

# THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

## CHAPTER 14

**Timeless Truth:** God detests idol worshippers.

**Bible Basis:** 1 Kings 12-16

**Key Verse:** "Asa did what was right in the eyes of the Lord." 1 Kings 15:11, NIV

**Parent Tips:** Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table at some point this week, and/or use the questions inside your books. Pick the questions that work best for your family. The Living Faith section (on the back) is a fun activity for you to do.

### GET THE POINT

**Preschool/Elementary:** God uses bad things to teach his people. I can learn from mistakes.

**Middle School:** When you follow the lie that God can't give you what you need, it's easy to turn to idols.

**High School:** Idol worship isn't limited to golden cows; many things can pull your attention away from God.

### TABLE TALK

#### Preschool/Elementary

- The people of Judah started fighting against Israel and decided to start their own country. Have you ever had two of your friends fight and decide not to be friends anymore?
- What happened because of this fight?
- Was there a way your friends could've settled their differences better?
- In the midst of all these bad kings in Israel and Judah, Asa became king of Judah and "did what was right in the eyes of the Lord" (1 Kings 15:11). Do you think it was hard for him to do good things when everybody around him was making bad choices?
- Tell about a time when others were making poor choices and you decided to follow God. Was it hard? How did it make you feel?.

#### Middle/High School

(Other side)



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## Middle/High School

- Proverbs 13:20 says, "Anyone who walks with wise people grows wise. But a companion of foolish people suffers harm." Rehoboam's dad, Solomon, wrote those words. But Rehoboam must've been spacing out when Solomon said them, because instead of listening to the counsel of wise elders, Rehoboam listened to his friends when it came to the treatment of the people of Judah. His friends encouraged Rehoboam to tell Jeroboam that bigger whips could be used to beat them. (That's not a good way to make friends.) Jeroboam went back and split off a new country, Judah, where he was king. What do you think was Rehoboam's biggest mistake?
- Could Judah splitting from Israel been prevented?
- Have you ever listened to your friends instead of your parents? (Note: Parents, you can share a story here, too, from your growing up years.)
- Do you think Solomon's advice in Proverbs 13:20 is true?

## Living Faith

You don't run into a lot of golden cow worshipers at church these days. But the problem of idols still plagues God followers. Anything that comes before God in your life could be an idol, especially if you look to that thing for comfort or satisfaction. Have all family members fill out the chart to see how they spend their time. At the end, answer some questions to see if any idols have crept into your daily life.

On average how much time each day do you spend doing these things?

| Activity:   | Watching TV | Playing Video Games | Texting/talking on phone | Reading Bible and praying | Shopping | Being on computer |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Time Spent: |             |                     |                          |                           |          |                   |

None of the activities are in and of themselves sinful; however, if they consume all your time and pull you away from God, they could become an idol. In today's society money, fame, possessions, career advancement, popularity and other things rule people's lives.

Ask:

- What area in your life do you think has the greatest possibility of becoming an idol?
- How can you prevent that from happening?
- What changes can you make in your schedule to show God that he's first in your life?