

How (Not) to Relate With God 1 Kings 11-14

Relating with God means entering and advancing His story.

Do not put personal <u>convenience</u> over faithful <u>obedience</u>. (11-12)

Self-questions:

- 1. Am I seeking my success and security in God or elsewhere?
- 2. Am I following God more like David or Jeroboam?
- 3. To what extent does convenience drive my daily relationship with Jesus?

Do not put self-affirmation over God's correction. (13-14)

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- 1. Our default perspective is, "It's all about me!" Specifically, how have you seen that play out in others? How about in your own life?
- 2. God called Jeroboam to walk as David walked in 1 Kings 11:37-38. How did David walk with God? What traits were to be emulated? How are you walking before God?
- 3. In 1 Kings 12:26-30, Jeroboam created a religion of convenience. Why did he do that? How did the people fall for it? How might we be doing that today?
- 4. Because God loves us, He corrects our idolatries (1 Kings 13). How has God's Word been correcting you lately? How have you responded to that?
- 5. God's people followed in "the sins of Jeroboam" to their downfall (1 Kings 14:16). Take time and humbly pray through your answers to question #4 above.

Memory Verse

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it."

Mark 8:34-35 (NIV)