



**Let the children tell other examples** of how God has used His Word to guide His people.

**Poem.** Let several children each recite one or two verses from Psalm 119: 1-2 and 9-11.

**Let older children write** a poem or song about the way God's Word helps us.

Let the younger children **memorize** 2 Timothy 3:16 and the older ones 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

**Prayer:** "Father God, Your Word guides us and comforts us. Help us to understand your words so that we can obey them and rejoice in them."



## Good King Josiah Obeyed God's Word

**Prayer.** "Dear Lord, please help the children to trust and respect Your Word."

**Choose** learning activities that fit the children's ages, needs and level of spiritual growth.

Prepare to teach the story of the boy king Josiah.

**Read 2 Chronicles 34:1-21 & 29-33.** This text tells how valuable it is to obey the Bible.



Let an older child **read or tell the story** from memory. Then ask these questions. *[The answers appear after each question.]*

- What did King Josiah do with the idols and altars of false gods? *[See verses 3-4]*

- Where did the priest Hilkiah find the Book of the Law of God? [Verse 15]
- What did the king do to show that he was grieved, when he read the Word of God and found out that his people had disobeyed it? [Verse 19]
- What did the people agree to do together after they heard God’s Word? [Verse 32]
- Did the people follow their king’s example of obeying God’s Word? [See verse 33]

#### Activities

- For younger children: Hide a Bible somewhere and have the children find it. Then explain that this was what happened when Josiah was king.
- For older children (if they have Bibles): Say the book, chapter and verse number of a few Bible passages and let the children find them in the Bible as quickly as they can. This will help them to learn where things are found in the Bible.

#### Dramatize parts of the story of King Josiah.

- Arrange with the leader of the main congregational worship to have the children present this drama.
- Let the older children help the younger ones to prepare.
- Let **older children** or adults play the parts of Josiah, Hilkiah, and the Narrator who summarizes the story and helps the children to remember what to say and do.
- Let the **younger children** play the parts of Workers and People. Workers have a book hidden under papers on a table or chair. People have piles of stones for altars, small rocks for coins, and a small box.

**Narrator.** Tell the first part of the story from 2 Chronicles 34:1-21.

Then say, “Hear what King Josiah says to the people.”

**Josiah.** “People of Israel, we make the Lord angry with our idols. Let us destroy them!”

**People.** Knock over the stone altars.

**Josiah.** “We must repair God’s Temple. Who will give money for this huge work?”

**People.** Put the ‘coins’ in the box. Say, “We give our offerings to repair the Temple!”

**Workers.** Take the money and pretend to build. Find the book and give it to Hilkiah.

**Hilkiah.** “Look, King Josiah! See what we found in the Temple! It’s God’s Law. But we have not done what it says. We have disobeyed God!”

**Josiah.** Look at the book for a moment. Then say, “Call all the people together! They must hear what God says. We need to ask God to forgive our disobedience to His law!”

**People.** “You are a good king! We will follow your example!”

**Older child or adult.** When the drama is over, thank everyone who helped.

**Questions.** If the children dramatize this story for the adults, let them also ask the adults the questions listed above.

**Draw** a Bible and let the children copy it. Older children might want to draw a child holding a Bible next to their heart.

- Let the children show their pictures to the adults during the worship time.
- Have the children explain that this illustrates how we love God’s Word and think about it all the time.