



Dear Teacher,

This week we study the story of King Josiah. Josiah was the last faithful king of Judah who was zealous about the worship of God. The most significant moment in Josiah's story comes when he hears the Book of the Law. Upon hearing it, he tears his clothes to show repentance and contrition for the previous generations unfaithfulness to God. Josiah was known as a king who did what the Lord said was right just as David did. Josiah reinstated the worship of God. The worship of God alone is the central aspect to our story today – God alone is worthy of our worship.

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

## Morning Overview

**Lesson:** *Split:* King Josiah

**Lesson Objective:** To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

**Scripture:** II Kings 22-23; II Chronicles 34-35

**Story:** Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 97 (Pages 223-224); The Gospel Story Bible, Pages 140-141; The Beginner's Bible, pages 238-241.

### Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God alone is worthy of worship.
- Because of Solomon's disobedience, God tore the kingdom apart. There was the southern kingdom of Judah and the northern kingdom of Israel.
- King Josiah followed his father, Amon, to become king of Judah.
- Judah had for some time worshipped idols, but Josiah purged Judah of idol worship and repaired and restored the Temple.
- Josiah wanted to obey the Lord. He had priests and Levites repair the Temple and prepare to lead God's people in the worship of Him again.
- The Book of the Law was discovered in the repair of the Temple. The Law was read to Josiah and upon hearing it he tore his clothes to show his repentance for what had happened in years past.
- Josiah had the people swear to worship and obey God only.
- Josiah not only restored the worship of God, but Passover too. Passover, the reminder of God saving His people in Egypt, had not been observed for quite some time. Josiah knew this was very important for God's people to celebrate.

## 9:30am Sunday Schedule

For the Sunday Schedule, please see "Sunday Schedule for Preschool" found in Handbook on the teacher's table.

### Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 166, 165, 164)

*Craft:* Idol

*Supplies:* Paper plate, cow face, 2 clothespins, glue, crayons/markers

*Instructions:*

1. Color paper plate and cow face
2. Fold paper plate in half
3. Glue cow face to one end of plate
4. Attach clothespins for feet
5. Take cow (idol) apart



### Snack

## 11am Sunday Schedule

*Craft:* King Josiah and the discovered scroll

*Supplies:* Cardstock picture of Josiah, crown, jewels, scroll, glue, crayons/markers

*Instructions:*

1. Color Josiah
2. Glue crown to Josiah's head
3. Glue jewels to crown
4. Roll scroll from each end
5. Glue scroll to Josiah's outstretched hand



**Story:** *Split:* King Josiah

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Boys and girls, today we learn about a boy who became king! He was only eight years old when he became king. What is one thing you would do if you were king or queen? Well let's find out what this eight year old king did...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

### Questions for Review

**Scripture Memory (Jeremiah 31:3)**

**Catechism Questions (1-15)**

**Hymn of the Month: O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go**

**Free Play**

## Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What is the name of the king in our story?
- How old was he when he became king?
- What did Josiah do to the false gods called idols?
- What did Josiah do for the Temple?
- What was discovered in the Temple?
- What did Josiah do when he heard the Book of the Law read?
- What did Josiah have all of Judah and Israel do at the Temple?
- What did Josiah bring back for God's people to observe?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about worshipping God?

## Scripture Memory for March:

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you." Jeremiah 31:3

Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*
- Question 11 - Can you see God? *No; I cannot see God, but He can always see me.*
- Question 12 – Does God know all things? *Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.*
- Question 13 – Can God do all things? *Yes. God can do all His holy will.*
- Question 14 – Where do you learn how to love and obey God? *In the Bible alone.*
- Question 15 – Who wrote the Bible? *Chosen men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.*

## Story

### **Transition**

Boys and girls, today we learn about a boy who became king! He was only eight years old when he became king. What is one thing you would do if you were king or queen? Well let's find out what this eight year old king did...

### **A New King**

When he was eight years old, Josiah [**pronunciation:** joe-si-ah] became king. The Bible tells us he ruled for a very long time (31 years) in Jerusalem. The Bible also tells us something very important about Josiah, "He did what the Lord said was right. He did good things as his ancestor David had done. Josiah did not stop doing what was right." Josiah obeyed God just like King David. Josiah wanted to worship God and do what God said.

When Josiah was twelve years old, he did something very important. Josiah had all the false gods removed from Jerusalem and Judah. Before Josiah became king, a few other kings had the people worshipping false gods called idols. These idols were made from wood and metal; they were not real gods though. These kings did not obey God and did not love God. These kings told the people they did not have to worship God either. But Josiah knew that he and everyone should worship God. Josiah destroyed the places where people worshipped the false gods too. He had them torn down and destroyed so that no one could worship the false gods! Josiah got rid of the false gods, the temples where people worshipped them and the priests of false gods completely.

When Josiah was twenty-six years old, he had the Temple repaired so people could worship God. The Temple was dirty and in bad shape. King Josiah sent messengers who took money that had been given by many people in Judah and Israel to the high priest. The high priest made sure the money was given to the men who worked on the Temple to repair it. The carpenters and builders bought wood and rock to rebuild the temple. The Bible says the men did great work to rebuild the Temple.

### **The Law Is Found**

As the Temple was being repaired, the Levites brought out the money that was in the Temple of the Lord. As they were doing this, the high priest found the Book of the Law. These teachings had been given through Moses, but had not been read in a very long time. In fact, no one knew where the Book of the Law had been! The high priest said to one of the workers, "I've found the Book of the Law! It was in the Temple of the Lord!" The high priest gave the Book to the royal messenger. The royal messenger ran quickly with the book to the king, and told King Josiah: "Your officers are doing everything you told them to do. They have paid out the money that was in the Temple of the Lord. They have given it to the workers." Then the messenger told the king, "The high priest has given me a book." And he read from the book to the king.

When Josiah heard the words of the Law, he tore his clothes to show how upset he was. King Josiah sent orders to the high priest, all the other priests, and to his royal messengers. These were the orders: "Go and ask the Lord about the words in the book that was found. Ask for me and for the people who are left alive in Israel and Judah. The Lord is very angry with us because our ancestors did not obey His word. They did not do everything this book says to do."

The high priests and royal messengers then went to a prophetess (a female prophet) to ask Josiah's question. She said to the high priest, "This is what the Lord says to Josiah, 'I will bring trouble to Judah and to the people living here. I will bring all the curses that are written in the book that was read to the king of Judah. The people of Judah have left me. They have worshipped other gods. They have made me angry by all the bad things they have made. So, I will punish them in my anger. My anger will not be stopped.'"

The prophetess then told the high priest and the royal messenger that God wanted Josiah to know something. She said, "This is what the Lord says about the words you heard: 'Josiah, you heard my words against Judah. And you became sorry for what had been done. You became sorry in my presence. You tore your clothes to show how upset you were. And you cried in my presence. And I have heard you, says the Lord. You will not live to see the terrible things that will happen to Judah and the people living here. You will be buried in peace.'"

The high priest and royal messengers took the message back to the king. After hearing the message, Josiah gathered all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem together. The king, the elders, all the men from Judah and the people from Jerusalem went to the Temple of the Lord. The priests and the Levites and all the people—from the most important to the least important—went with him. King Josiah read to them all the words in the Book of the Law. Josiah stood and made a covenant in the presence of the Lord. Josiah said he would follow the Lord, obey His commands, rules and laws with his whole heart, body and mind. Josiah would only obey the words found in the Law. Then Josiah made all the people promise to do the same. The people of Jerusalem obeyed God. Josiah made sure that not only

was Judah worshipping the Lord, but Israel too. Josiah had all the idols in Israel destroyed. He led everyone in Israel to serve the Lord their God. The Bible tells us that while Josiah lived, the people obeyed the Lord!

**Passover**

Like King Hezekiah before him, Josiah found that God’s people had not celebrated the Passover for quite some time. King Josiah gave a command to all the people. He said, “Celebrate the Passover to the Lord your god. Do it as it is written in the Book of the Law.” No Passover like this one had been celebrated in quite some time. This Passover was celebrated to the Lord in Jerusalem.

Josiah made sure that no one worshipped the false gods in Judah and Israel. He did this to obey God. The Bible tells us that there was no king like Josiah before or after him. He obeyed the Lord with all his heart, soul and strength!