

WHISPERS from God

Peeling back the distractions of everyday life to hear from God.

Flushing Community Church | 5.03.09

:: My BEST Friends Are ::

Think about who some of our best friends would be right now ...

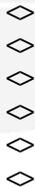
Who will King Rehoboam listen to? [1 Kings 12:1-15]

Personal notes about the experiences of Rehoboam ...

What did Rehoboam do that was right?

Where did he go wrong?

What does a Spiritual Friendship look like?



Who could I approach to be a Spiritual Friend in my life?

Encounter these verses today:

circle words that you identify with, underline phrases or sentences you'd like to remember, write questions about the passage out to the side

Rehoboam's Big Decision (1 Kings 12:1-15 NIV)

Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all the Israelites had gone there to make him king.² When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard this (he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), he returned from Egypt.³ So they sent for Jeroboam, and he and the whole assembly of Israel went to Rehoboam and said to him:⁴ "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."

⁵ Rehoboam answered, "Go away for three days and then come back to me." So the people went away.

⁶ Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime. "How would you advise me to answer these people?" he asked.

⁷ They replied, "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."

⁸ But Rehoboam rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him.⁹ He asked them, "What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, 'Lighten the yoke your father put on us'?"

¹⁰ The young men who had grown up with him replied, "Tell these people who have said to you, 'Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter'-tell them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist.'¹¹ My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.'"

¹² Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam, as the king had said, "Come back to me in three days."¹³ The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders,¹⁴ he followed the advice of the young men and said, "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions."¹⁵ So the king did not listen to the people, for this turn of events was from the LORD, to fulfill the word the LORD had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah the Shilonite.

Digging Deeper this week ...

If you would like to take today's teaching to the next level, start digging!

Ask yourself the following questions ...

- 1) Has God ever spoken to you through the wisdom of others?
- 2) Have you ever ignored the advice of a spiritual friend and regretted it later?

Investigate the truths found in 1 Peter 5:1-11.

- 3) How do these words parallel with Rehoboam's story?
- 4) Do I feel I currently live like this - or do I need to align myself to this way of living more?