

## JEROBOAM SETS UP GOLDEN CALVES

**Scripture:**  
**I Kings 11:26-39, 12:1-33**  
**Memory Verse:**

**Materials Needed:**  
**Chess board: things happening**

**Objectives:** As a result of this lesson, I want my students

To Know—When Jeroboam was promised the northern kingdom and an enduring house if he followed God, instead of trusting that God was in control of Rehoboam’s decisions, he became fearful and set up two golden calves and an alternative worship system that led the nation away from God.

To Realize—They must trust that God cares for them and is in control of circumstances instead of taking things into their own hands because of fear.

To Respond by—trusting that God is in control and not taking things into their own hands.

### Setting up the Story:

Write the word “Manipulation” on the board. New vocabulary word!

Discuss what it means (manual—by hand...manipulate—to operate or control by skilled use of the hands.) Came to have another meaning: to influence shrewdly or deviously. To tamper with or falsify something for personal gain.

Use chess board to show how to move the pieces “by hand” but also for personal advantage.

Scripture **Telling the story:**

- I. Jeroboam is Promised the Northern Kingdom
  - A. His own attempts at rebelling don’t succeed
  - B. Ahijah comes to Jeroboam
    1. They are alone
    2. Tears new cloak into 12 pieces
    3. Jeroboam takes 10 pieces
  - C. Jeroboam is Given Promises
    1. Ten tribes
    2. Enduring family IF obeys
- II. Rehoboam’s Decisions Are Under God’s Control
  - A. He decides not to listen to people
  - B. Israel Makes Jeroboam King
  - C. Rehoboam turns away from fighting
- III. Jeroboam Institutes False Religion
  - A. He is afraid he will lose the kingdom

**As you tell the story:**

1. If the people offer sacrifices
  2. their hearts will go back to Rehoboam
  3. they will kill Jeroboam
- B. He makes two golden calves
1. Bethel
  2. Dan
  3. Tells Israel these are their gods
- C. He puts in other religious symbols
1. high places vs. temple
  2. priests
  3. feasts
  4. sacrifices

**Concluding the Story:**

Why did Jeroboam manipulate his situation by doing what was wrong?

From FEAR: God won't do what he says. (OR, God won't do it the way I want.)

What could Jeroboam have done? TRUST: God WILL do what He says.

What had God already said to Jeroboam. What did Jeroboam believe about God?

Jeroboam isn't the only one who struggles with fear. Let's say that a student is doing their homework, but they are afraid they are going to do it wrong. What is the temptation? Let's say a student has studied for a test. But they are afraid they won't do well. What is the temptation? Let's say that a student is over at a friend's and they know there is something they shouldn't be watching. But they are afraid if they say, "No." that their friend will think they are a baby. What is the temptation?