



Four Strategies To Build Your Dreams For The Future
(Don't Work Alone)
(Matthew 20:20-21)

Series Summary:

1. Don't Work Alone (Isolationism)
2. Don't Be Confused
3. Don't Be Naive
4. Don't Be Peer Pressured

Text One:

Matthew 20:20: Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him. 21 And He said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to Him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom."

Text Two:

Proverbs 11:14: 14 Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in **the multitude of counselors there is safety.**

Question: Have you isolated yourself?

I. A Life Changing Opportunity For Two Leaders To Work Together
(Rehoboam and Jeroboam)

1Kings 12:1And **Rehoboam** went to Shechem, for **all Israel had gone to Shechem to make him king.** 2 So it happened, when **Jeroboam** the son of Nebat heard it (he was still in Egypt, for he had fled from the presence of King Solomon and had been dwelling in Egypt), 3 that they sent and called him. Then Jeroboam and the whole assembly of Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying, 4 "Your father made our yoke heavy; now therefore, **lighten the burdensome service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us, and we will serve you.**" (NKJV)

1. **Rehoboam** the Son of Solomon has an **opportunity to be king over All of Israel**
2. **Jeroboam** a servant of Solomon has an **opportunity to speak for the average person**

II. Rehoboam Is Given Life Changing Advise From Wise Advisers

1Kings 12:5 So he said to them, "**Depart for three days, then come back to me.**" And the people departed. 6 Then King **Rehoboam consulted the elders who stood before his father** Solomon while he still lived, and he said, "How do you advise me to answer these people?" 7 And they spoke to him, saying, "If you will be a servant to these people today, and **serve them**, and **answer them**, and **speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever.**"

1. He is advised to **serve** the people
2. He is advised to **answer** the people
3. He is advised to **speak good words** to the people

Question: What wise person did you ignore?

III. Rehoboam Makes a Life-Changing and Life-Limiting Decision

1. He rejected the advice of wise and experienced people (They knew Solomon was too rough)

- 1Kings 12:8 But he rejected the advice which the elders had given him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him. 9 And he said to them, “What advice do you give? How should we answer this people who have spoken to me, saying, ‘Lighten the yoke which your father put on us’?”

2. He chose to be abusive and harsh (He assumed he had the authority to be unkind)

- 1Kings 12:10 Then the young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, “Thus you should speak to this people who have spoken to you, saying, ‘Your father made our yoke heavy, but you make it lighter on us’—thus you shall say to them: ‘**My little finger shall be thicker than my father’s waist! 11 And now, whereas my father put a heavy yoke on you, I will add to your yoke; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scourges!**’ ”

3. He implemented the vision of unwise men with no experience

- 1Kings 12:12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had directed, saying, “Come back to me the third day.” 13 Then **the king answered the people roughly, and rejected the advice which the elders had given him; 14 and he spoke to them according to the advice of the young men,** saying, “My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scourges!” 15 So the king did not listen to the people; for the turn of events was from the Lord, that He might fulfill His word, which the Lord had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

Question: Are you living your vision for your life, and saying what you believe, or what someone told you to believe?

4. He convinced people he would not listen

- 16 Now when all Israel saw that the king did not listen to them, the people answered the king, saying: “What share have we in David? **We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your tents, O Israel! Now, see to your own house, O David!**”

5. He forced people to be individualist and isolate themselves from him (He ends up with two tribes)

- So **Israel departed to their tents.** 17 But Rehoboam reigned over the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah. 18 Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was in charge of the revenue; but all Israel stoned him with stones, and he died. Therefore King Rehoboam mounted his chariot in haste to flee to Jerusalem. 19 So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day. 20 **Now it came to pass when all Israel heard that Jeroboam had come back, they sent for him and called him to the congregation, and made him king over all Israel. There was none who followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.**

Note: In reality Jeroboam ended up with two tribes Judah and Benjamin (I Kings 11:31-32)

Next Time: Don’t Be Confused (Know Where You Are Going)