

[HOMEPAGE]

For families of junior soldiers

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

Josiah— The Boy Who Became King

MEMORY VERSE:

2 Kings 22:2 (NIV)

"Josiah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. He lived the way King David had lived. He didn't turn away from it to the right or the left."

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week. The portion of the memory verse printed in *italics* is the portion of the verse for younger junior soldiers to memorize.

PARENT POINT:

Talk to your child about what it means to be obedient to God. Think about one thing you and your child can do together this week that's pleasing to God.



TODAY IN JUNIOR SOLDIERS, the children began a four-week unit on people in the Old Testament. Each week in this unit junior soldiers will learn about someone from the Old Testament who loved God and served Him faithfully.

In 639 B.C., when Josiah was eight years old, he became king in Jerusalem. He reigned for 31 years. There was no other king like Josiah. The Bible says that Josiah followed the Lord with all his heart, soul, and strength (2 Kings 23:25).

Under the guidance of God, and with the earthly help of his advisor Hilkiah the high priest, Josiah led a movement that caused the greatest revival the people ever experienced since the reigns of David and Solomon.

Before Josiah became king, the Temple had become nothing more than a warehouse. While restoring the Temple, Hilkiah found the lost Book of the Law. He presented it to Josiah, who returned the Word of God to a place of prominence in the Temple. Josiah made a covenant to follow the Lord and obey His commands. He took his responsibilities seriously.

Josiah's reign lasted 31 years. During his reign, he removed the altars, idols, and all symbols of ungodly worship. He destroyed the pagan centers of worship throughout Judah. Josiah reintroduced the teaching of the Law of Moses and lived according to the law. No other earthly king who ruled Judah was as sincere or devout as Josiah.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers understand what it means to be faithful to God. Through the example of Josiah, junior soldiers learned what it means to be responsible, to love God, and to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.