

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

This workbook is designed for use in middle to high school Bible classrooms and is intentionally flexible to meet a wide range of ages and maturity levels. Lessons are organized in sections that increase in depth and complexity, allowing teachers to adjust pacing and emphasis based on their students' needs. Each lesson contains enough material to fill a 30–45 minute class period.

Lessons begin with **Rapid Recall**, a brief set of questions to review the previous lesson and connect it to the day's topic. This should take only a few minutes. Next, **The Big Picture** introduces the main focus and goal of the lesson, helping students understand what they will be studying.

The **Content** section forms the core of the lesson. It includes questions tied directly to Scripture. Teachers may assign passages for students to read ahead of time or read/summarize them together in class, depending on age, preparation, and reading ability. Younger or less-prepared students may spend more time here, while older or well-prepared students can move through this section more quickly.

Each lesson also includes a **Gospel Message**, which intentionally connects the lesson to Christ and the gospel. This section encourages discussion and personal application, helping students see Scripture as more than information and guiding them toward Christ-like living.

The **Digging Deeper** section is designed for further application and discussion. This portion works especially well with older or more mature students and can take up a larger part of the lesson when time allows.

Some lessons include additional review activities such as maps or drawings. These tools help reinforce learning and can be used as appropriate for the class level.

Teachers are encouraged to adapt each lesson as needed, emphasizing different sections to best serve their students while keeping the overall goal of biblical understanding and gospel-centered application in view.

THE BIG PICTURE

Solomon is the son of David who is ruling over Israel. During his reign, Solomon has shown great wisdom and God has blessed Solomon by expanding the borders of the kingdom and giving the kingdom great wealth and prosperity. Further, Solomon built a temple for God and God is dwelling with his people. But now we are coming to the end of Solomon's reign where we will read about his spiritual mistakes.

SOLOMON'S SIN (1 KINGS 11:1-8)

- 1 What command was given to God's kings (11:2)? _____
- 2 Did Solomon obey (11:3)? _____
- 3 What happened to Solomon (11:4)? Was God right about what would happen if the king married foreign women? _____
- 4 What did Solomon start doing (11:6-8)? _____

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN (1 KINGS 11:9-25)

- 5 Because Solomon turned his heart away from the Lord, what did God say he will do (11:11)?

- 6 Why will one tribe not be taken away from Solomon (11:13)? _____

“For the sake of David” (11:12-13)
In 2 Samuel 7:14-16 the Lord promised David that he would discipline his son when he sins, but to never remove his steadfast love from him. The David dynasty would never be taken from his family.

THE RISE OF JEROBOAM (1 KINGS 11:26-40)

Note: even though the names “Jeroboam” and “Rehoboam” sound similar, they are not related to each other. Rehoboam is the son of Solomon. Jeroboam is a servant in Solomon's administration.

- 7 What did God promise Jeroboam (11:38)? _____
- 8 What conditions did God give to Jeroboam (11:38)? _____
- 9 What was Solomon's response (11:40)? What does this show about his heart? _____

“Build you a sure house, as I built for David” (11:37-38)
God makes the same promise to Jeroboam to establish his house like he promised David, if Jeroboam will listen and obey God.

KING SAUL
1050 BC

KING DAVID
1010 BC

KING SOLOMON
970 BC

KINGDOM DIVIDES
931 BC

THE ADVICE (1 KINGS 12:1-24)

- 10 What did Jeroboam and the people offer Rehoboam at his coronation (12:4)? _____
- 11 What did the old men advise Rehoboam (12:6-7)? _____
- 12 What did the young men advise Rehoboam? (12:8-11)? _____
- 13 Who did Rehoboam listen to (12:13-14)? _____
- 14 Who was ultimately behind this outcome (12:15)? _____
- 15 Which tribes followed Jeroboam (12:20)? _____
- 16 Which tribe stayed Rehoboam (12:20)? _____
- 17 Who prevented civil war between the two nations (12:21-24)? _____

THE IDOLATRY (1 KINGS 12:25-33)

- 18 Why did Jeroboam build two calves of gold for Israel (12:25)? What was he afraid of?

- 19 Should Jeroboam have worried about this? What did God promise Jeroboam in 1 Kings 11:38 that should have kept him from this fear? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- In 1 Kings 11:39 tells us that the affliction as a divided nation would not be forever. When Christ came, he would call and reunite his people from all over the earth (cf. Acts 1:8). The day of Pentecost in Acts 2 represented this as devout Jews from every nation on earth came to Jerusalem and heard the apostles preach the gospel of the resurrected Jesus.
- Solomon's failure because of his sins revealed that we would need a future son of David who would not fail because of his sins but rule in righteousness and justice. Christ's perfect life while on the earth allows him to be the king we need.

MAP OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOM:

- Color all the tribes that joined the northern nation in one color.
- Color the tribe that remained with Rehoboam as the southern nation in a different color.
- Label the name of the northern nation on the map.

IMPORTANT: The reason the tribe of Simeon is drawn inside of Judah is because of the curse Jacob placed on the tribe in Genesis 49:5-7. Because of the violence of Levi and Simeon (cf. Genesis 34), they would be scattered in the land. Therefore, consider Simeon as part of the tribe of Judah since Judah very quickly absorbed this tribe.



RAPID RECALL

- 1 Why was Israel divided into two nations? _____
- 2 What was the name of the northern nation and which king ruled it? _____
- 3 What was the name of the southern nation and which king ruled it? _____
- 4 How did Jeroboam fail? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Jeroboam set up golden calves in the city of Dan (north end of Israel) and the city of Bethel (south end of Israel) so that the people of Israel would not travel to Judah to worship the Lord in Jerusalem as they were supposed to (1 Kings 12:26-30). This sin sets up what we read in these two chapters.

CONFRONTING JEROBOAM (1 KINGS 13:1-10)

- 5 What did the man of God prophesy regarding the altar in Bethel (13:1-3)? _____
- 6 What happened to Jeroboam and why (13:4-5)? _____
- 7 What did Jeroboam offer the man of God (13:6-7)? _____
- 8 Why didn't the man of God accept Jeroboam's offer (13:8-10)? _____
- 9 Look at the timeline at the bottom of page. Fill in the date of when the kingdom divided. As we go through this workbook we will be learning some of the key dates of Israel's history.

KING DAVID

1010 BC

KING SOLOMON

970 BC

KINGDOM DIVIDES

BC

JEROBOAM DIES

910 BC

DECEIVING THE MAN OF GOD (1 KINGS 13:11-34)

10 What did the old prophet offer the man of God (13:15-17)? _____

11 How did the man of God answer (13:15-17)? _____

12 What lie did the old prophet tell (13:18)? _____

13 What happened to the man of God (13:20-25)? _____

THINK ABOUT IT:

14 Why was the man of God condemned when it was the prophet who lied to him? Why would God condemn him for listening to this prophet? _____

15 What should the man of God done when invited to eat with the old prophet? _____

16 What message is God teaching his people? _____

17 Did Jeroboam learn anything from these events (13:33-34)? _____

JEROBOAM'S END (1 KINGS 14:1-20)

18 Why do you think Jeroboam sends his wife in disguise to the prophet Ahijah to ask about his son (14:1-5)? _____

19 What is the condemnation delivered to Jeroboam (14:6-9)? What had Jeroboam done wrong? _____

20 What is the prophet Ahijah's message to Jeroboam (14:10-13)? _____

21 What else is prophesied will happen to Jeroboam's lineage (14:14-16)? _____

22 Did God's word come to pass (14:17-20)? How long did Jeroboam rule? _____

MAP OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOM:

- Circle the tribes that belong to the northern nation and label the name of the northern nation on the map.
- Mark the city of Dan and the city of Bethel on the map.

IMPORTANT: The reason the tribe of Simeon is drawn inside of Judah is because of the curse Jacob placed on the tribe in Genesis 49:5-7. Because of the violence of Levi and Simeon (cf. Genesis 34), they would be scattered in the land. Therefore, consider Simeon as part of the tribe of Judah since Judah very quickly absorbed this tribe.



RAPID RECALL

- 1 Why was the man of God killed by a lion? _____
- 2 Why was Jeroboam condemned? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Jeroboam's sins have brought about the prophetic declaration that Jeroboam's dynasty will not continue. All of Jeroboam's family will be destroyed and new king line will arise (cf. 1 Kings 14:10-16). What you will read about in this lesson is the turmoil and destruction of kings and households because of Jeroboam's abominations.

NADAB (1 KINGS 15:25-32)

- 3 What was the nature of Nadab's reign (15:25-26)? Did he follow in his father's steps or reverse what his father had done? _____
- 4 Who killed Nadab (15:27-28)? _____
- 5 Who else was killed (15:29-30)? Why was this household destroyed? _____

BAASHA (1 KINGS 15:33-16:7)

- 6 What was the nature of Baasha's rule (15:33-34)? _____
- 7 Why was Baasha judged (16:1-2; 16:7)? _____
- 8 What was the prophetic message against Baasha and his household (16:3-4)? _____

KING JEROBOAM
931 BCKING NADAB
910 BCKING BAASHA
909 BCKING ELAH
886 BCKING ZIMRI
885 BCKING OMRI
885 BCKING AHAB
874 BC

ELAH (1 KINGS 16:8-14)

- 9 Who conspired against Elah when he became king (16:8-10)? _____
- 10 What did he do to Elah and his household (16:10-12)? _____
- 11 Why was Elah's household destroyed? (16:13-14) Remember that Elah is Baasha's son.

ZIMRI (1 KINGS 16:15-20)

- 12 How long did Zimri rule (16:15)? _____
- 13 What did the people of Israel do (16:15-16)? _____
- 14 What was the nature of Zimri's rule (16:18-19)? _____

OMRI (1 KINGS 16:21-28)

- 15 What city becomes the new capital for Israel (16:24)? _____
- 16 What was the nature of Omri's rule (16:25-26)? _____

AHAB (1 KINGS 16:29-34)

- 17 What was the nature of Ahab's rule (16:29-30)? _____
- 18 Who did Ahab marry (16:31)? _____
- 19 Why was this marriage sinful (16:31)? _____
- 20 What else did Ahab do (16:32-33)? _____
- 21 What did Hiel do (16:34)? What happened to his children while doing this? _____
(We will consider this further in the Digging Deeper section)

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- God does not allow wickedness to go on forever. Eventually God will judge all nations and people for their sins because God is a just God. The sins of Jeroboam could not be allowed to continue and opportunities would be given to another person to rule God's people in righteousness.
- God gave Jeroboam and his family the opportunity to serve him as king after Solomon's failure. God then gave Baasha and his family the opportunity to serve him as king after Jeroboam's failure. God then gave Omri and his family the opportunity to serve him as king after Baasha's failure. Jesus taught this principle of God taking his blessings and giving them to those who will respond to him (Matthew 21:33-46; cf. Romans 11:17-24).
- God follows through on his promises, even after hundreds or thousands of years have passed by. This is the key teaching point found in 2 Peter 3:3-10. People think that God's promise to return will not happen because so much time has passed by. But time is not a factor to the eternal God who is patiently waiting, desiring for every person to repent.

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- After conquering Jericho, Joshua placed a curse on the city:

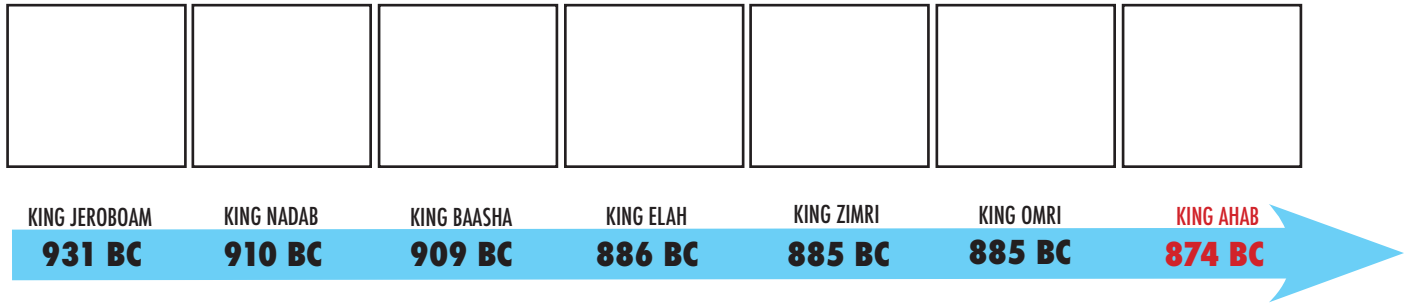
“Cursed before the Lord be the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho. At the cost of his firstborn shall he lay its foundation, and at the cost of his youngest son shall he set up its gates.”
(Joshua 6:26 ESV)

When Hiel attempted to rebuild Jericho, what happened to him and his family (1 Kings 16:34)? What do we learn about God's promises? Consider that it had been around 500-600 years since this curse was placed on the city.

- Continuing thinking about Hiel's actions at Jericho. If he knew the curse to not rebuild Jericho, why do you think he did it anyway? If he did not know the curse to not rebuild Jericho, what should Hiel done before starting to build? What should he have done when his first child died?

WORKING THE TIMELINE:

- On the timeline below, draw a picture of an evil king or of a righteous king. Be creative in how you draw your pictures so that you can remember which kings were evil and which kings were righteous.



MATCH IT UP:

- Match the name of the king with the actions he performed:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| _____ Jeroboam | a. Ruled for 7 days |
| _____ Ahab | b. Set up golden calves in Dan and Bethel |
| _____ Nadab | c. Moved the capital to Samaria |
| _____ Zimri | d. Married Jezebel |
| _____ Omri | e. Son of Jeroboam |
| _____ Elah | f. Killed all of Jeroboam's house |
| _____ Baasha | g. Was killed while drunk at Tizrah |

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What happened when Hiel tried to rebuild Jericho? _____
- 2 Who is Ahab's wife? _____
- 3 Was Ahab a righteous king? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Ahab will rule over Israel from the city of Samaria for 22 years. He will be regarded as the most wicked king to rule over the northern nation (1 Kings 16:33). He committed more sins than the kings before him (1 Kings 16:30). He marries Jezebel who was a Baal worshiper and built altars to the Baals (1 Kings 16:31-32). Therefore, the next six chapters will focus on Ahab and the events that happened during his rule.

ELIJAH THE PROPHET (1 KINGS 17:1-7)

- 4 What did Elijah proclaim as his prophet work began (17:1)? _____
- 8 Look at the map. Identify Sidon and where it is in reference to Israel.

- 5 Based on Deuteronomy 11:16-17, what is the moral condition of Israel? _____

Deuteronomy 11:16-17 CSB

16 Be careful that you are not enticed to turn aside, serve, and bow in worship to other gods.
17 Then the LORD's anger will burn against you. He will shut the sky, and there will be no rain; the land will not yield its produce, and you will perish quickly from the good land the LORD is giving you.

- 6 How was Elijah cared for (17:5-7)? _____

- 7 What eventually happened (17:7)? _____



THE WIDOW (1 KINGS 17:8-16)

- 9 What is the widow's condition when Elijah meets her (17:11-12)? _____
- 10 What does Elijah ask the widow to do (17:13-14)? _____
- 11 Why would Elijah's request require the widow to have faith? _____
- 12 Do you think you would have believed what Elijah said? Explain. _____
- 13 Did Elijah's word come true (17:16)? _____

THE CRISIS (1 KINGS 17:17-24)

- 14 What does the widow say to Elijah when her son dies (17:17-18)? What does she mean? _____
- 15 What does Elijah do (17:19-20)? What does he pray? What does his prayer mean? _____
- 16 What does the Lord do (17:22)? _____
- 17 How does the widow respond (17:24)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Luke 4:16-30. Then look closely at Luke 4:24-26. Elijah was sent to Zarephath in Sidon during the rule of Ahab, who was the most wicked king in their history, even though there were many widows in Israel. We will later read that Jezebel, Ahab's wife was attempting to kill God's prophets. Jesus is show that their rejection mirrors the consistent history of Israel's rejection of all of God's prophets. How did the people respond to Jesus telling them this (Luke 4:28-30)? Did this prove Jesus' point?
- The last time a miracle worker was in Israel was when Elijah and Elisha were there. This was about 900 years before Jesus came. Based on the conclusion that the widow draws regarding Elijah when he raised her son from the dead, what should the people of Israel concluded when Jesus raised the widow's son in Luke 7:11-17?

RAPID RECALL

- 1 Why was Elijah in Zarephath in Sidon? _____
- 2 What did Elijah do to show he was from God and spoke God's word? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The last recorded prophetic message Elijah delivered to King Ahab was that it would not rain again until he said it would rain (cf. 1 Kings 17:1). James 5:17 tells us that this drought and famine due to the lack of rain lasted three and a half years. This sets up the confrontation that we read about in this lesson.

ELIJAH SEES AHAB (1 KINGS 18:1-19)

- 3 What message does the Lord give Elijah (18:1)? _____
- 4 What was Obadiah doing during Ahab's rule (18:3-4)? _____
- 5 What does Elijah tell Obadiah to do (18:7) What is Obadiah's response (18:8-14)? Why is he afraid? _____
- 6 What does Ahab call Elijah (18:17)? Why do you think he called him this? _____
- 7 What does Elijah call Ahab (18:18)? Why? _____
- 8 What does Elijah tell Ahab to do (18:19)? _____

KING JEROBOAM
931 BCKING NADAB
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885 BCKING AHAB
874 BC

ELIJAH'S CHALLENGE (1 KINGS 18:20-46)

- 9 What does Elijah ask the people (18:21)? What have the people been doing? _____
- 10 Write down the details of Elijah's challenge (18:22-24): _____
- 11 When Baal does not respond, how does Elijah mock the prophets of Baal (18:27)? What point is Elijah making? _____
- 12 What response did the Baal prophets receive (18:29)? _____
- 13 What does Elijah do to the altar to make sure that all who are watching know that this response could only be from the true God (18:30-35)? _____
- 14 What does Elijah pray (18:36-37)? What is the purpose of this challenge? _____
- 15 What happened after Elijah's prayer (18:38)? _____
- 16 What was the response of the people (18:39)? _____
- 17 What happens after the challenge is completed (18:41-46)? _____

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (Matthew 5:10-12 ESV)
- Dear friends, don’t be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you, as if something unusual were happening to you. Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed. If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. (1 Peter 4:12-14 CSB)

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Write down your thoughts about how Obadiah was trying to save God’s prophets from being killed by Jezebel and was risking his life in the process (1 Kings 18:4). Then write down your thoughts about Elijah standing up against 450 prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:22).

- How important is it to do what is right and godly, even if it means putting yourself at risk? Are there instances that you can think about where you need to do what is right, even when everyone else might be doing wrong?

- In 1 Kings 18:21 Elijah challenges the people to stop limping between serving God and serve Baal. What are some ways that we limp between serving God and serving the gods of money, comfort, entertainment, etc?

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What happened at Mount Carmel between Elijah and the prophets of Baal? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The Lord has shown himself to be the only God through Elijah's challenge of the prophets of Baal. The people have confessed that the Lord is the true God (1 Kings 18:39). Elijah has instructed for the 450 prophets of Baal to be killed for their sins, as the Law of Moses commanded (cf. Deuteronomy 13:1-5; 18:20). But this spiritual victory will cause Elijah new problems in his prophetic ministry.

ELIJAH'S DIFFICULTY (1 KINGS 19:1-10)

- 2 What was Jezebel's response to Elijah's victory over the prophets of Baal (19:1-2)? _____
- 3 What does Elijah do when he receives this message from Jezebel (19:3-4)? What does Elijah pray? _____
- 4 How does God first respond to Elijah (19:5-8)? _____
- 5 What does God ask Elijah (19:9)? Does God not know? Why is God asking? _____
- 6 What is Elijah's response (19:10)? _____

KING JEROBOAM
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ELIJAH'S ENCOURAGEMENT (1 KINGS 19:11-21)

7 What does God show Elijah (19:11-13)? What was God trying to tell Elijah by responding to him in these ways? _____

8 How does Elijah respond to God's question after this display (19:14)? Has anything changed?

9 Write down God's three encouragements to Elijah:

19:15-17 _____

19:16 _____

19:18 _____

10 How does Elisha respond to Elijah's call to follow him (19:19-21)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Luke 9:57-62. Write down how Jesus' call toward those who desired to follow him was different than Elijah's call to Elisha:

- What was Jesus teaching about what it means to follow him? Can we have divided loyalties, interests, or desires?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- God does not come to Elijah and condemn Elijah for feeling discouraged or alone in his faithfulness. Instead, God gave Elijah the strength he needed for the journey and the encouragement he needed to continue his prophetic work. God promises to give us the strength we need if we will put on the armor of God (cf. Ephesians 6:10-11).
- Prayer is an important response when we are discouraged or having a difficult time. It is important to see that in Elijah's struggle, he turned to the Lord in prayer. The apostle Paul told us that prayer is the answer to worry:

Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6 CSB)

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- It is important to consider Elijah's discouragement. In chapter 18 it appears that Elijah has achieved a great victory for the Lord. The prophets of Baal have been killed and all the people have confessed, "The Lord, he is God!" (1 Kings 18:39-40). Rather than the miracle at Mount Carmel causing a full repentance in the nation of Israel, Jezebel continues her wicked ways, proclaiming that Elijah is not going to live another day (1 Kings 19:2). Elijah has been unable to bring about any spiritual change in the people and believes that he is the only one left who serves the true God (1 Kings 19:10).
- The apostle Paul was also concerned about Christians becoming discouraged and growing tired of doing good things and making right decisions:

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. (Galatians 6:9-10 ESV)

Write down reasons why we can become discouraged from doing good for others. Write down reasons why we can become tired of making right and godly decisions:

- What did Paul say in Galatians 6:9-10 is a reason we should not give up when discouraged:

AHAB'S FAILURES

RAPID RECALL

- 1 Why did Elijah run to the wilderness? _____
- 2 Who did God call to assist Elijah in his prophetic work? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

These two chapters record Ahab's decisions that are going to bring about the end of his rule over the nation of Israel. God is going to bless Ahab. But Ahab is not going to respond with obedience but disobedience. God gave Ahab the opportunity to succeed by listening to him. But 1 Kings 20-21 record how Ahab wasted what God gave to him.

SYRIA ATTACKS (1 KINGS 20:1-43)

- 3 How many kings joined Ben-hadad, the king of Syria, in attacking Samaria, the capital city of Israel? _____
- 4 What message does the prophet give to Ahab (20:13)? What was God trying to teach Ahab by doing this? _____
- 5 After the victory, what foolish belief did the Syrians have about the Lord (20:23)? _____
- 6 When Syria attacked Israel again, how outnumbered were the Israelite armies (20:26-27)? _____
- 7 Why did the Lord give Israel victory again (20:28)? _____
- 8 What does Ahab do wrong (20:34)? _____
- 9 What was the condemnation for Ahab's sin (20:42)? What was Ahab's response? Did Ahab repent (20:43)? _____

AHAB'S EVIL (1 KINGS 21:1-29)

- 10 What does Ahab want (21:1-2)? What is Ahab's response when he can't have what he wants (21:4-6)? _____
- 11 Do you act like Ahab when you don't get what you want? _____
- 12 What is Jezebel's plan (21:7-10)? _____
- 13 What does Elijah proclaim as punishment against Ahab (21:18-19)? _____
- 14 What was the punishment proclaimed against Jezebel (21:23)? _____
- 15 What are the spiritual conditions of Ahab and Jezebel (21:25-26)? _____
- 16 What does Ahab do this time when confronted with his sin (21:27-29)? _____
- 17 What was God's response to Ahab's actions (21:29)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells a parable about three lost things: a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. What does Jesus say is the response God has when a sinner repents (Luke 15:7, 10)?
- Consider the wickedness of Ahab and his wife, Jezebel. Despite Ahab's wickedness, when Ahab humbled his heart, God responded to him (1 Kings 21:29). Our God truly shows that he desires for no one to perish but all will reach repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- The Syrians thought the Lord only ruled over certain areas of the earth (the hills at first). Part of the gospel message is that the Lord rules over all the earth. But there is nowhere you can go in all creation and God not be there with you and rule over all things.

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:16-17 ESV)

- Ahab spares the king of Syria when God had decreed judgment. We cannot change what God tells us to, even if we think what we will do is better. God desires us to trust him by obeying.

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- One of the sins that the scriptures talk about is the sin of greed or covetousness (cf. Romans 1:29; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5). How does Ahab show the sin of greed/covetousness regarding Naboth's vineyard? In your answer, consider all Ahab had as king of Israel and he was offering to Naboth.

- Before telling the parable about the rich fool, Jesus told the crowds an important message about money and possessions:

And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." (Luke 12:15 ESV)

Why is making decisions based only on money and possessions a bad way to live life?

- Write down as many things you can think of that money cannot buy you:

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What was God trying to teach Ahab by giving him victory over the king of Syria? _____
- 2 What did Jezebel do to get Naboth's vineyard for Ahab? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The end of 1 Kings records Ahab's 22 year wicked reign coming to an end. The final chapter of the book shows Ahab, the king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, working together for the preservation of the two nations. We are going to see how these two kings respond to the prophets of God. Then we will learn about Ahab's son, Ahaziah, and see if he is any different than his wicked father.

AHAB KILLED (1 KINGS 22)

- 3 What does Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, want to do before going to war with Ahab (22:5)?

- 4 What does Jehoshaphat realize when all the prophets proclaim that Ahab will be successful in battle (22:6-7)? _____
- 5 What is Ahab's reason for never consulting Micaiah, a true prophet of God (22:8)? _____
- 6 What does Micaiah say will happen if they go to battle (22:13-15)? How does Ahab respond (22:16)? _____
- 7 What is Micaiah's real message (22:17)? How does Ahab respond (22:18,26-28)? _____
- 8 Did Micaiah's word happen (22:34-40)? _____
- 9 Who reigned after Ahab's death (22:51-53)? Was he like his father in his rule? _____

AHAZIAH'S REIGN (2 KINGS 1:1-18)

- 10 What happened to Ahaziah (1:2)? What does he want to know? Who does he seek this information from (1:2)? _____
- 11 What is God's answer that Elijah was to give to Ahaziah (1:4)? _____
- 12 How does king Ahaziah respond to Elijah and his message (1:9) How does Elijah respond (1:10)? _____
- 13 Did Ahaziah learn the message (1:11)? What does Ahaziah do (1:11)? How does Elijah respond (1:12)? _____
- 14 Did Ahaziah learn the message (1:13)? What does Ahaziah do (1:13)? What does this captain ask Elijah (1:13-14)? _____
- 15 What message does God tell Elijah to give to Ahaziah (1:15-17)? Did it happen as God said? _____

KING NADAB	KING BAASHA	KING ELAH	KING ZIMRI	KING OMRI	KING AHAB	KING AHAZIAH
910 BC	909 BC	886 BC	885 BC	885 BC	874 BC	853 BC

SEEING CHRIST

- One of the final prophetic words God had for his people is in Malachi 4:5-6 where God declares that Elijah the prophet will come to the people before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. Elijah would come to turn the hearts of the people. This is why we see John the Baptist preparing for the coming of Christ by preaching, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near" (Matthew 3:2) because Christ is coming to save and to judge (cf. Matthew 3:9-12).

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- Elijah quickly proved that he was a man of God by the miracles he was able to perform. Earlier he prayed for the fire of God to come down and consume the altar on Mount Carmel (cf. 1 Kings 17). Now he calls for fire to come down and consume those who were rejecting his God-given prophetic authority. Jesus and the apostles proved that they were sent from Father by the miracles they did. Yet, just like in Elijah's day, many people and leaders rejected him in spite of the miracles.
- Both 1 Kings 22 and 2 Kings 1 reveal two kings who are inquiring the wrong people for information. Ahab inquires of his false prophets and Ahaziah inquires of his false gods. The word of God is the only authority for our lives and is able to make us complete and ready for every good work (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17).

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- What is the difference between how Ahab inquired of the Lord and how Jehoshaphat inquired of the Lord (22:6-9)? What did Ahab want to hear? What did Jehoshaphat want to hear? What can we learn about how we approach reading God's word and listening to sermons and Bible studies?

- How did Ahab handle receiving a message from God that was unfavorable (22:26-27)? Why was this foolish for Ahab? Why is this kind of response to reading or hearing God's word a foolish response for us? What do we learn?

- Elijah is described as wearing a garment of hair with a leather belt around his waist. Open your Bible to Matthew 3:4 and write down what John the Baptist wore. In Mark 9:11-13 and Matthew 11:12-15 we see Jesus connecting John the Baptist as the prophesied Elijah to come. What should the people have known about John when they saw him?

RAPID RECALL

- 1 How did Ahab die? _____
- 2 What did Elijah do to the armies that were sent to capture him? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The focus on the lesson is on the transition between Elijah and Elisha in doing God's prophetic work in Israel. Elijah's work ends in a miraculous way. But God did not want the work to stop. God would use Elisha to continue trying to turn his sinful people back to him through his miraculous works and proclamation of God's message.

ELIJAH ASCENDS (2 KINGS 2:1-14)

- 3 What does Elisha refuse to do (2:1-6)? _____
- 4 What do the prophets say will happen to Elijah (2:3,5)? _____
- 5 What does Elijah do in verse 8? Who else did something like this in the scriptures in Israel's history? _____
- 6 What does Elisha ask Elijah to do before he leaves (2:9)? _____
- 7 What does Elijah say to Elisha's request (2:10)? _____
- 8 What happens to Elijah (2:11)? _____
- 9 What does Elisha do after Elijah leaves (2:13-14)? Did Elisha receive what he requested of Elijah? _____

ELISHA BEGINS HIS WORK (2 KINGS 2:15-25)

- 10 What did the sons of the prophets think happened to Elijah (2:16)? _____
- 11 Did the sons of the prophets find Elijah (2:17)? _____
- 12 What is the problem in Jericho (2:19)? _____
- 13 What did Elisha do to solve Jericho's problem (2:20-22)? _____
- 14 What happened to Elisha on the way to Bethel (2:23)? _____
- 15 How did Elisha respond to the small boys (2:24-25)? _____

JEHORAM'S REIGN (2 KINGS 3)

- 16 What was the nature of Jehoram's rule (3:1-3)? _____
- 17 When Jehoram, Jehoshaphat, and the king of Edom ask Elisha for a message from God, what does Elisha say to them (3:13-14)? What is the only reason Elisha will answer them?

- 18 What will God do (3:16-19)? _____
- 19 Did God provide for these kings (3:20-27)? _____

KING BAASHA	KING ELAH	KING ZIMRI	KING OMRI	KING AHAB	KING AHAZIAH	KING JEHORAM
909 BC	886 BC	885 BC	885 BC	874 BC	853 BC	852 BC

SEEING CHRIST

- Elijah's prophetic ministry has a rare conclusion: taken up by a whirlwind into heaven while Elisha was watching (2 Kings 2:11). Look at Acts 1:9-11. Who else ascended into heaven at the end of his earthly ministry? Who was watching when he did this?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- When Jesus completed his earthly work, the mission was not finished. Jesus told his apostles that they would go into the whole world preaching the gospel (Matthew 28:19) and would be his witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:2,8). We also have been charged to continue the mission by being the salt of the earth and the light of the world so that people all over the earth give glory to the Father (Matthew 5:13-16).
- There is contrast between the people of Jericho who desired God's prophet to come to them and the boys on the way to Bethel who mocked God's prophet. We see the same reactions to Jesus. Some people wanted Jesus to come to them and some mocked him, sent him away, and wanted to kill him. This was also true for the apostles who experienced the same responses. This is also true for disciples today.

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- The discipleship dedication of Elisha is commendable. Elisha refused to leave Elijah's side as he knew that his master would leave at any moment. The disciples of Jesus followed Jesus with the same dedication. Read John 6:66-69. Why did these disciples not stop following Jesus? What do we learn for ourselves? What should our discipleship look like?

- In 2 Kings 3 we see the king of Israel, the king of Judah, and the king of Edom only seeking a message from the Lord after they made a decision to go to battle without first inquiring of the Lord. Only when these kings are in trouble by not having water do they seek the Lord (2 Kings 3:9-11). What are some reasons why this is not the way to seek the Lord? Why does God not desire to be treated in this way?

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What happened to Elijah at the end of his work? _____
- 2 Who was designated to continue Elijah's prophetic work? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Elisha is God's prophet who is continuing to do his work in Israel. In these two chapters we will see God's power on display through many different miracles. Think about the grace of God being shown to his wayward, sinful people through Elisha to try to awaken their need to return to the Lord who provides for them.

DISPLAYING GOD'S POWER (2 KINGS 4)

- 3 What miracle does Elisha perform (4:1-7)? _____
- 4 Which of Elijah's miracles is similar to this miracle? _____
- 5 What does the Shunammite woman do for Elisha (4:8-11)? _____
- 6 What does God do for her through Elisha (4:12-17)? _____
- 7 What happens to her son (4:18-21)? _____
- 8 What does Elisha do (4:25-37)? _____
- 9 Which of Elijah's miracles is similar to this miracle? _____
- 10 What miracle does Elisha perform (4:38-44)? _____

NAAMAN'S LEPROSY (2 KINGS 5:1-14)

- 11 What is Naaman's condition (5:1-4)? How does he find out about Elisha? _____
- 12 What does the king of Israel's reaction tell us about his spiritual condition (5:7-8)? _____
- 13 What was Naaman told to do to be healed (5:9-10)? _____
- 14 What was Naaman's response (5:11-12)? What did he expect from the prophet? _____
- 15 When was Naaman healed (5:13-14)? _____

GEHAZI'S GREED (2 KINGS 5:15-27)

- 16 After Elisha declines Naaman's gift, what does Gehazi, Elisha's servant, do (5:19-23)? _____
- 17 How did Gehazi try to hide what he did (5:24-25)? _____
- 18 Why was Gehazi foolish (5:26)? _____
- 19 What was Gehazi's punishment (5:27)? _____

KING BAASHA	KING ELAH	KING ZIMRI	KING OMRI	KING AHAB	KING AHAZIAH	KING JEHORAM
909 BC	886 BC	885 BC	885 BC	874 BC	853 BC	852 BC

SEEING CHRIST

- Elisha's unique miraculous work of healing leprosy foreshadowed Jesus' powerful work to heal those who would come to him. In Luke 5:12-13 a man came to Jesus, saying, "Lord if you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus responded that he was willing and immediately healed him. The physical healings revealed that Jesus was willing and able to heal us from all of our spiritual diseases (cf. Matthew 8:16-17).

GOSPEL MESSAGE

- Throughout 2 Kings 4-5 we are reading about how Elisha was able to solve all of the nation's problems by the power of God. Elisha solved the financial distress of a widow (4:1-7), the barrenness of a woman (4:11-17), the death of her son (4:18-37), poisoned food (4:38-41), a lack of bread (4:42-44), and even heal an unclean Gentile. The picture through these miracles is that the help the nation needed and the world needed was in returning to the Lord. When Jesus came, he taught he was the way, the truth, and the life. Everything we need and everything we are looking for is found in Jesus. Jesus said, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33 ESV).

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Naaman did not get to tell Elisha how he was going to be healed. Even though he wanted to be healed, he had expectations of how that healing would happen. But this prevented him from being healed until he listened and did what Elisha told him to do. If Naaman had dipped in another river besides the Jordan River, would he have been healed? If he had dipped five times in the Jordan River, would he have been healed? What is God teaching us about his commands?

- What is the stated reason Gehazi wants Naaman to pay (5:20)? What does he think Elisha has done wrong? When Jesus sent out his disciples to proclaim the kingdom of heaven, heal, and cleanse, he instructed them, "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8). Does this teaching explain what Elisha tells Gehazi (5:26)?

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What did Naaman do to be healed? _____
- 2 Why was Gehazi condemned? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Despite Israel's continued wickedness and rule from wicked kings, God will continue to show mercy on his people, working miracles and executing judgments in an effort to try to turn the hearts of the people, the elders, and the king back to him. God is showing that restoration is available if his people will turn back to him.

DISPLAYING GOD'S JUDGMENT (2 KINGS 6)

God is continuing to show his power in Israel if the people would turn back to him. While some of the miracles may seem strange, the point of God's restoration to those who seek him must not be missed.

- 3 What miracle does Elisha perform to show God's restoration power? _____
- 4 What power is God showing through Elisha in 2 Kings 6:10-12? What does the king of Syria think is happening since Elisha keeps knowing his plans? _____
- 5 What does the king of Syria do to capture Elisha (6:14-15)? What was the response of Elisha's servant (6:15)? _____
- 6 What was Elisha's response to his servant's fear and the king of Syria's attack (6:16)? _____
- 7 What does Elisha have his servant see (6:17)? _____
- 8 Verse 25 describes the horrible conditions of the famine. What were people buying for their food? _____
- 9 What else were they eating (6:28-29)? Who does the king of Israel blame for these troubles (6:31,33)? _____

DISPLAYING GOD'S GLORY (2 KINGS 7)

- 10 Elisha proclaims that the next day the famine will end. What will people be able to buy for a shekel tomorrow (7:1)? What did shekels buy in the famine (6:25)? _____
- 11 Did the captain believe Elisha's message (7:2)? What will happen to him? _____
- 12 How did the Lord cause the Syrians to end the siege and run away (7:5-6)? _____
- 13 What do the four lepers do when they find the camp empty (7:7-8)? _____
- 14 What do the four lepers realize they must do with this good news (7:9)? What will happen if they do not? _____
- 15 Did Elisha's prophecy about the captain come true (7:16-20)? _____

RESTORING HOPE (2 KINGS 8)

- 16 How long had the famine lasted (8:1)? Where had the Shunammite been sent during the famine (8:2)? _____
- 17 The Shunammite woman's land was restored because of her relationship with _____
- 18 Was Ben-hadad, the king of Syria going to recover (8:10, 14-15)? Then why was he still going to die? _____

KING BAASHA
909 BC

KING ELAH
886 BC

KING ZIMRI
885 BC

KING OMRI
885 BC

KING AHAB
874 BC

KING AHAZIAH
853 BC

KING JEHORAM
852 BC

SEEING CHRIST

- Elisha was able to know the words that the king of Syria spoke in secret places (2 Kings 6:12), showing he was truly a man of God. On many occasions we read that Jesus was able to know the hearts and the thoughts of people (cf. Matthew 9:4; 12:25; Luke 6:8; 9:47; 11:17). How is God knowing our thoughts and hearts a blessing (cf. Romans 8:27)? How is God knowing our thoughts and hearts a warning (Revelation 2:23)?

GOSPEL MESSAGE

- Ephesians 6:11-12 tells us to put on the whole armor of God to be able to stand against the schemes of devil because we are not wrestling with flesh and blood but "against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12 ESV). It is important to remember that there is much more going on in the world than what we can see. Elisha's servant was given a moment in which he could see the unseen (2 Kings 6:17). We must walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:8).

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- The king of Israel blames the Lord for the problems in Israel and wants to kill Elisha, the man of God. Why is it foolish to blame God for our troubles? Why is wanting to kill the messenger, Elisha, also a foolish decision? Are there ways we can make these mistakes today? What do we learn?

- The four lepers realize that they are not doing right in not sharing the good news of victory. They further realize they will be punished for not sharing the good news with the city. What do we learn for ourselves about learning the good news of Jesus. Read Matthew 28:18-20. What are we instructed to do with the good news?

RAPID RECALL

- 1 When surrounded by Syrian armies, what did Elisha pray for his servant to see because he was afraid? _____
- 2 What were the four lepers compelled to do with the good news? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

There comes a point when God's constant grace must make way for judgment. God has been gracious to Israel, sending Elijah and Elisha to turn the hearts of the people and the hearts of the kings back to him. However, their prophecies and miracles have not changed the people's hearts or their ways. In these chapters we will see God's judgment being fulfilled.

A NEW DYNASTY (2 KINGS 9)

- 3 Who does Elisha anoint as the next king over Israel (9:1-3)? _____
- 4 What is God's mission for the new king (9:7-10)? _____
- 5 What happens when the anointed king encounters each military horseman sent by King Joram (9:16-21)? _____
- 6 What does Jehu do to Joram (9:21-26)? Why? _____
- 7 Who else does Jehu kill (9:30-37)? How does she die? _____
- 8 Why does she die this way (9:36-37) What had she done (1 Kings 21)? _____

KING OMRI	KING AHAB	KING AHAZIAH	KING JEHORAM	KING JEHU	KING JEHOAHAZ	KING JEHOASH
885 BC	874 BC	853 BC	852 BC	841 BC	814 BC	798 BC

JUDGING ISRAEL (2 KINGS 10)

- 9 What does Jehu do to execute judgment on Ahab's family (10:1-9)? _____
- 10 What does Jehu do with their heads (10:8)? _____
- 11 What was Jehu teaching Israel by doing this (10:10)? _____
- 12 What does Jehu announce to judge the prophets of Baal (10:18-24)? _____
- 13 What does Jehu do to execute judgment on the prophets of Baal (10:25-27)? _____
- 14 What is the spiritual assessment of Jehu (10:30-31)? _____

ELISHA'S CONCLUSION (2 KINGS 13)

- 15 What is the spiritual assessment of Jehoahaz (13:1-2)? _____
- 16 What does Jehoahaz do when Israel was oppressed (13:4)? _____
- 17 How did God respond to Jehoahaz (13:4-5)? _____
- 18 What is the spiritual assessment of Jehoash/Joash (13:10-11)? _____
- 19 What was Elisha's final message (13:14-19)? _____
- 20 What was Elisha's final miracle (13:20-21)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- In 2 Kings 13:5 we read that the Lord gave Israel a savior to escape the oppression they were experiencing. Read John 3:16 and write it in the space below. What did the Lord do for us for our rescue?

GOSPEL MESSAGE

- The power of the resurrection is not forever lost with the death of Elisha (cf. 2 Kings 13:20–21). The power of resurrection would be seen again when Jesus came. Jesus raised Lazarus (John 11), Jarius’ daughter (Matthew 9:18–26), and the widow’s son (Luke 7:11–17) from the dead. Further, Jesus rose from the dead. Not only this, but when Jesus rose from the dead, many of the dead in Jerusalem also rose from the dead (Matthew 27:52–53). Jesus’ resurrection from the dead is the proof and the hope that we will be raised from the dead like he was (1 Corinthians 15:21–23).

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- God always keeps his promises. However, this does not mean that his promises are fulfilled immediately. Jezebel’s judgment was prophesied by Elijah for her evil regarding Naboth’s vineyard. But about 14 years went by until what God promised was fulfilled. Read 2 Peter 3:1–4. What will people say about God’s promises when a long time passes? Does this mean God will not fulfill his promise?

- After the Lord gave Israel a savior, the people did not change how they were living. “Nevertheless, they did not depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam...but walked in them” (2 Kings 13:6). Our rescue is supposed to cause us to love the Lord and change our lives to live for him. Read 1 Peter 1:14–19. Write down what we are supposed to be since Jesus died for us.

RAPID RECALL

- 1 Why did Jehu kill so many people? _____
- 2 What happened with Elisha's bones? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

This section of 2 Kings shows the continued, repeated failure of Israel's kings. No matter who takes the throne, no one determines to seek the Lord or change the course of Israel's wickedness. This leaves the Lord no other option but to send the Assyrian nation as the means of judgment on his people. God cannot tolerate sin forever.

JEROBOAM II REIGNS (2 KINGS 14:23-29)

- 3 What is the spiritual assessment of Jeroboam II (14:23-24)? _____
- 4 What other prophetic work is Jonah known for (14:25)? _____

ZECHARIAH REIGNS (2 KINGS 15:8-12)

- 5 What is the spiritual assessment of Zechariah? _____

SHALLUM REIGNS (2 KINGS 15:13-16)

- 6 What is the spiritual assessment of Shallum? _____

KING JEROBOAM II	KING ZECHARIAH	KING SHALLUM	KING MENAHEM	KING PEKAHIAH	KING PEKAH	KING HOSHEA
793 BC	753 BC	753 BC	752 BC	742 BC	740 BC	732 BC

MENAHEM REIGNS (2 KINGS 15:17-22)

7 What is the spiritual assessment of Manahem? _____

8 What kept Assyria from destroying Israel? _____

PEKAHIAH REIGNS (2 KINGS 15:23-26)

9 What is the spiritual assessment of Pekahiah? _____

PEKAH REIGNS (2 KINGS 15:27-31)

10 What is the spiritual assessment of Pekah? _____

11 What happened during Pekah's reign? _____

HOSHEA REIGNS (2 KINGS 17)

12 What is the spiritual assessment of Hoshea (17:1-2)? _____

13 What happened to Hoshea (17:3-5)? _____

14 Why did God bring Assyria against Israel (17:7-18)? Write down all the reasons God gives in each verse. _____

15 What happened to Israel's land (17:24-25)? _____

16 How did the new inhabitants of the land learn how to fear the Lord (17:27-33)? _____

17 What is the final assessment made for the nation of Israel (17:34-40)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Israel's failure to obey the Lord, even with all of the blessings and advantages they had by seeing God's miracles and knowing God's law, proves our need for a Savior. There is no one who is righteous (Romans 3:10). No one seeks the Lord the way he is to be pursued and no one can do enough good to be right before God (Romans 3:10-18). Jesus came as the Savior we need, living perfectly before the Father and giving his life to save us from our sins. The failure of every king revealed we needed the perfect King, Jesus.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

- God is showing that Israel's failure to obey him would give other peoples and nations an opportunity to know and obey him. God's priests were brought to the land to teach the new inhabitants of the land to fear the Lord (2 Kings 17:28). But the outcome was the same. They feared the Lord but also served their own gods (2 Kings 17:29,32-33). A key point that the apostle Paul makes in Romans 9-11 is that Israel's failure was the means for the Gentiles to seek the Lord. The book of Acts frequently proclaims that Israel's rejection of the gospel meant that the rest of the nations would be given the opportunity to obey the gospel (cf. Acts 13:46-48; 18:6; 28:28). But we must not fall like Israel did or else we can be cut off from the Lord like they were (cf. Romans 11:17-24).

APPLICATION

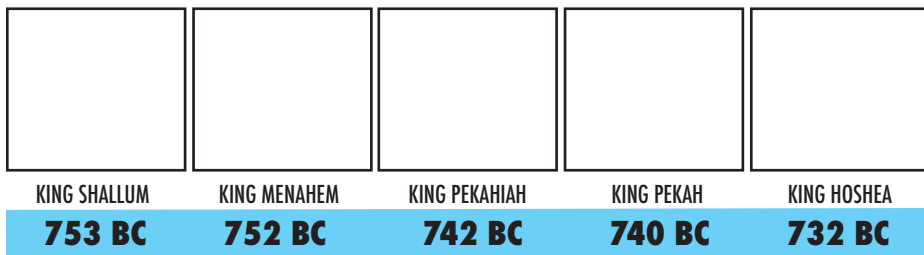
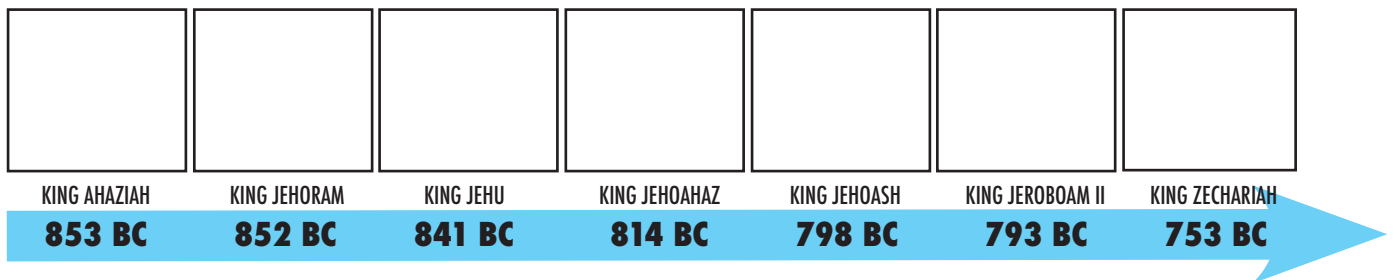
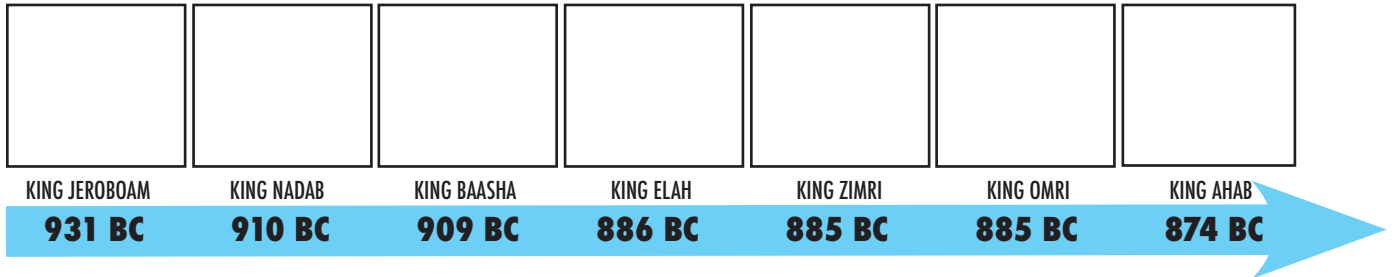
DIGGING DEEPER

- In your lesson there was a key repetition: "He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam..." (2 Kings 14:24; 15:9; 15:18; 15:28; 17:21-22). Jeroboam, the first king over Israel, turned from the Lord and led the people to do the same (1 Kings 12:25-33). Jeroboam's decision created a legacy of sin that ruined the nation until it was destroyed. What do we learn about the impact our sinning can have on ourselves, on our children, on other people, and on future generations?

- God graciously used Elijah, Elisha, and other prophets to try to turn the people's hearts back to him before judgment came. Sadly, the people were stubborn and would not listen (2 Kings 17:13-15). What is God's message to us? Are there ways we act like Israel?

WORKING THE TIMELINE:

- On the timeline below, draw a picture of an evil king or of a righteous king. Be creative in how you draw your pictures so that you can remember which kings were evil and which kings were righteous.



722 BC



Easy-Peasy.AI

SEEING THE GOSPEL



THE KINGS OF ISRAEL

by: Brent Kercheville

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