



Jan 18, 2026

8:30am & 11:15am

THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

1 KINGS 11-13

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Rehoboam made a wrong choice, and God's people split into two groups. But Jesus, our good King, brings together all who trust in Him and welcomes them into His kingdom forever.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How many gods are there? There is one true God.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:

1 Kings 8:60

STORY POINT:

Rehoboam's sin divided the kingdom.

LEARN

GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON.

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Invite the children to join you on the rug for group time.

SAY

It is really hard to listen to other people when you're wearing headphones. There are two kings in today's story who also had trouble listening to others, but not because they were wearing headphones! They did not listen to others because of their sin. Let's listen to the story together to learn how **King Rehoboam's sin divided the kingdom.**

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

Volunteers with 2s in room 114: You will need to open the divider with 113 for bible story time.

Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to open the divider with 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date
(If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.



IMAGO DEI KIDS

3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY (OPTIONAL)

Ask the following review questions:

- a. What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
- b. What were some things in the Bible story that made God happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
- c. Who became the new king of Israel after Solomon died? (Rehoboam)
- d. When the people asked Rehoboam to be kind to them, how did Rehoboam respond? (Rehoboam decided to be harsh with the people.)
- e. King Rehoboam made wrong choices. Who is our good and perfect King? (Jesus)
- f. **How many gods are there? There is one true God.**

SAY

After King Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king. The people asked Rehoboam to be kind with them, but Rehoboam said, 'No!' Rehoboam decided to make his life better and easier by being mean to the people. The people were upset with Rehoboam and chose to follow Jeroboam instead. **Rehoboam's sin divided the kingdom.**

4. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY

In today's story, God's people had two kings, but there is only one true God. **How many gods are there? There is only one true God.** We will be saying this big picture question and answer again and again over the next few weeks. Repeat after me. **How many gods are there? There is only one true God.**

5. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Marker at **1 Kings 8:60**. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage. Use the key passage song video for inspiration.

SAY

Kings rule over their country. But God rules over all the earth. Our key passage says, 'May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is God.' All people everywhere can know and worship the one true God!

HINT: You can play the [memory verse song](#) or replay the Verse Video on the TV under [Pre-K Discipleship](#) called **No Other**.

6. PRAY

SAY

God, You are King of everything. May all people around the earth praise You. Thank You for sending Jesus to live, die, and rise again for us so that we can be saved from our sin. Amen.

ACTIVITIES

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH BELOW

1. FOLLOW THE LEADER

Go on a journey through the church building or a hallway. Make sure to let the coordinators know you are going for a walk. Keep volunteers at the front and back of the lines to make sure all preschoolers are all accounted for. Every so often, select a new preschooler to lead the single-file line. Lead the preschoolers back to your classroom.

SAY	Good job following the line leader as we went on a journey through our church! The ultimate leader we should follow is God. Solomon decided not to follow God, and the consequence was that the kingdom would be divided. King Rehoboam also didn't follow God, and Rehoboam's sin divided the kingdom . Sin is disobeying God. Jesus never sinned; He is the best leader. Jesus, our good King, brings together all who trust in Him and welcomes them into His kingdom forever.
------------	--

2. COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents. Check diapers and change if they are dirty then release children by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

TEACHING OUTLINE

ALTERNATIVE TO VIDEO

1. GREET PRESCHOOLERS WITH A SMILE

As preschoolers arrive, sing a song with motions to engage and welcome them. Lead motions enthusiastically and encourage preschoolers to join you. Help the preschoolers think through what it means to worship God.

2. STORY SCRIPT

THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

King Solomon ruled over all the people **in Israel**. **At first, Solomon was a good king and listened to God. But later, Solomon stopped obeying God.** This made God sad. **God told Solomon, "Because you did not listen to me, I'm going to split your kingdom.** Only one part will go to your son, and the rest will be ruled by a different king."

After Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became the new king. But the people didn't trust him; they liked a man named Jeroboam. Jeroboam and the people went to Rehoboam and said, "King Solomon made life very hard for us. If you are kind to us and make things easier, we will be happy to have you as our king."

Rehoboam told them, "Come back in three days, and I will tell you what I decide."

Rehoboam talked to some wise men who used to help his dad. **They told him, "If you are kind to the people and help them, they will follow you."**

But Rehoboam did not want to listen to the wise men. Instead, he asked his friends what to do. They told him, "You should be even tougher than your dad! Tell the people you're in charge, and things will be even harder for them now."

Three days later, Jeroboam and **the people came back to hear what Rehoboam had decided.** **Rehoboam said, "I'm the king, and you have to do what I say! If you thought my dad was tough, I'm going to be even tougher!"**

The people didn't like that, so they made Jeroboam their king instead. Now there were two kings: Rehoboam was the king of Judah, and Jeroboam was the king of Israel.

Story Telling Tips

- **Form two groups:** Pause the story after revealing the kingdom was divided and instruct the children to form two groups. Tell them that is what a divided kingdom is. When the people form different groups.
- **Listen up:** Invite preschoolers to cup their hands around their ears every time they hear the word "listen."

3. CHRIST CONNECTION

Rehoboam made a wrong choice, and God's people split into two groups. But Jesus, our good King, brings together all who trust in Him and welcomes them into His kingdom forever.