, great,....grandfather of Joseph. Joseph is Jesus’ father on earth. God used Rehoboam in spite of all his mistakes! He can use us too.

King Rehoboam did not take good advice from wise people. AND he did not ask God for help. Talk about how we must go to God and ask for help in ALL our decisions. God knows what is best for us and will help us make the best decision.

For smaller kids, bring things that they can see are “good” versus “best.” For example, bring plain crackers and chocolate. Most kids will choose chocolate as the “best!” Think of other things that they can distinguish as “good” or “best.”

Rehoboam had choices to make as the king. We saw in today’s lesson that he had to pay consequences for his bad decisions. Talk about choices we have in our lives. Share how all choices have consequences—either good or bad. And, our choices affect others too!

Rehoboam stopped following God in his life. This made God sad. Rehoboam began to love other things more than God. What about our lives? Do we love God most of all? He wants us to love Him more than anything!
