

Getting Started

Tell us about a great leader you’ve known, maybe a boss or a coach or a coworker—someone you trusted to guide you.

What makes a good leader?

Why are we drawn to strong leaders? How do they make us feel?

What are the potential hazards of strong leaders?

Into the Bible

Read 1 Samuel 11:1-8. How does King Saul demonstrate his strength as a leader?

How could the same action be understood to show weakness?

How does 1 Kings 3:16-28 demonstrate Solomon’s gifts as a leader?

How do 1 Kings 5:13 and 10:14-29 hint at potential trouble for Solomon’s rule?

Consider 1 Kings 12:1-15. How did the sins of Solomon come to fruition in Rehoboam?

What cautionary tales can we learn about unchecked power from Solomon and Rehoboam?

According to Luke 3:7-9, what kind of king did John expect Jesus to be?

Under what circumstances do you find yourself wishing for that kind of king?

According to Luke 7:20-23, what kind of king is Jesus instead?

Finally, read Ephesians 1:18-23. How did God exert His kingly power?

Where is Jesus now and what is He doing?

Digging Deeper

Why is it easier to trust worldly forms of power than to trust God?