

Dig Deeper @Home – “His Story in History”

Complement to sermon on May 14, 2017 – “Walking in Obscurity”

MEMORIZE – 1st Kings 11:38

And if you will listen to all that I command you, and will walk in my ways, and do what is right in my eyes by keeping my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did, I will be with you and will build you a sure house, as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you.”

READ 1st Kings 14

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. Why does Jeroboam send his wife to Ahijah in disguise (vv. 1-4)? What are they trying to hide?
4. Read Psalm 139:23-24. How does King David avoid hiding from God?
5. What special sensitivities has the blind old prophet developed (vv.4-6)? If you were Jeroboam’s wife, how would you feel about the greeting from the prophet?
6. Why did God choose Jeroboam to rule Israel in the first place? Why is his sin especially serious? (vv. 7-9; see 11:31-33,38).
7. What is especially disgraceful about not being buried? (vv. 10-11; see Jeremiah 16:4)
8. What does the future hold for the northern kingdom (vv.15-16)?

Bottom Line – Summarize 1st Kings 14 in your own words

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of 1st Kings 14.

Wearing Masks

For this experience, gather up some masks or make masks from construction paper and string and have everyone wear them as you respond to the next question. (If you are making them have others guess who you are pretending to be.) Then talk about what wearing a mask does. (Hides our identity, impairs our vision, keeps out light, is hard to keep in place, deceives other people etc.) Talk about the difference between the mother of Ahijah's approach to God (vv 1-4) and the apparent faith of Ahijah as recorded in 1 Kings 14:13. In what ways do we wear masks when relating to God and others? In what ways can we ask God to help us take off our masks?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Open the eyes of my heart - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wutmEjdbedE>

Let this song be our prayer, asking God to keep us from hiding from him and walking in faith, love for the Lord and trusting him with all of life.

Spirit of God descend upon my heart – Mennonite Hymnal #217

This song is a prayer asking God to make our hearts an altar and God's love the flame that ignites our passion for knowing and following Him.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

As you go, may the Holy Spirit guide you in your discernment, empower you to respond like Christ and strengthen you to walk in God's wisdom all the days of your life.