



Session 2: Josiah

Kingdom Kids read God's Word
Kingdom Kids help other people to love God



Bible Story

This story is about one of the greatest kings in the Bible. He was only a boy when he became king, but he grew up to be a man who loved God, loved God's Word and helped people to know God better.

Background

- ◆ Josiah's father and grandfather were both Kings of Judah - but they turned away from God and didn't follow God's laws.
- ◆ At the beginning of today's Bible story, we discover that Josiah was only eight-years-old when he became king of Judah. In a different book in the Bible, we read that, when he was 16-years-old, he began to 'seek after God'. He wanted to love God and put God first in his life. That made a huge difference to the rest of his life and to his reign as king!

Bible Passage - Read 2 Kings 22:1-13 & 23:1-3

Read the passage and/or watch an animated version of the story (links below and on web page).

The story continues...

- ◆ After King Josiah shared God's Word with the people and they all agreed to follow God, things changed in the country. Josiah ordered that all the alters, statues and idols to other gods be destroyed. There were lots of these all over Judah. Josiah wanted to help people love and serve the one, true God.
- ◆ Josiah also brought back the Passover festival, which hadn't been celebrated for many years. This was when the people would remember how God had brought their ancestors out of slavery in Egypt many years before (led by Moses). It was an important way for people to remember their story with 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. He followed all the Teachings of Moses.'

Animated Bible Story

If you'd like to watch an animated version of today's Bible story, you may want to click on either of the following links. Both will take you to external sites with suitable versions of the stories.

(CMSI bears no responsibility for the content on these pages).

Saddleback Kids Animation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbOLxBHhvkA>

Crossroad Kids - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6C4MEXXbBmM>

Flipbuilder Story Book: <https://online.flipbuilder.com/zrww/rbwp/>

**Bible Passage: 2 Kings 22:1-13; 23:1-3** [International Children's Bible]**22****Josiah King of Judah**

Josiah was eight years old when he became king. He ruled 31 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah. Adaiah was from Bozkath. **2** Josiah 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.

3 In Josiah's eighteenth year as king, he sent Shaphan to the Temple of the Lord. Shaphan was the son of Azaliah, who was the son of Meshullam. Shaphan was the royal assistant. Josiah said, **4** "Go up to Hilkiah the high priest. Have him empty out the money the gatekeepers have gathered from the people. This is the money they have brought into the Temple of the Lord. **5** Have him give the money to the supervisors of the work on the Temple. They must pay the men who work to repair the Temple of the Lord. **6** The workers are carpenters, builders and stoneworkers. Also use the money to buy timber and cut stone to repair the Temple. **7** They do not need to report how they use the money given to them. They are working honestly."

The Book of the Law Is Found

8 Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the royal assistant, "I've found the Book of the Teachings. It was in the Temple of the Lord." He gave it to Shaphan, who read it.

9 Then Shaphan the royal assistant went to the king and reported to Josiah, "Your officers have paid out the money that was in the Temple of the Lord. They have given it to the workers and supervisors at the Temple." **10** Then Shaphan the royal assistant told the king, "Hilkiah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read from the book to the king.

11 The king heard the words of the Book of the Teachings. Then he tore his clothes to show how upset he was. **12** He gave these orders to Hilkiah the priest and Ahikam son of Shaphan. He also gave them to Acbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan and Asaiah. Shaphan was the royal assistant. And Asaiah was the king's servant. These were the orders: **13** "Go and ask the Lord about the words in the book that has been found. Ask for me and for all the people and for all Judah. The Lord's anger is burning against us because our ancestors did not obey the words of this book. They did not do all the things written for us to do!"

23**The People Hear the Law**

Then the king gathered all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem together. **2** He went up to the Temple of the Lord. All the men from Judah and Jerusalem went with him. The priests, prophets and all the people—from the least important to the most important—went with him. He read to them all the words of the Book of the Agreement. That book was found in the Temple of the Lord. **3** The king stood by the pillar. He made an agreement in the presence of the Lord. He agreed to follow the Lord and obey his commands, rules and laws with his whole being. He agreed to do what was written in this book. Then all the people promised to obey the agreement.