Overview of the Old Testament

- 1. What do you hope to get out of this study? What do you know about the events of the Divided Kingdom? What excites you about this section of the Bible? What questions do you have?
- 2. Briefly tell the story of the Old Testament using these five people: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and these five places: Babylon, Canaan, Egypt, Canaan, Babylon. Where do the events of the Divided Kingdom fall within this story?
- 3. Read through 2 Kings 9-25 and 2 Chronicles 22-36 at least once. Don't stop to ask questions. The goal is to get an overall impression of what these chapters are all about. I highly recommend listening to an audiobook (just be sure to pay attention!) or reading from a Bible with no chapter or verse divisions (like the ESV Reader's Bible, Six-Volume Set).

What did you notice as you read? What did you find interesting, surprising, or confusing? How are the accounts in Kings and Chronicles different from each other?

4. Why do you think these stories are important for Christians? Why do you think God decided to include these books in the Bible?

5. Why is it important to read the Bible in context? What are some dangers of failing to do so?

6. Why do you think the books of the Bible we'll be studying are not in chronological order? What challenges does that present for us?

7. What is historical context? How can reading the Bible in its historical context be helpful? Why humility important when discussing historical questions?

8. Watch these two short videos by The Bible Project which give an excellent overview of 1-2 Kings: <u>youtube.com/watch?v=bVFW3wbi9pk</u> and 1-2 Chronicles: <u>youtube.com/watch?v=HR7xaHv3las</u>. What did you learn? How would you outline the books of 1 Kings and 2 Kings?