

This week's video is all about the Kings and the Prophets. It covers about 600 years! There is so much great geographical data in these books, but we are highlighting the narratives. You will find this week's video [HERE](#) or here: <https://bit.ly/3snq4bW>

Questions:

1. What did you hear in the video that was new or interesting?
2. Based on the videos and any of your readings so far, what are some of the changes you see in Israelite history and culture? How do you think those changes influenced the faith challenges they encountered?
3. The biblical writers consider leading on behalf of God to be different from leading for political success. What do you think is the difference between the two?
4. There are Israelite kings like Jeroboam II who are on the surface very successful kings. However, the Israelite prophets consider them to be some of the worst kings. How should we understand such critique against Israelite culture? How would those same prophets critique our society today?
5. How would you answer the questions posed at the end of the video? How do you preserve identity when you are a people outside of the land? Where is the hope?

Additional Reading:

1. Take a moment to read Hannah's song in 1 Samuel 2:1–10 and compare it to Psalm 113 and Mary's song in Luke 1. What do you hear these songs pronounce about God's character? What similarities do you hear in the songs?
2. Read 1 Samuel 12 and write down what allusions (direct or indirect) you hear to previous parts of Israelite history we've already covered.
 - A. Read a short summary of Jeroboam II's reign over the northern kingdom of Israel in 2 Kings 14:23–29. It is very understated for the length of time he reigned and for the amount of his accomplishments. Now read the book of Amos to hear God's critique against the northern kingdom of Israel at this time (or at least read Amos 3:12–15; 4:5:10-13; 8:5-6. Make a list of what you hear is "wrong in Israel."
 - B. The prophets always give a summary of what it is that God really wants from his people. See what Amos has in Amos 5:14–15 and his vision of restoration at the end of chapter 9.
3. Read or listen to Psalm 106. How would you describe the purpose of this psalm? What conclusion is this psalm in search for?