Kingdom Divided

Division of Kingdoms

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

* The story of the Kingdom of Israel divided after Solomon’s death
* The story of Jonah
* The story of Joash

Series Theme Verse: “When I was in trouble, I called out to the Lord.  
    And he answered me.” Jonah 2:2

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that when Solomon died, the Kingdom of Israel split into two kingdoms: The Kingdom of Israel and The Kingdom of Judah.

Lesson Passage: 2 Chronicles 9:30-10:17

Materials Needed: dry erase board, dry erase markers, eraser, color sheet, PVC pipe stands, pool noodle verse pieces

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points: 2 Chronicles 9:30-10:17

Divide class into two teams assigning them as an *x* or an *o* and each time a question is answered correctly the team places an *x* or *o* on the tic tac toe grid.

* How long was Solomon king of Israel? (40 years)
* When Solomon died, where was he buried? (Jerusalem, the City of David)
* Who followed Solomon as King of Israel? (Rehoboam, Solomon’s son)
* Where did Rehoboam go to be made king? (City of Shechem)
* Who returned from Egypt to see what happened when Reheboam was made king? (Jeroboam)
* Explain to students that Jeroboam was a high ranking official while Solomon was alive, but he plotted against King Solomon to steal the throne from Solomon. When Solomon found out, he tried to kill Jeroboam, but Jeroboam escaped to Egypt. Now that Solomon is dead, Jeroboam is returning to see what will happen with the empty throne.
* What did Jeroboam do? (He went with the people to Rehoboam and asked the king to not continue taxing the people and working the people as hard as King Solomon had)
* If Rehoboam eased their workload, what would the people do? (Serve Rehoboam)
* What was Rehoboam’s response? (Come back in three days for my answer)
* How did Rehoboam begin to figure out an answer for the people? (He consulted his father’s advisors)
* How did they advise Rehoboam to answer the people? (Be kind to the people and lighten their load and they will serve you)
* Did Rehoboam take their advice? (No, he asked the young men he grew up with for advice)
* What did the young men say to Rehoboam? (Tell the people you will add more work and labor to the people than Solomon ever did)
* Did Rehoboam take their advice? (Yes, he told the people he would make things harder on them than they were under Solomon)
* What was the response of the people to Rehoboam’s plan to be tougher than Solomon? (They left him and became their own separate Kingdom, leaving on the towns in Judah for Rehoboam to be king over)
* Explain to students that Jeroboam who came back from Egypt would become King of Israel which contained 10 tribes, and Rehoboam would become King of Judah which contained 2 tribes. From here on out, Israel was known as the Northern Kingdom and Judah was known as the Southern Kingdom.

The Story Retold:

* Have each student color pages of King Rehoboam and Jeroboam.

The Story and Me:

* Divide class into two teams.
* Give each team a bowl with individual words written on pieces of pool noodles.
* When the game begins, have the students quickly look through their bucket to find the first word in the verse.
* Each team member will run down to place the noodle on the PVC stand and run back to their team.
* When the team member returns the next person in line will quickly look through the bucket to find the next word in the verse.
* Continue until the verse is complete and you have a team winner.

