

## WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!)

We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your LIFEgroup. Although you can review it on your own, it will be most useful to you when processed with others!



### FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What do we learn about David as a dad?  
How do you relate to this or how does it help you understand people in general?

2. As we look at the factors that led to Solomon’s fall, what stands out to you? What others would you add?

3. Solomon’s heart was misguided while David’s seem to be on target. What is your heart’s desire right now and how does it align with God’s plan?

4. What do we learn about “secret sin”? Why does God not take the kingdom away from Solomon? What does God take from him and how do you describe it?

5. How did the Holy Spirit lead your thinking through this study and what was most helpful or applicable?



June 17 & 18, 2017 | Solomon’s Decline | 1 Kings 11 | Dennis Miller, pastor

### TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES:

1. Solomon reminds us that there is good and bad in ALL of us.
2. It is not usually the “BIG” sins that destroy a life and a PURPOSE, but the little things that will DERAIL us.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF A DAD’S INVOLVEMENT

1Kings 1:5 Now Adonijah, whose mother was Haggith, put himself forward and said, “I will be king.” So he got chariots and horses ready, with fifty men to run ahead of him. 6 (His father had never rebuked him by asking, “Why do you behave as you do?” He was also very handsome and was born next after Absalom.)

1. King David had been the good EXAMPLE in so many ways, and future kings would be COMPARED to him in the Scriptures for hundreds of years to come.

2. But it seems that David had a GLARING weakness— he was often an ABSENT father.

1Kings 1:6 (His father had never rebuked him by asking, “Why do you behave as you do?” He was also very handsome and was born next after Absalom.)

3. The author of 1Kings indicates to us that this LACK of involvement as a dad was a DRIVING FORCE in the character and action of at least SOME of his sons.

4. King Solomon’s weaknesses in adulthood CANNOT be blamed DIRECTLY on his father, but we do see a PATTERN from father to son which then continues for generations.

**APP:** Children need the interest and INVOLVEMENT of their dads who can instruct, guide, CORRECT and set an example. Be ENGAGED in the interests of your children.

### **THE REASONS FOR THE DECLINE IN SOLOMON'S FAITH**

*1Kings 10:23 King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. 24 The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart. 25 Year after year, everyone who came brought a gift—articles of silver and gold, robes, weapons and spices, and horses and mules.*

Several FACTORS contributed to Solomon's slide away from God which happened over a period of 20 years or more:

1. WEALTH — Solomon has excessive wealth and the ability to do or buy ANYTHING he wanted. There is a SMALL percentage of people who have this blessing and are able to balance it well with their FAITH.

2. BUSYNESS — Solomon is involved in EVERY possible project imaginable and has 550 men to SUPERVISE them.

*1Kings 9:23 They were also the chief officials in charge of Solomon's projects—550 officials supervising those who did the work.*

3. Lack of CONNECTION with God and God's people — It seems that Solomon participated in "holy days" THREE times a year, and then because it was an OBLIGATION.

*1Kings 9:25 Three times a year Solomon sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings on the altar he had built for the LORD, burning incense before the LORD along with them, and so fulfilled the temple obligations.*

4. Misguided HEART — Solomon's heart was after PLEASURE and selfishness, unlike the heart of his father, David.

*Eccl. 2:10 I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my labor, and this was the reward for all my toil.*

*1Kings 8:17 "My father David had it in his heart to build a temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel.*

**APP:** Your heart will FOLLOW your money and your use of time.

*Matt. 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

### **SOLOMON'S SLIDE INTO SIN AND LOSS**

*1Kings 11:1 King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. 2 They were from nations about which the LORD had told the Israelites, "You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods." Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. 3 He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. 4 As Solomon*

*grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 5 He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the LORD; he did not follow the LORD completely, as David his father had done. 7 On a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable god of Moab, and for Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. 8 He did the same for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods.*

1. Initially, Solomon's INTENT was to marry one foreign wife to make an ALLIANCE with a powerful king.

*1Kings 3:1 Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt and married his daughter. . .*

2. But Solomon LOVED foreign women and he accepted MANY as gifts (wives). By marrying these women Solomon broke God's LAW about intermarriage (Ex. 34:15-16); he broke the law of Moses for KINGS (Deut. 17:17); and he showed how important it was for him to be LIKE the surrounding pagan kings.

3. These foreign wives led Solomon into IDOLATRY, and this is a grievous sin as it breaks the COVENANT and therefore, ALL of God's commands (Ashtoreth, Chemosh, Molek).

*1Sam. 15:23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."*

4. This idolatry took away Solomon's great BLESSING from the Lord, Who began raising up ADVERSARIES to the king.

*1Kings 11:14 Then the LORD raised up against Solomon an adversary, Hadad the Edomite, from the royal line of Edom.*

*1Kings 11:23 And God raised up against Solomon another adversary, Rezon . . .*

5. God sent a prophet to begin to DISMANTLE the kingdom of Israel because of Solomon's SIN.

*1Kings 11:29 About that time Jeroboam was going out of Jerusalem, and Ahijah the prophet of Shiloh met him on the way, wearing a new cloak. The two of them were alone out in the country, 30 and Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces. 31 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.*

**APP:** Like Solomon, we probably think that we are "getting AWAY with" our sin, while in reality God is slowly removing His BLESSING and our JOY.

*Num. 32:23 "But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the LORD; and you may be sure that your sin will find you out.*