

Weekly Devotional

*Material from "The Story" curriculum by Randy Frazee with Kevin and Sherry Harney.

Session 14 – A Kingdom Torn in Two

"Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but now lighten the harsh labor and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you." 1 Kings 12:4.

*The decisions you make and the actions you take affect those around you.
We should always consider how our decisions and actions affect those around us.*

You can make a difference.

*You are more "powerful" than you think you are—
no matter your station in life.*

*Love God first. Love others second. And serve those that do not yet
know God. You will be surprised to see how far your ripple will travel.*

Read Ch. 14 in The Story book or in your Bible: **1 Kings 12:1-17; 18-33; 13:1-6, 33; 14:1-18; 21a, 22-28, 30-31; 15:1-6, 8-24; 16:29-34.**

Think on these questions:

1. What do these passages tell us about GOD? (Who is God? What is God like? What has God done?)
2. What do these passages tell us about US (Human Beings)? (What/how are we supposed to be? What has gone wrong?)
3. What do these passages tell us about HOW WE SHOULD LIVE? (What has God done about what has gone wrong? What does He expect of us? How should we live?)

Closing Prayer:

As you take time to pray, here are some ideas to get you started:

- *Thank God that despite human failures throughout history, he has never given up on us but continues seeking and loving us.*
- *Thank God for the people he has placed in your life who have real wisdom and are willing to share it with you.*
- *Pray for healing in your relationships that are broken.*

Personal Action:

One of the most divisive organizations in the history of the world, sadly, has been the church. As you move about your community in the coming week, commit to pray for every church you pass. Ask for God's blessing and guidance for these brothers and sisters.

Next Session: Please read ch 15 of The Story, "God's Messengers."