



Josiah Gets It Right

2 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 34; Prophets and Kings, pp. 384, 385, 392-406

Have you ever been in a situation where a friend tries to get you to do something you know is not right? How easy is it to say no? Josiah was surrounded by people doing bad things, but he learned to say no and changed a whole country.

King Josiah was not at all like his father, King Amon, or his grandfather, King Manasseh. His grandfather did a lot of evil things. He built places for people to worship false gods and to worship the stars in the sky. He even offered one of his sons as a burnt sacrifice to one of the gods. King Manasseh built strange idols and altars in God's temple. He hurt a lot of people who did not do anything wrong.

While Manasseh was king, the scroll with God's Book of the Law disappeared. The priests were supposed to read from this scroll to the people every day. Without the scroll, the people could not learn about God.

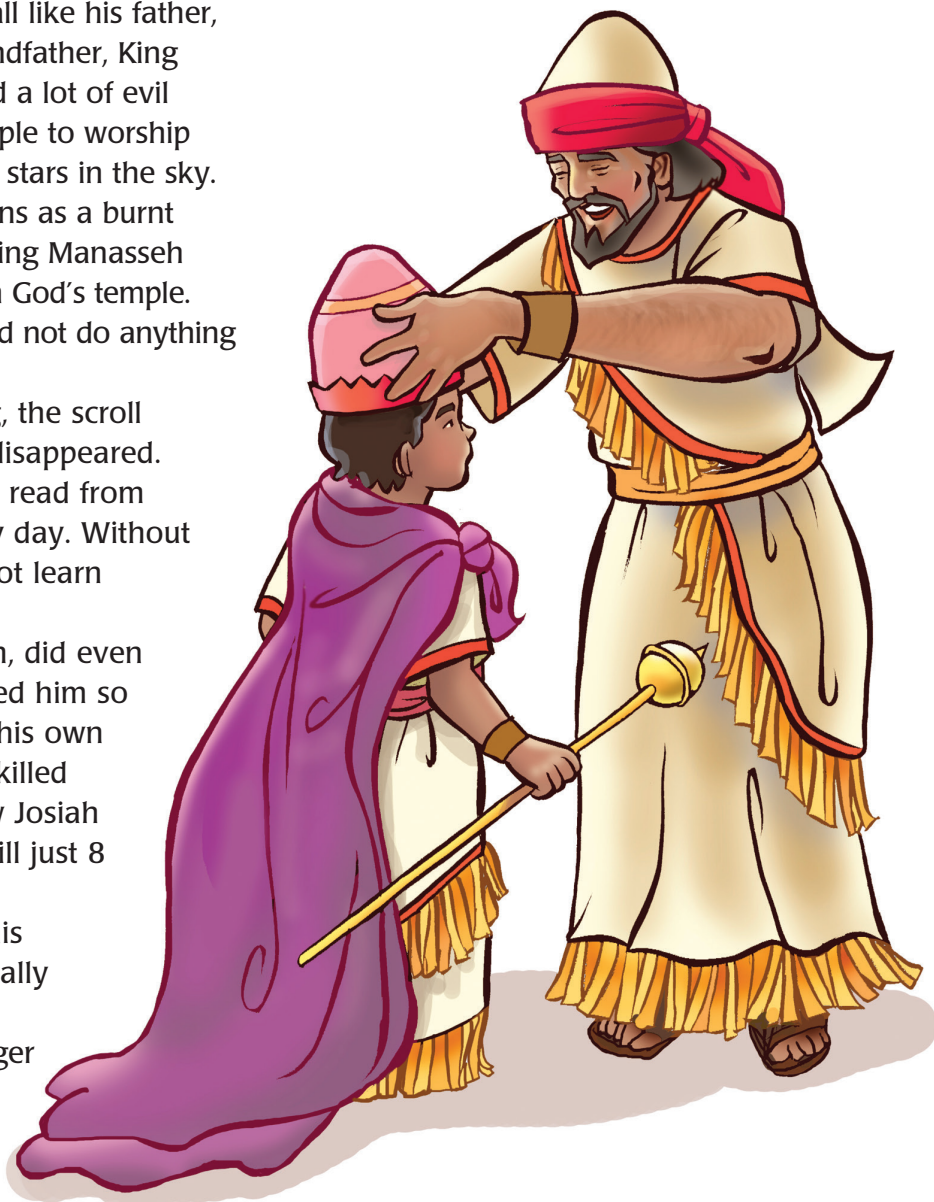
Josiah's father, King Amon, did even worse things. His officers hated him so much that they killed him in his own palace. And then the people killed those officers. And that's how Josiah became king when he was still just 8 years old.

King Josiah was not like his father and grandfather. He really loved God. He always tried to do the right thing. As a teenager he dedicated himself to God.

When King Josiah was 20, he began to get

rid of all the idols and altars to false gods. He destroyed their worship places. He tore down their altars. He had men break up the idols and grind them into powder.

When King Josiah was 26, he decided to



The Message

I can be a good example to others.

Memory Verse

“[Josiah] did what was right in the eyes of the LORD”

(2 Chronicles 34:2, NIV).

purify the land and repair the temple. He sent his royal assistant, Shaphan, to see Hilkiah, the high priest. Before Shaphan left, King Josiah gave him some instructions.

“Tell Hilkiah to gather all the money the gatekeeper-priests have collected from people at the temple,” King Josiah said. “Tell him that this money is to be used to repair the temple. He is to give the money to the builders. They are to pay workers and buy supplies with it.”

Shaphan entered the temple and found Hilkiah. Hilkiah listened carefully to King Josiah’s instructions. Immediately Hilkiah told the gatekeeper-priests to gather the money. The temple would be repaired! At this same time, Hilkiah had news for King Josiah. He said to Shaphan, “I have found the Book of the Law!

“Look at this,” he said, holding up a big scroll and smiling. “It was right here in the temple all along.”

Hilkiah handed the book to Shaphan. Shaphan read a few paragraphs. “The

king needs to see this!” he exclaimed.

“Please take it to him,” said Hilkiah.

And Shaphan did.

Next week we will discover what happened when King Josiah received the long-lost book.



The Bible says Josiah "obeyed the Lord with all his heart, soul and strength" (2 Kings 23:25, International Children's Bible).



S A B B A T H

DO Hide a small object and ask your family to try to find it. Then read the lesson story together.

SHARE If possible, go for a walk near some water. Toss a stone in it and look at the ripples. Ask your family: How are the ripples like our influence?

PRAY Thank God for the good example you have in your family.

S U N D A Y

READ Read and discuss 2 Kings 22 for worship. What did you learn about King Josiah?

MAKE Make a scroll and write your memory verse on it.

DO What is the oldest book in your home?

PRAY Ask God to help you to do what is right.

M O N D A Y

DO Think of Bible stories about things that were lost and found. (See Luke 15.) Make a list to share with your family.

SHARE Make a book by folding four sheets of paper and stapling them together. Write some of your favorite texts in the book and share them at worship.

DO Plan a "good example" surprise for someone today. Ask Jesus to help you.

PRAY Thank God for your family.

T U E S D A Y

READ For family worship, review 2 Kings 22. How did the priests get things to rebuild the temple?

READ Look up 2 Corinthians 9:7. What kind of giver does God want us to be?

DO Find a box or jar and decorate it. Start saving for a special offering for your church.

SING Sing a song of praise at worship and ask God to help you to be a happy giver.

W E D N E S D A Y

SHARE Ask your family whom they admire most and why.

DRAW Draw five things that could become idols for your family. During family worship, talk about how to stop these from becoming idols in your home.

DO Review your memory verse; say it to an adult.

PRAY Ask God to help you make Him the center of your life.

T H U R S D A Y

DO The builders worked to repair God's house. What can you do to help your church be a better place? Make a plan with your family.

DO Have a tug-of-war with your family. How is this like the struggle to do the right thing? With God on our side, who will win? How can we resist sin? (See Philippians 4:13.)

PRAY Pray for strength to resist temptation.

F R I D A Y

DO Act out the lesson story at family worship. Ask your parents to tell about someone who has been a positive influence in their lives.

DO Say your memory verse together.

PRAY Thank God for the Sabbath and for your church family.

Josiah Gets It Right

PUZZLE

Directions: You can learn what was found in the temple after King Josiah ordered that it be cleaned. Cross out every other letter, beginning with the second letter of each word. Copy the remaining letters on the line provided.

