



NOVEMBER 2, 2025

JUDAH'S GOOD KINGS

2 KINGS 18-19; 2 CHRONICLES 14-24

CHRIST CONNECTION

Judah's good kings led the people to God and away from sin. Yet when they died, the people returned to their sinful ways. **Jesus is our good King who died and rose again, and always leads us to God and away from sin.**

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 145:9

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Good kings and evil kings—both were seen throughout the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Depending on who was king, the people would either be led to worship the one true God or led the opposite direction toward idolatry and wickedness.

King Asa sought to do what was good in the eyes of the Lord and removed the places of idol worship. He commanded the people of Judah to worship and obey God. But once Asa died, Ahaziah became king and led the people to once again turn to idolatry. When he died, his mother Athalia made herself queen by force. She ruled as queen for six years and did evil in God's sight.

The priest Jehoiada planned to overthrow the evil queen. His men captured her and made one of Athalia's young sons, Joash, king. Following Jehoiada's lead, Joash tore down the temple of Baal and restored worship in the temple to God alone.

After Joash came King Hezekiah. He also sought to do what was right in the sight of the Lord. After cleaning out the temple so the people could worship, Hezekiah invited Judah and Israel to celebrate the feast of the Passover. Afterward, everyone went back to their towns and destroyed their places of worship to false gods.

When the king of Assyria came to attack Judah, King Hezekiah prayed to God, and Judah was saved. God sent an angel to destroy the Assyrian army.

The last good king of Judah was Josiah. King Josiah was only eight years old when he came into power, but he also did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. Under his rule, the people renewed their covenant with God and remained faithful to Him.

The good kings of Judah led the people to worship the one true God. The Lord raised up kings who would lead Judah to turn away from idolatry and keep His commands. Judah would serve God under the rule of the good kings but returned to their sinful ways after the good kings died. Yet, despite the people's inconsistent worship of the Lord, God proved faithful to preserve His people. The line of Judah would one day give rise to the King of kings, who would make the way for people to worship God in spirit and truth.

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or do the Memory Verse Activity below as a group!

MEMORY VERSE

The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Psalms 145:9, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's Memory Verse bin to review the verse with the kids. A hand motion video is also available to learn and review on your room's TV.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on November 23!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

JUDAH'S GOOD KINGS

The Southern Kingdom of Judah had several good kings who led the people to follow God, worship Him, and turn away from sin.

King Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of God. He removed the places that the people worshiped false gods. He commanded the people of Judah to worship God and obey His laws. Asa rebuilt the altar that was in front of the Lord's temple. Asa and the people of Judah promised to seek the Lord with all their heart and all their soul.

When an enemy army came, Asa prayed, saying, "Lord, we are counting on you to help us. You can give us victory." The Lord answered his prayer, and Asa was loyal to God his entire life.

Years later, a wicked king named Ahaziah (ay huh ZIGH uh) became king over Judah. When Ahaziah died, his mother, Athaliah (ath uh LIGH uh), made herself queen by force. One of Ahaziah's young sons, Joash, was hidden from Athaliah by his sister. Athaliah ruled as queen for six years and did evil in God's sight.

The priest Jehoiada (jih HOY uh duh) made a plan to overthrow Queen Athaliah. They captured her and placed a crown on Joash's head, making him king. Under the leadership of Jehoiada the priest, Joash tore down the temple of Baal and brought back the proper worship of God in the temple. Throughout the time the priest Jehoiada instructed him, Joash did what was right in the Lord's sight.

Many years after Joash, Hezekiah became king over Judah. He did what was right in the Lord's sight just as his ancestor David had done. One of his first acts as king was to clean out the temple so the people could worship and make sacrifices to the Lord. The people brought so many sacrifices that the priests needed help to prepare all the offerings.

Hezekiah invited Judah and Israel to celebrate the feast of the Passover. They enjoyed praising God and feasting so much that they celebrated for two weeks! After the feast, everyone went back to their towns and tore down the altars and places of worship to false gods.

After this, the same king of Assyria who had destroyed Israel came to attack Judah. The Assyrians said, "Do you think your God will save you? All the other kingdoms we defeated thought so, too." King Hezekiah prayed to God, and God sent an angel to destroy the Assyrian army. Judah was saved!

The last good king of Judah was Josiah. Even though he was only eight years old when he became king, he did what was right in the eyes of God. He smashed and tore down the places of idol worship. As he was cleaning out the temple, he found the book of the law from Moses. When Josiah heard the words of the law, Josiah was sad, because the nation was not obeying God's commands. Josiah read the words of the law to all the people at the temple. Then Josiah and the people promised to keep the commands found in the book of the law. The people renewed the covenant with God and stayed faithful to God while Josiah was alive.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Judah's good kings led the people to God and away from sin. Yet when they died, the people returned to their sinful ways. Jesus is our good King who died and rose again, and always leads us to God and away from sin.

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY

Give each kid a piece of red construction paper. Lead kids to draw hearts on their paper, and inside the hearts, write or draw pictures of ways they can worship God. (*Kinder will have pre-cut hearts.*)

Invite kids to share how they can worship God at home, at school, at church, or any other location. For example, kids may write: *I can sing praises at home, or I can help others and show God's love.*

Direct kids to cut out their hearts and tape them to the brown craft paper in the hallway.

CONNECT THE DOTS



King Asa, King Joash, King Hezekiah, and King Josiah led the people to worship God. We are called to worship God too. He is worthy of all worship. Because of Jesus, believers can worship God no matter where they are or what they're doing. Through our thoughts, actions, and words, we can show that we love and value God most of all.

BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Write the following Bible verses on the dry erase board:

- Exodus 34:6
- 1 Samuel 2:2
- Matthew 19:17
- Leviticus 11:45
- Psalm 25:8
- 1 John 4:9-10

Give each kid three index cards and lead them to write *God is holy* at the top of the first card, *God is good* at the top of the second card, and *God is loving* at the top of the third card. Have kids work together to look up the Bible references, then write each reference on the card that best fits the verse.

BONUS ACTIVITY: GRATITUDE CHAIN

Throughout November, we're going to make a gratitude chain to hang in the hallway of the Children's building!

Have kids write things they're thankful for on the provided paper strips and turn them into a paper chain by *stapling* (don't use tape!) loops of paper together.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. Why did the people of Judah fall back into sin when the good kings died?
2. When Josiah read God's law, he learned what God commanded His people. How do we know God's commands?
3. The good kings of Judah worshiped God. How can we worship God?
4. What was the similar message the prophets told the people of Judah?
5. Did the prophets share any message of hope? What?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the "extra time" folder on the TV.

If there's a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!