



King Josiah Obeys

Lesson Aim: To know we should obey God.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Builds His Kingdom

THE WORD

Bible Story: 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25

What He has done: God saw King Josiah obey.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "We will obey."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28

Unit 9: The King Who Builds His Kingdom			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
43	King Solomon Asks to Be Wise, 1 Kings 3:5-14	God gave King Solomon wisdom.	To know we should ask God for wisdom.
44	King Josiah Obeys, 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25	God saw King Josiah obey.	To know we should obey God.
45	Ezra Teaches God's People, Ezra 7:6, 8-10	God helped Ezra teach His people.	To love learning about God.
46	Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall, Nehemiah 1:3b; 2:3-5; 4:3, 6-9, 15-18; 6:15	God helped Nehemiah rebuild the city wall.	To know we should work hard together.
47	Queen Esther Helps God's People, Esther 2:7, 9; 4:14-16; 5:1-2; 7:1-3	God gave Queen Esther courage to help His people.	To know God gives us courage.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 119:164-166. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for Your laws. Help us turn to You and obey You with all our heart, soul, and strength just like King Josiah did. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "We will obey."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Blessed Are Those" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Guide Me" "I Can Do Everything" "I Will Always Obey" "I Will Listen" "It's Praise Time" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "God Is So Good" "This Is the Day" "Trust and Obey" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Cedarмонт Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 9, Lesson 44
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 2 Kings 22:1 Visual: Bible
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: King Josiah	Flesh-colored sturdy paper, 10-inch square of cloth (recommended: felt), crown sticker or cut out shape (with glue or tape), crayons or markers, optional: craft jewels and/or glitter
		Game: Find the Bible	Toys or paper, Bible open to Matthew 22:37-39
		Game: King Josiah Says	None
		Snack: Josiah's Heart	Heart-shaped snack (For example: heart-shaped cookies or candies.)
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 9, Lesson 43 Color This Story: "King Solomon Asks to Be Wise"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25	None
	Up to 10	Game: Building the Verse	Sturdy paper, large toy blocks, tape
	Up to 10	Game: Listen and Obey	Bible
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about obeying God

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



We will obey

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a heart. **Let this sticker of a heart help you remember to obey God to show Him how much you love Him.** **Today's Whisper Verse is "We will obey."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "We will obey."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

- "We"** Right index finger points down at the ground with hand beginning at the right shoulder and moving around the front of the chest in a half circle motion to the left shoulder.
- "(will) obey."** Both hands begin in a fist, level with and close to the forehead. The hands are brought down to waist level and slightly forward as the palms open, face up.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "We will obey," Exodus 24:7. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The King who builds His kingdom

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.

It's Praise Time—that means it's time to praise God together. We praise Him as the King who builds His kingdom. We give thanks to God today for giving us the Bible. It is filled with His words and His rules that keep us safe and happy. God loves to see us obey Him. That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse: "We will obey." Let's whisper that together. Review Whisper Verse together: "We will obey." Include sign language.



One way that we can obey God's Word is to give our offerings. Collect the offering and sing: "Trust and Obey."

In today's Bible Story, we will learn about young King Josiah. He loved to obey God. When King Josiah heard the Word of God, he obeyed it. God blessed King Josiah for that. Sing: "Blessed Are Those" and "I Will Always Obey."



Do you think our friends, Delbert and Lello, know about young King Josiah? Let's call them both to come out for a visit. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 9, Lesson 44.

God always blesses us for obeying Him. Blessings are good things that God gives us. Think about a blessing God has given you. Let's sing this song to thank Him for our many blessings. Sing: "God Is So Good."



King Josiah obeyed

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;

Point to eyes.

My mouth quiet as can be,

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

I will listen to hear,

Cup hand around ear.

How God loves you and me.

Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned God made King Solomon wise. Today, we will hear how King Josiah obeyed God. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 2 Kings 22:1.

WATCH THE WORD: 2 KINGS 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a Bible. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Josiah was only eight years old,
- When he became a king—it's true!
- He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord.
- He obeyed every law that he knew.

- When the Book of the Law was found in the temple,
- Josiah heard laws he didn't know.
- When he found out he had disobeyed,
- He cried and he tore his robe!

- He gathered his people to read them the laws;
- They were sorry with all their heart.
- They promised God, "We will obey!"
- So, God gave them a brand new start.



How old was Josiah when he became king? (8 years old.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read 2 Kings 22:1 from the teacher's Bible.

What did King Josiah and all the people promise after they heard God's laws? ("We will obey.") **That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it together.** Include sign language or hand motions.



You can obey **THE WAY**

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: KING JOSIAH

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Josiah obeying God's laws.

Supplies: Flesh-colored sturdy paper, 10-inch square of cloth (recommended: felt), crown sticker or cut out shape (with glue or tape), crayons or markers, optional: craft jewels and/or glitter

Prepare: From sturdy paper, cut a 10-inch paper doll for Josiah. Draw a heart on the paper doll's chest. From cloth or felt, cut an 8-inch square of cloth for Josiah's robe. Cut two slits in the cloth for Josiah's arms to fit through. On the back of the robe, print: "**King Josiah obeyed God.**" Cut a jagged line part way up the robe to represent the part of the story when Josiah tears his royal robe in sorrow.

Directions:

1. Draw a face, hair, and clothes on Josiah.
2. Color the doll's heart to show Josiah loved God.
3. Attach the crown sticker or shape on Josiah's head.
4. Optional: Children decorate robe and crown with craft jewels and/or glitter.

Craft Discussion:

- **King Josiah was only eight years old when he became king. How old are you?** (Children respond.) **Can you imagine being a king or queen right now?**
- **King Josiah loved God very much. When he heard God's laws, he was sad. He had never heard those laws before, so he had not been obeying them. What did Josiah do to his robe to show he was sad?** (He tore it.)
- **When you disobey a rule, how do you feel?** (Sad, sorry, angry, etc.)
- **When Josiah and the people heard God's laws, what promise did they make?** ("We will obey.")
- **That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions.

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: FIND THE BIBLE

Purpose: Children remember the Bible Story by tidying up the room and finding the Bible, just like Josiah found the Book of the Law when the temple was cleaned and repaired.

Supplies: Toys or paper, Bible open to Matthew 22:37-39

Prep Steps: Clutter the area by spreading toys or papers on the floor. Hide the Bible under a pile of toys or paper.

Let's clean up our room (or God's house) like King Josiah did.

Directions:

1. Children pick up and put away the toys or paper.
2. When the Bible is found, say **"You have found the Bible, just like King Josiah found the Book of the Law. I will read one of God's laws from the Bible and you can listen just like all the people did when King Josiah gathered them to hear the reading of God's Word."**
3. Children sit and listen as you read Matthew 22:37-39 from the Bible.
4. **What did all the people promise after they heard God's laws? (We will obey.) What can we promise now that we have heard God's laws? (Children say and sign together, "We will obey.")**

GAME: KING JOSIAH SAYS

Purpose: In this version of the game, "Simon Says," children will practice obeying as they connect the act of obeying with the story of King Josiah.

Supplies: None

When he was the king, Josiah gave people directions and they obeyed. Let's pretend I am King Josiah. If I say, "King Josiah says," then obey my directions right away. But do not obey my directions unless I first say, "King Josiah says."

Teacher's Note: In this version of "Simon Says," do not eliminate children who obey a command without first hearing "King Josiah says."

Directions:

1. Children stand (in a circle or in rows).
2. Remind children to obey only if you first say, "King Josiah Says."
3. Say: **"King Josiah says, 'Touch your toes.'"**
4. Continue to give simple directions to the children, such as jump, flap your arms, run in place, or touch your nose. Some of the time, start the command with "King Josiah says." Other times, just give the command.
5. Unless you begin the direction with "King Josiah says," children are to remain in place without moving.

In the game we just played, we obey silly directions. God's laws give important directions and it's important to obey them. King Josiah read God's laws to all the people. What did the people say? ("We will obey.") They all made a promise to obey.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: JOSIAH'S HEART

Purpose: Children enjoy a snack to remind them of the connection between loving and obeying God.

Snack Suggestion: Heart-shaped snack (For example: heart-shaped cookies or candies.)

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank you for our blessings. Thank you for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "We will obey."
 - **King Josiah loved God very much. What did he want to do when he heard God's laws?** (Obey them.)
 - **King Josiah read God's laws to all of the people. What did the people say when they heard God's laws?** ("We will obey.")
 - **Raise your hand if you love God.** (Children respond.) **You can obey God's laws, too!**
 - **To do that, listen very carefully when someone reads the Bible. Then obey what the Bible says to do.**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "King Josiah" craft. Tell someone King Josiah loved God and obeyed Him.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about obeying God's directions and rules found in the Bible.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "King Josiah Reads God's Law." Discuss Bible story and play Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Blessed Are Those," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: 2 KINGS 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Josiah was only eight years old,** (Hold up 8 fingers.)
- **When he became a king—it's true!** (Put hands on head as a crown.)
- **He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord.** (Point to heaven.)
- **He obeyed every law that he knew.** (Hands on heart.)

- **When the Book of the Law was found in the temple,** (Open palms as open book.)
- **Josiah heard laws he didn't know.** (Cup hands at ears as if listening.)
- **When he found out he had disobeyed,** (Look surprised.)
- **He cried and he tore his robe!** (Pretend to cry. Touch your clothing.)

- **He gathered his people to read them the laws;** (Open palms as open book.)
- **They were sorry with all their heart.** (Sadly place hands on heart.)
- **They promised God, "We will obey!"** (Whisper Verse Sign language.)
- **So God gave them a brand new start.** (Clap hands to celebrate.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28

GAME: BUILDING THE VERSE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Sturdy paper, 13 large toy blocks, tape

Prepare: Print each word of the Bible Memory Verse and reference on an individual strip of paper. Tape a strip each on a toy block.

Teacher Tip: For groups of less than 13 children, give some children more than one block. For groups of more than 13 children, have children take turns or create additional sets of words and blocks to play the game simultaneously.

Directions:

1. Say the Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each word for children to repeat.
2. Give a block to each child and help the children stand in the order of the Bible Memory Verse.
3. Ask the child holding the "Blessed" block to place it on the ground.
4. Have the children say, "Blessed."
5. Repeat with each part of the verse in order until all the blocks are set on the floor in order.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: LISTEN AND OBEY

Purpose: Children practice obeying God's Word as instructed in the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Bible marked with the passages in the list below

Jesus says, "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it." That is our Bible Memory Verse. We find God's words in the Bible. What should we do when we hear God's Word? (Listen and obey.) I am going to read God's Word and then I will ask you about different choices some children made. If the child obeyed God's Word, clap and stand up tall. If the child did not obey God's Word, sit down.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle as the teacher reads from a Bible in the center of the circle.
2. Read the Bible Verses and examples, allowing the children to respond after each example:

The Bible says, "We will share." Numbers 10:32

Patti shared her crayons with her friend. Did Patti obey God's Word?

Sarah didn't let her friend use her crayons. Did Sarah obey God's Word?

The Bible says, "Show love." Hosea 1:7

Bobby hit his sister. Did Bobby obey God's Word?

Sammy hugged his mommy. Did Sammy obey God's Word?

The Bible says, "Do not steal." Leviticus 19:11a

Billy took Tommy's toy car. Tommy was sad. Did Billy obey God's Word?

Molly asked to hold Sally's doll. She waited patiently for her turn to hold the doll.

Did Molly obey God's Word?



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about obeying God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 9, Lesson 44: King Josiah Obey

PONDER! Read 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-19; 23:1-4, 25 with your family. Talk about how King Josiah loved to obey God. In the temple, they found the Book of the Law. Those same laws are written in the Bible today. King Josiah and the people listened when it was read to them. They promised to obey.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for teaching us how to obey You. Help us show our love by obeying You. Amen."

PLAY! Hide a Bible somewhere in your home. Ask your family to help you find it. Then, listen to the reading of Matthew 22:37-39, just like King Josiah and the people listened to the reading of God's laws. Now make a family promise to obey God's laws, just like King Josiah and the people did.

Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse: Luke 11:28

"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it."