

## Lessons From A Kid King

### 2 Kings 22 & 2 Chronicles 33 & 34

#### **L1: God's call can be more influential than a bad past.**

📖 2 Chronicles 33:21–25 (NIV) “Amon was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem two years. <sup>22</sup> He did evil in the eyes of the Lord, as his father Manasseh had done. Amon worshiped and offered sacrifices to all the idols Manasseh had made. <sup>23</sup> But unlike his father Manasseh, he did not humble himself before the Lord; Amon increased his guilt. <sup>24</sup> Amon’s officials conspired against him and assassinated him in his palace. <sup>25</sup> Then the people of the land killed all who had plotted against King Amon, and they made Josiah his son king in his place.”

📖 1 Kings 13:1–2 (NCV) “The Lord commanded a man of God from Judah to go to Bethel. When he arrived, Jeroboam was standing by the altar to offer a sacrifice. <sup>2</sup> The Lord had commanded the man of God to speak against the altar. The man said, “Altar, altar, the Lord says to you: ‘David’s family will have a son named Josiah. The priests for the places of worship now make their sacrifices on you, but Josiah will sacrifice those priests on you. Human bones will be burned on you.’”

📖 Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

#### **L2: One Godly parent can make a huge impact.**

📖 2 Kings 22:1–2 (NIV) “Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. His mother’s name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah; she was from Bozkath. <sup>2</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.”

#### **L3: God uses young people to lead people back to Him.**

📖 2 Chronicles 34:3a (NIV) “In the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David.”


📖 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV) “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.”


📖 2 Chronicles 34:3b-5 (NIV) “In his twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of high places, Asherah poles, carved idols and cast images. <sup>4</sup> Under his direction the altars of the Baals were torn down; he cut to pieces the incense altars that were above them, and smashed the Asherah poles, the idols and the images. These he broke to pieces and scattered over the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. <sup>5</sup> He burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and so he purged Judah and Jerusalem.”

#### **L4: We should find and follow God's Word.**


📖 2 Chronicles 34:8 (NIV) “In the eighteenth year of Josiah’s reign, to purify the land and the temple, he sent Shaphan son of Azaliah and Maaseiah the ruler of the city, with Joah son of Joahaz, the recorder, to repair the temple of the Lord his God.”


📖 2 Chronicles 34:14–18 (NIV) “While they were bringing out the money that had been taken into the temple of the Lord, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the Lord that had been given through Moses. <sup>15</sup> Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the Lord.” He gave it to Shaphan. <sup>16</sup> Then Shaphan took the book to the king and reported to him: “Your officials are doing everything that has been committed to them. <sup>17</sup> They have paid out the money that was in the temple of the Lord and have entrusted it to the supervisors and workers.” <sup>18</sup> Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.”


 2 Chronicles 34:19–21 (NIV) “When the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his robes. <sup>20</sup> He gave these orders to Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Abdon son of Micah, Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king’s attendant: <sup>21</sup> “Go and inquire of the Lord for me and for the remnant in Israel and Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the Lord’s anger that is poured out on us because our fathers have not kept the word of the Lord; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written in this book.”


 2 Chronicles 34:29–33 (NIV) “Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup> He went up to the temple of the Lord with the men of Judah, the people of Jerusalem, the priests and the Levites—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord. <sup>31</sup> The king stood by his pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep his commands, regulations and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, and to obey the words of the covenant written in this book. <sup>32</sup> Then he had everyone in Jerusalem and Benjamin pledge themselves to it; the people of Jerusalem did this in accordance with the covenant of God, the God of their fathers. <sup>33</sup> Josiah removed all the detestable idols from all the territory belonging to the Israelites, and he had all who were present in Israel serve the Lord their God. As long as he lived, they did not fail to follow the Lord, the God of their fathers.”

#### **L5: God deserves our complete devotion.**

 2 Kings 22:19–20a (NIV) “Because your heart was responsive and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I have spoken against this place and its people, that they would become accursed and laid waste, and because you tore your robes and wept in my presence, I have heard you, declares the Lord. <sup>20</sup> Therefore I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place.”

 2 Kings 23:25 (NLT) “Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses. And there has never been a king like him since.”

 Mark 12:30 (NCV) “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.”

Were you blessed with Godly parents? Describe your spiritual heritage. What are some common excuses  that people give for their lot in life? What justifications have you used to explain why you haven’t experienced a more meaningful life? Is God or your past more influential in your life? Is God bigger than your problems? Is God stronger than your opposition? Which lesson from Josiah resonated most with you today?