Lesson #2-12

JOSIAH FINDS THE SCROLL

2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3

KIDS PK-2ND NL

Key Verse:

[Josiah] did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.
2 Kings 22:2

The Point:

We are called to repent when we discover our sin.

Making Connections:

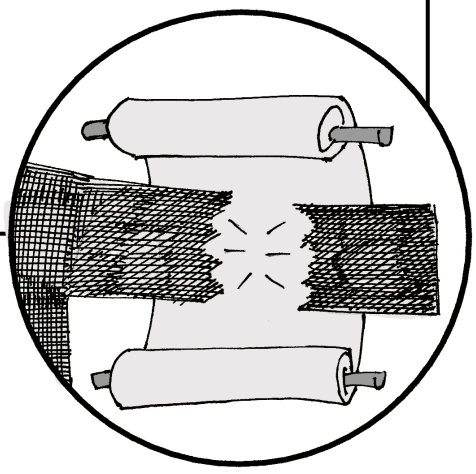
Our Sin, God's Faithfulness

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

What Is a Covenant?

Spiritual Practice:

Fellowship



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ACTIVITIES A LA CARTE

ACTIVITIES		SUPPLIES
STORY CENTERS (PK-K)	15 MIN.	
LOOKING FOR TREASURE Search through sand.		† Plastic containers † Sand † Play gold coins, acrylic gems, play jewelry, etc. † Toy shovels or cups
WORDS, WORDS, WORDS Play with letters.		† Magnetic board † Magnetic letters
REBUILDING THE TEMPLE Create with blocks.		† Building blocks
INTO THE STORY (PK-2ND)		
FINDING HIDDEN TREASURE Guess what is in the box.	5 MIN.	† Bible † Optional: treasure box
BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS (1ST-2ND)		
WHAT IS A COVENANT? Make a craft to remember promises.	10 MIN.	† Story Bible † Craft sticks † Markers or crayons † Glue † Yarn

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ACTIVITIES A LA CARTE

LEARNING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

SHARING THE WORD — 10 MIN.
Active play for the story.

- † Scroll

LIVING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

SHARE THE WORD, PART 2 — 10 MIN.
Tell others about God.

- † None

SINGING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

JOSIAH FOUND THE WORD — 5 MIN.
Sing a piggyback song to the tune of "The Joy of the Lord."

- † Optional: Internet-connected device

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

CREATE MY OWN SCROLL (PK-2ND) — 10 MIN.
Make a craft with words and images.

- † Activity Sheet #2-12.A
- † Strips of paper
- † Markers or crayons
- † Ribbon
- † Scissors
- † Tape

FINDING THE LIGHT (1ST-2ND) — 15 MIN.
Play a game about sharing the light.

- † Flashlight
- † Optional: window-darkening materials

DON'T DROP THE BALL (1ST-2ND) — 10 MIN.
Play a game about promises.

- † Assorted balls

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ACTIVITIES A LA CARTE

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

BIBLE BOOK (PK-2ND)

5 MIN.

Optional ongoing activity.

- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- † Card stock or plain paper
- † Pens
- † Markers or crayons
- † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

SENDING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

5 MIN.

- † The Story @ Home

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BACKGROUND FOR TEACHERS

Making Connections

In our last lesson, we read a prophecy from Isaiah in which Israel is depicted as a vineyard that produces bad fruit. Israel struggled with many unfaithful kings. Here, though, we find an exception to that pattern: Josiah, who restored the temple and enacted reforms to bring Israel back into covenant with God.

Story Summary:
Josiah Finds the Scroll

The passage tells us that Josiah was already a faithful king before he found the scroll. In fact, it is because he had ordered that the temple be restored that the scroll was recovered in the first place. Josiah is careful to validate the authenticity of the scroll and then is quick to bring it to the attention of the nation of Judah. He seeks to renew Israel's promise to be faithful to God, also understanding that God will be faithful to God's promise to protect and increase Israel. Josiah shows himself not only to be a faithful follower of God but also an able leader of Israel. He recognizes that the gift of enlightenment is not something he should keep to himself, but that should be shared with his people.

The Point

We are called to repent when we discover our sin. Josiah leads the people through a time of ritual remembrance, reciting to them God's promises and reminding them of their own. The people are moved by this worship experience and recommit themselves to serving God. Even when we realize that we have wandered far away from God, God is always waiting for us to return.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:
What Is a Covenant?

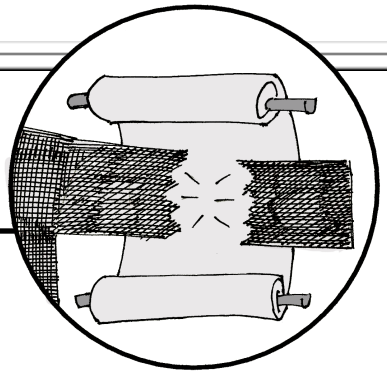
Covenants occur throughout the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and in the New Testament. Covenants are agreements that can be between two people, two groups, or God and an individual or group. Many covenants are between someone who holds power over the other person or group. The powerful person usually offers protection and other things in exchange for loyalty. Covenants between God and an individual or group follow this pattern. God offers someone or a group a promise in exchange for following God's law.

Spiritual Practice: Fellowship

We live together in community. Sometimes that community sins and falls away from God; at other times, the community helps us to stay accountable and reminds us of our relationship with God. Reminding each other about God's promises during the dark times is an important benefit of being in fellowship with our church family.

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LESSON PLAN



STORY CENTERS (PK-K; 15 MINUTES)

Story Centers are mini-activities designed specifically for preschool and kindergarten students. Depending on the size of your class, you can set these up as centers for in-class rotations or do them as a whole class one after another. In most preschool and kindergarten classes, these centers along with a snack, the "Learning the Story" activity, and the "Living the Story" activity will fill the education time, but feel free to choose any activity you think would be fun and appropriate for your class.

LOOKING FOR TREASURE

Prepare plastic containers by filling them with sand and placing treasures within (gold coins, acrylic gems, play jewelry). Provide little shovels or cups for the students to dig for buried treasure. This connects to Josiah's discovery of the hidden treasure of the scroll in the temple.

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS

Provide a magnetic board and letters. Allow students time to spell words they know or even make up some of their own. This connects to the Word that God writes both in Scripture and in our hearts.

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

Provide building blocks and allow the students time for free play. This connects to Josiah's intention to repair the temple.

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INTO THE STORY (PK-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

FINDING HIDDEN TREASURE

Guess what is in the box.

You will need:

- Bible
- Optional: treasure box

During class:

1. **Today we are talking about finding hidden treasure.** Show them the box if you have one or ask them to imagine a treasure chest. **What would you think might be found inside a treasure chest?** Allow answers. **Those are all really great answers. We might expect to find jewels or money, or maybe expensive antiques or clothes. What we do know is that you put very important and precious things in treasure boxes.**
2. **What if I told you that the treasure in this box was a piece of paper? Would you think that was very valuable?** Allow answers. **We do not really think of paper as being a treasure, do we? We can go to the store and buy a whole package of paper. So, what might make a piece of paper valuable?** Allow answers. **Maybe it has an autograph of a famous person, or it is an old historical document which belongs in a museum.**
3. **In today's lesson, we are talking about another piece of paper which was a treasure. This paper was valuable because it was a scroll which had God's promise written on it. When King Josiah found this scroll, he knew it was very valuable because it would remind the people of Israel that God loved them and that they needed to put their trust in God.**

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BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS (1ST-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

WHAT IS A COVENANT?

Make a craft to remember promises.

You will need:

- Story Bible
- Craft sticks
- Markers or crayons
- Glue
- Yarn

During class:

1. **What does it mean to keep a promise?** *[To do what you say you are going to do.]* **This year we have heard a lot of stories about God keeping promises. We sometimes hear the word "covenant" instead of "promise" in the Bible, but they mean similar things. What are some of the promises that God kept?** You may want to page through the pictures in a story Bible to help students remember the stories. *[Sarah and Abraham had a baby, God stays with God's people, the rainbow in Noah's story, Jesus is born.]*
2. **Sometimes it can be hard to keep a promise. What are some promises that might be hard for you to keep?** *[Clean my room, help with chores, do homework, be nice to my sibling, listen to parents.]*
3. **We are going to make a star to take home that can help us remember to keep our promises.** Give each student five craft sticks. **On each one of these sticks, you will write or draw a picture of a promise that you want to keep. When you are done, you will glue them all together in the middle making a star or snowflake shape. If you would like, you can tie yarn on it so you can hang it when you get home.**
4. **Keep your promise star in your room to help you remember to keep your promises.**

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LEARNING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

SHARING THE WORD

Active play for the story.

You will need:

- ✝ Scroll

During class:

1. Begin by dividing the students into four groups: Carpenters, Priests, Royals, and Prophets. Line them up across your classroom space, creating a relay line. Make sure you plant the scroll at the end of the classroom where the Carpenters are waiting. Explain that the groups will play different parts in the play and they are to follow your lead.
2. **Today we are talking about King Josiah, who was a very good king of Judah. He loved God and wanted to show God how much. So, King Josiah decided it was time to make the temple beautiful again. He sent a group of carpenters to get to work.** Cue the Carpenters to pretend to work at the temple, pretending to hammer and saw and build. **Suddenly one of the Carpenters discovered something special: a scroll!** Cue the Carpenters to pick up the scroll. **They did not know what it was, but they knew it was important. They gave the scroll to the Priests.** Have the Carpenters pass the scroll down the line, so each one touches it, passing it to the Priests.
3. **The Priests looked at the scroll too. They did not really know what it was, but they knew all sorts of important things were kept in the temple. They decided they needed to take it to the King.** Cue the Priests to pass the scroll down to the Royals, each one handling it.
4. **When the scroll came to the palace, King Josiah and his counselors looked at it. King Josiah thought it might be a scroll containing the Word of God. But he was not sure. He brought the scroll to the Prophets to check out.** Cue the Royals to pass the scroll down to the Prophets.
5. **The Prophets received the scroll, and they examined it. One female prophet, named Huldah, said that this was the Word of God, and that it should be shared with everybody. She gave it back to the King.** Cue the Prophets to pass it back to the Royals.
6. **The King was excited that this was the Word of God, so he asked the Priests to call all the people together.** Cue the Royals to pass the scroll to the Priests.

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7. **The Priests were happy to let everyone know that they had found the Word of God, and so they called all the people together.** Cue the Priests to pass the scroll to the Carpenters. **The King read the Word of God out loud so that everyone could hear. Everyone remembered how much God loved them and decided they would serve God more faithfully.**

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LIVING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

SHARE THE WORD, PART 2

Tell others about God.

You will need:

- Nothing

During class:

1. **One of the ways that we can grow together as a class is by being open and telling each other the stories we know about God, and about how we see God acting in our own lives. Just like the people shared God's word when they found the scroll, we can share God's word with each other through our own words and stories.**
2. **I want you to think of a time when you saw God in your life, or think of your favorite Bible story. We are going to go around our class and give everyone a chance to share their story. When each person is finished, we will respond with, "Thank you for sharing God's story."**
3. Allow students time to share. Cue the response after each person finishes.

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SINGING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

DANCE AND SING

Sing a piggyback song to the tune "The Joy of the Lord."

If you do not already know this song, search the Internet to become familiar with it.

Josiah found the Word and then he shared with all,
Josiah found the Word and then he shared with all,
Josiah found the Word and then he shared with all,
So all of God's children could hear!

The people heard the Word and then they thanked their God,
The people heard the Word and then they thanked their God,
The people heard the Word and then they thanked their God,
And promised they would only worship God.

I have heard the Word and now I shout with joy!
I have heard the Word and now I shout with joy!
I have heard the Word and now I shout with joy!
I know that God is with me every day.

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ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

CREATE MY OWN SCROLL (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

Make a craft with words and images.

You will need:

- Activity Sheet #2-12.A
- Strips of paper
- Markers or crayons
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Tape

Before class:

1. Make a copy of Activity Sheet #2-12.A for each student.

During class:

1. **In our story, the builders were surprised to find the scroll in the temple. Today we are going to make little "good news" scrolls for our family and friends, so they can find them and be surprised as well.** Hand out Activity Sheets and crayons or markers.
2. Invite students to choose which words they might want to include on their scrolls, and allow them to cut out the words. Invite them to tape the words on the scroll and decorate with pictures. Remind them that we want our scrolls to share God's good news. Then ask them to pick someone who might need to see the scroll this week. Help them think of a place they might hide the scroll so that person will find it. Close by passing out pieces of ribbon to tie up the scrolls.

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FINDING THE LIGHT (1ST-2ND; 15 MINUTES)

Play a game about sharing the light.

You will need:

- Flashlight
- Optional: window-darkening materials

Before class:

1. If you do not have an interior room to use, prepare your space by covering windows to make the light dimmer. Be sure it is not too dark, so as not to frighten more timid students. Also make sure you have fresh batteries in your flashlight.

During class:

1. **We are going to play a game called "Finding the Light." We are all going to go into this darkened room and search for a flashlight that I have hidden somewhere. But the object of the game is not just to find the flashlight, but to gather everyone else together when you do, so everyone can get safely out of the room at the same time.**
2. Allow the students time to play. You might even allow them to do multiple games if you have time, perhaps allowing students to take turns hiding the light themselves.
3. **What did we learn from this game?** Allow all answers, but be prepared to add a few key points. **The flashlight was like the Word of God, helping us find our way when things were dark. When someone found the flashlight, they shared it with everyone else, just like Josiah did. Our goal as Christians is to walk in God's light and to help others do the same.**

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DON'T DROP THE BALL (1ST-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

Play a game about promises.

You will need:

- Assorted balls

Before class:

1. Gather balls of assorted sizes and weights.

During class:

1. **Today we are going to play a simple ball game. Invite students to stand in a circle. The object of the game is to pass this ball around the circle without dropping it. We are going to do this more than once, so pay attention to who throws the ball to you and who you throw it too, because you will need to throw and catch it in the same order each time.**
2. Have students throw one ball all the way around the circle to get the hang of it.
3. **Now we are going to play again, but we are going to add another ball. Pay attention, and do not drop the ball!**
4. Continue playing and adding balls until students get too frustrated or you run out of time.
5. **This game is a lot like keeping promises. We are all relying on each other to make the game work, but sometimes someone makes a mistake and drops the ball. That is what happens when we are counting on someone to keep a promise and they do not. We are disappointed because we are all relying on that person.**
6. **We may not be able to keep all of our promises, but God always keeps promises. Even when we make mistakes and do the wrong thing, God is always there to help us out and keep God's promises.**

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BIBLE BOOK (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

Optional ongoing activity.

You will need:

- Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- Card stock or plain paper
- Pens
- Markers or crayons
- Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

Before class

1. Make copies of this week's Bible Book page on card stock or copy paper for each student.

During class:

1. Hand out Bible Book pages.
2. Read the bottom of the Bible Book page aloud, reminding students of what they learned in the lesson.
3. Have them put their names on their pages, and draw a picture of something they particularly liked or remember from story in the middle of the page.
4. Optional: Collect and three-hole punch the pages, and put them in individual binders for each student to be kept at church until the end of the year. If you wish, you can investigate other options for binding the Bible books through a local print shop at the end of the year instead of using a three-ring binder.

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SENDING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

PRAYER

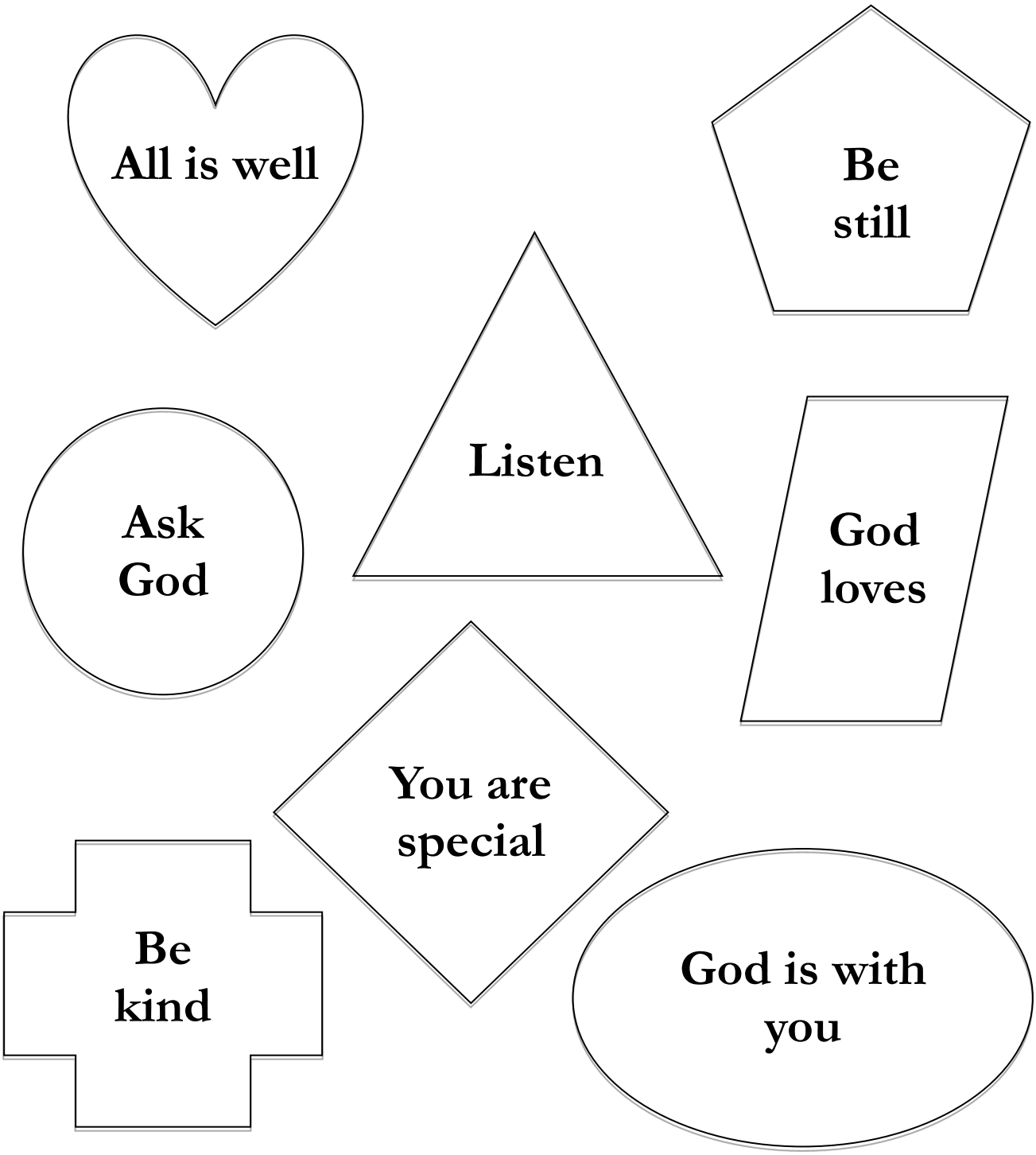
Before ending class, make a point to come together to pray. Use the following or say your own prayer.

Dear God, thank you for the story of Josiah and how he shared your Word with others. Help us to seek your Word in Scripture and in our hearts, so we can have light in our lives, and share it with the world. In your name we pray. Amen.

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CRAFT MY OWN SCROLL

Make a craft with words and images.



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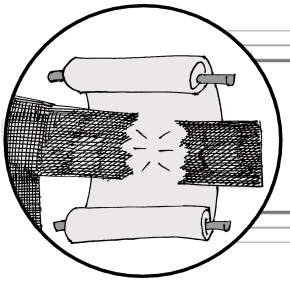
JOSIAH FINDS THE SCROLL

2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3

THE POINT:

We are called to repent when we discover our sin.

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THE STORY @ HOME

KIDS PK-2ND NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

Lesson #2-12
2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3

LAST WEEK

Isaiah uses the image of God as a planter, while Israel and Judah are the vineyard (Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5).

THIS WEEK

King Josiah's faithful reforms bring the people of Judah back to the worship of their God (2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3).

STORY SUMMARY

Josiah was already a faithful king before he found the scroll. In fact, it is because he had ordered that the temple be restored that the scroll was recovered in the first place. Josiah is careful to validate the authenticity of the scroll and then is quick to read it to the nation of Judah. He seeks to renew Israel's promise to be faithful to God, also understanding that God will be faithful to God's promise to protect and increase Israel. Josiah shows himself not only to be a faithful follower of God but also an able leader of Israel.

PRACTICE: FELLOWSHIP

We live together in community. Sometimes that community sins and falls away from God; at other times, the community helps us to stay accountable and reminds us of our relationship with God. Reminding each other about God's promises during the dark times is an important benefit of being in fellowship with our church family.

THE POINT

We are called to repent when we discover our sin.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

What Is a Covenant?

Covenants occur throughout the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and in the New Testament. Covenants are agreements that can be between two people, two groups, or God and an individual or group. Many covenants are between someone who holds power over the other person or group. The powerful person usually offers protection and other things in exchange for loyalty. Covenants between God and an individual or group follow this pattern. God offers someone or a group a promise in exchange for following God's law.

NEXT WEEK

The prophet Jeremiah looks to the future with hope, even though the destruction and disaster prophesied by Huldah is about to happen (Jeremiah 33:14-18).

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TRY IT @ HOME

Lesson #2-12
2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- In what way does this text teach about the theme of Our Sin, God's Faithfulness?
- What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 2 Kings 22:1-10 Josiah finds the scroll. Discuss Scripture passages that are particularly special to you, or those which have helped you in difficult times in your life.
Monday—Read 2 Kings 22:11-20 Huldah the prophetess. Talk about one person who has helped you understand God's word.
Tuesday—Read 2 Kings 23:1-3 A renewed covenant. What promise have you made that you may have forgotten about or not kept? Recommit to keeping that promise.
Wednesday—Read 2 Kings 23:4-6 Cleaning out the temple. Clean up the room as you read this story.
Thursday—Read 2 Kings 23:21-25 The Passover reinstated. Talk about your favorite family tradition.
Friday—Read 2 Kings 25:1-7 The city falls. Act out this story with stuffed animals.
Saturday—Read 2 Kings 25:8-17 The temple is destroyed. Build a temple with blocks and knock it down.

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