



Week 15 (04/21/24)

I & II Kings

Under The Influence

I and II Kings are books about a bunch of kings who had authority to do pretty much whatever they wanted and most of them took advantage of the authority they had been given. In fact, out of the 39 kings mentioned in these two books, only 8 were pleasing to God and 31 the Bible describes as evil. All 19 kings of Israel were evil and 12 out of the 20 kings of Judah were evil.

Read **I Kings 3:3-13**

Very similar to our walk with God, Solomon starts off on the right foot with his focus on following God's law. The nation of Israel is at the top of the mountain and Solomon is leading them with humility and understanding until we get to chapter 11.

Discuss - ways in which we can set a strong foundation in our relationship with Christ and what elements are needed to remain consistent.

Read **I Kings 11:1-13**

Solomon allowed himself to be distracted by his obsession with foreign wives, and this distraction then led to building statues, shrines and temples to these foreign gods. He began his reign being completely devoted to God, and then allows himself to be influenced by others to the point of honoring false gods (Satan).

Discuss - How Solomon's choice of companions and influences contributed to his decline. Reflect on the importance of discernment in choosing those that we allow to speak into our lives and the potential consequences of surrounding ourselves with the wrong people.

Discuss - moments in your life when you felt God's influence or prompting. How did you respond? How can we cultivate a greater openness to God's influence in our lives?

Discuss - the influences present in your own life. Who or what are the primary influencers shaping your thoughts, beliefs, and actions?

Reflect on instances where you have been influenced by others, either positively or negatively. What lessons can you draw from these experiences?

Read **II Kings 6:8-10**

Finally, in this passage in II Kings, we find Elisha INFLUENCING the King of Israel who is at war with the Syrians. Not only do we need to be careful about who is influencing us, but how are we influencing others.

Discuss - Consider the responsibility of influencing others in your sphere of influence, whether it's family, friends, or colleagues. Discuss ways in which you can intentionally lead others toward God rather than away from Him?

Close in Prayer

Upcoming Events: [Click Here for the FSWeekly](#)

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| WorldView Wednesdays | - | Wednesday at 6:30. |
| Blessing Bag Event | - | April 26th @ 6:00 pm |
| Ladies Event | - | May 3rd @ 6:30 |
| Parent/Child Dedication | - | May 12th During BOTH Services |
| Global Impact Gift Baskets | - | Complete by May 5th |
| Global Impact Mission Classic | - | Monday, May 20th |