



Stuff They Didn't Teach Me In Sunday School



Episode 067 - How to Unite a Divided Nation 2 Samuel 2-4

The twelve tribes of Israel were a jealous, divided group that often had difficulty uniting together. They were rather like the twelve sons of Jacob from whom they descended.

- Where do you see those kinds of divisions in your own family or church family?

You can describe David either as a cunning politician or as a peacemaker. He knew the northern tribes were still loyal to Saul's house, and they would resent David being named king by his tribe of Judah to the south. So he punished the assassins of Saul's son Ish-Bosheth and brought Michal back as his wife. By the way, Michal at one time genuinely loved David and even spared his life from Saul her father (1 Samuel 18:20; 19:11-17).

- What political moves might help calm the hurt feelings and reunite your family or church?

Like David before Him, Jesus stepped into a conflict and brought peace. This time the divide was between God and mankind. He turned God's wrath away by suffering in our place on the cross. He turns away our hostility by sharing the Father's love and forgiveness with us.

- How can Jesus' forgiveness ultimately provide the foundation for a peaceful resolution for every division and hostility we face?