



Unit 13 | Session 1

JEROBOAM DISOBEYED GOD

1 Kings 12-13

Jeroboam (JER uh BOH uhm) was the king of Israel. One day, he started thinking, If the people of Israel want to worship God, they have to go to the temple in Jerusalem, where their old king, Rehoboam (REE huh BOH uhm), is ruling. Maybe the Israelites will start thinking of King Rehoboam as their leader! That was not what Jeroboam wanted, so Jeroboam made two golden calves. Then he made an announcement to the northern tribes.

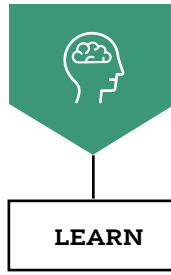
“It is so inconvenient for you to travel all the way to Jerusalem to worship at the temple,” he said. “Look! These golden calves are the gods who brought your ancestors out of Egypt. You can worship them.”

What Jeroboam did was a sin! Those calves did not lead God’s people out of Egypt; God led His people out of Egypt. Jeroboam led all the people in worship to the false gods.

God sent a prophet from Judah to share a message. The prophet said that a son named Josiah would be born into the family of King David. He would bring judgment on the priests who make sacrifices to false gods.

King Jeroboam pointed at the prophet and shouted, “Arrest this man!” But suddenly Jeroboam couldn’t move his arm, and the altar next to him broke into pieces. “Help!” Jeroboam told the prophet. “Pray and ask God to heal my arm!” So the prophet prayed to God, and God healed Jeroboam’s arm. Still, Jeroboam’s heart was hard and he did not turn from his evil ways. Because of this sin, Jeroboam’s kingdom would one day be destroyed.

Christ Connection: Sin always leads us away from God. Jesus came to bring us back to God. Jesus is the true King who gave His life as a sacrifice so we can be forgiven of our sins. Jesus’ kingdom will last forever.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

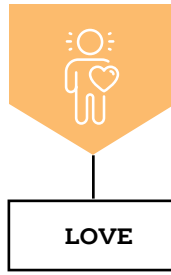
» Use your Bible to look up Deuteronomy 6:5. Draw a heart, and then write the Bible verse in the heart.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did Jeroboam's pride lead him to sin?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Sin always leads us away from God. Jesus came to bring us back to God. Jesus is the true King who gave His life as a sacrifice so we can be forgiven of our sins. Jesus' kingdom will last forever.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

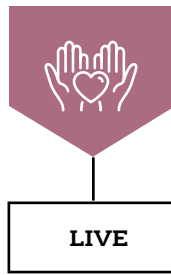
» We may not worship idols that are made out of gold, but what are some other idols that we worship in place of the one true God?

» How can we keep ourselves from idolatry?

» If sin leads us away from God, how can we get back to Him?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Sin always leads us away from God. Jesus came to bring us back to God. Jesus is the true King who gave His life as a sacrifice so we can be forgiven of our sins. Jesus' kingdom will last forever.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Deuteronomy 6:4-5 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for providing a way for you to come back to Him when sin leads you away. Ask God to help you turn from sin and live to please Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Colossians 3:4-6

☐ Psalm 96:4-6

☐ Psalm 31:23

☐ 2 Corinthians 6:16-18

☐ 1 John 2:15-17

☐ 2 Chronicles 6:14-15