

Scriptures from New International Version unless noted

Pay Attention to Voices of Wisdom

Genetic fallacy - when somebody discounts the reliability of information based on the source rather than the merits of the information.

Week 1: **Pay attention to the tension**
Week 2: **Pay attention to your narratives**
Today: **Pay attention to the voices of wisdom around you**

KEY POINT:
Our worst decisions are *always* preceded by a series of unwise decisions.

Now Jeroboam was a man of standing, and when Solomon saw how well the young man did his work, he put him in charge of the whole labor force.

I Kings 11:28

About that time, Jeroboam was going out of Jerusalem and Ahijah the prophet of Shiloh, met him on the way wearing a new cloak.

I Kings 11:29

...and Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces. Then he said to Jeroboam, “Take ten pieces for yourself, for this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘See, I am going to tear the kingdom out of Solomon’s hand and give you ten tribes.’”

I Kings 11:30-31

“But for the sake of my servant David and the city of Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, he will have one tribe.”

I Kings 11:32

Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had gone there to make him king. When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard this (he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), he returned from Egypt. So they sent for Jeroboam and he and the whole assembly of Israel went to Rehoboam and said to him: “Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but now lighten the harsh labor and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you.”

I Kings 12:1-4

Rehoboam answered, “Go away for three days and then come back to me.” So the people went away.

I Kings 12:5

Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime.

I Kings 12:6

“How would you advise me to answer these people?” “If today, you will be a servant to these people, and serve them and give them a favorable answer, they will always be your servants.”

I Kings 12:6-7

QUESTION:
Whose advice are you currently ignoring?

But Rehoboam rejected the advice that the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him.

I Kings 12:8

KEY POINT:
The problem with always doing what you want to do is you eventually arrive at precisely where you don’t want to be.

“These people have said to you, ‘Your father put a heavy yoke on us but make our yoke lighter.’ Now tell them, ‘My little finger is thicker than my father’s waist.’”

I Kings 12:10

“My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I’ll scourge you with scorpions.”

I Kings 12:11

The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders…

I Kings 12:13

“My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it heavier. My father scourged you with whips, I will scourge you with scorpions.” …When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king. “What share do we have in David, what part in Jesse’s son? To your tents, Israel! Look after your own house, David!”

I Kings 12:14, 16

So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

I Kings 12:19

ACTION ITEM:
Find someone who has nothing to gain and nothing to lose by telling you the truth, and ask them: “What would you do if you were in my shoes?”

THE COMMITMENT:
I will not automatically discount advice based on the source of the advice.