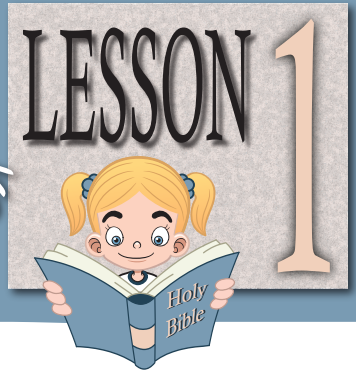


Joash

A Boy King in Judah

2 Kings 11 and 12



Old Testament 8
Part 1: The Divided Kingdom

SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 8 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

2 Kings 11 and 12; 2 Chronicles 22-24; Deuteronomy 15:10; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7b).

OLDER CHILDREN: "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["Giving to Jesus"](#)
- ["Let Us Freely Give"](#)
- ["God Is So Good"](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [The Divided Kingdom 2](#) Bible fact cards (provided under "O.T. 8 Bible Facts")
- "Summary of the Bible" from ["Kids Prep"](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Pictures/drawings from any books listed under 3rd-4th Grader Pre-Class Activities/ Learning Centers
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- ["Map of the Divided Kingdom"](#) (provided in activity sheets)

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

God has blessed me with many, many good things. I will gladly give back to Him so that others can be helped and taught about Jesus.



LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Do all of you know what a king is/what he does? The Bible tells us about a lot of kings and things they did. Today we're going to talk about a boy who was only seven years old when he became king. God blessed him with a wise, older friend to help him until he grew old enough to make important decisions by himself. As a man, he made lots of good choices and was a good king for many years. Let's listen to see how he followed God.

INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

What do you think it would have been like to become a king when you were seven years old? Do you think you would need help from older people? In the Old Testament, there was a boy who became king when he was that young. Because of this boy and his uncle, the nation of Judah stopped worshipping idols and started giving to God as He had commanded. Let's see what we can learn from this story.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. A man named Jehu had been chosen by God to get rid of the wicked King of Judah named Ahaziah [also called Jehoahaz in 2 Chronicles 21:17; 25:23]. Ahaziah was the grandson of the good king, Jehoshaphat, but he was a very wicked, idol-worshipping man; both his father (Jehoram), his mother (Athaliah), and other grandparents (Ahab and Jezebel) were very evil people.
2. After Jehu got rid of Ahaziah (Ahaziah and his brothers were killed), his mother, Athaliah, decided she wanted to take over the throne herself. So she killed all of her grandchildren—or at least tried to—so that none would be “next in line” to become ruler of Judah. But the half-sister of the deceased Ahaziah (same father, different mother), named Jehosheba (or Jehoshabeath), took the youngest of Ahaziah's sons, Joash, and hid his nursemaid and him for six years in the Temple while Athaliah reigned as queen of Judah. Jehosheba was not only a princess, but she was the wife of a God-fearing priest named Jehoiada. During those six years hiding Joash, Jehoiada taught him about God and about his responsibilities as a future king of Judah.
3. When Joash was seven years old, Jehoiada decided it was time to bring the rightful heir to the throne of Judah out of hiding. Jehoiada had many loyal followers among the Levites and divided them into three groups: one-third to guard the king's house, one-third to guard an important gate of the Temple grounds, and one-third to guard the little boy Joash. He told the men who were guarding the Temple gate not to allow anyone inside the building except other priests and Levites. He gave the Levites weapons that had been stored in the Temple by David. When the crown was placed on the small boy's head, all the people shouted, “Long live the king!” Trumpets sounded, and the people sang and played instruments in their joy.
4. When Queen Athaliah came to see the cause of the commotion in the Temple, she was seized and killed. Then Jehoiada, Joash, and all the people recommitted themselves to obey God. Since Joash was so young, Jehoiada was his advisor and taught him how to be a good king. Under Jehoiada's leadership, the people of Judah immediately started getting rid of idols and collecting money to repair and restore the Temple. The Old Law had commanded that they give a tenth of all they had to support the Levites and take care of the Temple, but they had not been giving to God as they should have.

5. King Joash ordered that a money chest with a hole in the top be put outside the Temple gate as a collection place for the people's contributions. Whatever was collected was supposed to be given to the workmen so that the Temple could be completely restored. But some of the priests were dishonest, keeping some of the money for themselves. After 23 years, the work on the Temple was not finished! Joash was very angry and commanded the priests not to take any more of the money for themselves or their family and friends so that all of it could be used on the Temple and its furnishings as intended.
6. We are commanded to give back to God some of our money so that it can be used to teach others (in our hometowns as well as by missionaries in different places), to take care of our building, to help others in need, etc. God wants us to think carefully about how we give and not be selfish. He wants us to give willingly and cheerfully. [Talk about how God gives us our money and how we should use it, etc.]
7. **With older children, you may want to include the following points:** When Jehoiada died, at the age of 130, he was honored by being buried in the same place as kings of Judah because of all the good things he had done. Joash remained a good king as long as Jehoiada lived, but when his long-time friend and advisor died, Joash gave up on his promise to follow God's laws. God sent prophets to try to bring Joash and the people of Judah back to Him, but they would not listen (2 Chronicles 24:17-22). He reigned as king of Judah for 40 years. Our commitment to God depends on us individually and no one else. No one else can sing, pray, or give for us, and no one else will be rewarded for our obedience or punished for our mistakes. We must do what is right even if no one else does!

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

Ages 2-5:

- “[Joash Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- “[Joash Maze](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Help the children make a bank out of collected cans or plastic bottles with lids or small milk cartons. They can decorate them with stickers, rickrack, ribbon, etc.
- Send home a note with the kids (or send one in the mail/e-mail) asking them to bring canned goods for the pantry for the next few weeks.
- Print the words of the memory verse on cardstock, one per child. Cut the verse into puzzle pieces, and let the children put their puzzles together. Put them in Ziploc® baggies to take home at the end of class. (For older children, print the verse in “bubble” letters; draw puzzle lines on cardstock; let the children color and cut out their verse before putting together.)

1st-2nd Graders:

- Let children make a bank out of collected cans or plastic bottles with lids or small milk cartons. They can decorate them with stickers, rickrack, ribbon, etc.
- To illustrate a tithe, put 10 dimes in front of you (real or play money). Explain that a dollar is made up of 10 dimes (or 10 dollars is made up of 10 one dollar bills). The Jews were commanded by God to give a **minimum** of one-tenth of everything they owned to God (one dime, one dollar bill, etc.). God doesn't command us to give a tenth, but to give generously to Him. If you are using

dollar bills, talk about what that dollar can do for the Lord's Church by breaking it down into change again. ("[Dime Cutouts](#)" provided in activity sheets)

- Send home a note with the kids (or send one in the mail/e-mail) asking them to bring canned goods for the pantry for the next few weeks.
- Write review questions over this and previous lessons on the backs of index cards or small, square pieces of cardstock. Write point values on the blank side, higher points for harder questions. Tape the cards, question side down, on the wall or board. Divide the students into two teams. Each team takes a turn choosing a card and trying to answer the question. If they get it right, that team gets the points. If they miss, the other team can answer and get the points.
- "[Joash Word Search](#)" (provided in activity sheets)

3rd-4th Graders:

- To illustrate a tithe, put 10 dimes in front of you (real or play money). Explain that a dollar is made up of 10 dimes (or 10 dollars is made up of 10 one dollar bills). The Jews were commanded by God to give a **minimum** of one-tenth of everything they owned to God (one dime, one dollar bill, etc.). God doesn't command us to give a tenth, but to give generously to Him. If you are using dollar bills, talk about what that dollar can do for the Lord's Church by breaking it down into change again. ("[Dime Cutouts](#)" provided in activity sheets)
- Send home a note with the kids (or send one in the mail/e-mail) asking them to bring canned goods for the pantry for the next few weeks.
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- "[Joash Word Search](#)" (provided in activity sheets)
- Have the children read the following:
 - 2 Kings 11-12
 - *What if I Owned Everything?* by Larry Burkett, Tommy Nelson, Inc.
 - *Bethany Learns About Giving*, by Vicky Billings
 - *If Jesus Came to My House*, by Joan G. Thomas, Harper Collins Publishers
(DISCLAIMER: Skip two pages depicting worship. You could tape them together.)

FINGERPLAY:

"GIVING TO JESUS"

Author: Unknown*

[Frown and reluctantly reach into pocket to pay as you say first two lines.]

This is Billy when he buys a cookie.

This is Billy when he buys a toy.

But this is Billy when he gives to Jesus.

[Smile broadly and willingly reach into pocket.]

Did you ever see such a happy boy?

[Frown and reluctantly reach into pocket again.]
This is Becky when she goes shopping
To buy a ring or clothes or pearls.
But this is Becky when she gives to Jesus.
[Smile broadly and willingly reach into pocket again.]
Did you ever see such a happy girl?

SONGS:

“LET US FREELY GIVE” ([Click to Hear](#))

by: Lora Laycook
(Tune: “Sweet By and By”)

Let each one of us lay by in store,
On the first day of every new week;
Let us cheerfully give to our Lord.
This commandment we surely must keep.

CHORUS:

Let us give, freely give.
Let us give as our God gives to us;
Let us give, freely give,
Let us give as our God gives to us.

“GOD IS SO GOOD” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Traditional

God is so good,
God is so good,
God is so good,
He’s so good to me!

He cares for me,
He cares for me,
He cares for me,
He’s so good to me!

I love Him so,
I love Him so,
I love Him so,
He’s so good to me!

I praise His Name,
I praise His Name,
I praise His Name,
He’s so good to me!

*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE “SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



Joash

A Boy King in Judah

2 Kings 11 and 12



Old Testament 8
Part 1: The Divided Kingdom

WEDNESDAY EVENING

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OLDER CHILDREN: "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

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PERSONAL APPLICATION:

God has blessed me with many, many good things. I will gladly give back to Him so that others can be helped and taught about Jesus.



INTRODUCTION:

Review [O.T. 8 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under “O.T. 8 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [O.T. 8 Review Questions](#) for example questions.)
2. Talk about how much God has blessed us, the importance of not taking those blessings for granted, being willing to give back to Him, etc.
3. An illustration/story can be told about a child who was given an allowance of \$10 and was looking forward to spending the day with his mother. The child went to several places and spent money at each place (McDonald’s, the toy store, the candy store, etc.). At the end of the day, the child had none of his money left. The next day was Sunday and the family went to worship; however, when it was time to give back to God, the child had nothing to put in the offering plate. He felt very sad that he had spent all his money on himself and didn’t save anything to give to God. Ask the children what the child should have done. Explain how God wants us to set something aside for Him **before** we spend our money on ourselves or anything else. This story can be role played with real money. If possible, you may want to bring in a teenager to tell the story in first person.
4. Read and discuss the following passages: 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Malachi 3:8-10; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-13

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning’s lesson.

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