



STEP UP

March 1, 2015

A Lens of Trust I Kings 12:1-15

INTRODUCTION

Because we all have different backgrounds and experiences, we often find ourselves with different perspectives on difficult topics like trials and unity. But, what if there were a common lens we could all see through and trust in – regardless of our perspective? Let's look deeper into **1 Kings 12** *that we might know a growth of trust in God's holiness, that it might sustain us through troubles and hold our communities together.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read **1 Kings 12:1-15**. Discuss the key players – King Solomon, Jeroboam, and Rehoboam, older men, and young men. If you were Rehoboam, who would you have listened to and why?
2. Pastor Ish says “**God's holiness exceeds everything we will ever say or do.**” What does holiness mean to you? What does it mean to say God is holy? Sanctification is a life progressively being set apart for God. Where does holiness fit into this world and into your world? How did you come to this decision?
3. Share a personal trial which has helped you **grow your trust in God's holiness**. If you can't think of one, share an area of your life where you need to trust more in God's holiness. What makes it so difficult for us to understand God's holiness during trials?
4. A malfunction is living life in ways we weren't created to. What is **Rehoboam's malfunction**? As a consequence of malfunctions, God allows trials in our lives that we may grow. What malfunctions in your life could lead to trials? How can God work in us to defeat malfunctions, bringing hope and healing to our lives resulting a growth of trust?
5. We are able to embrace diversity through God's holiness. How does trusting in God's holiness allow us as the church to embrace diversity? Read **Romans 12**. Where is the balance between embracing and defining diversity, without negating the truth?
6. How does **forsaking God's holiness** attract division? Why does **trusting God's holiness** sustain and hold our communities together? Discuss steps to incorporate the lens of trust into our relationships and situations more frequently. How will this help us know a growth of trust in God's holiness?

CONCLUSION

“Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. **Romans 12:2** NLT