

**MAN** 

[ JOSIAH : The Man God Uses ]



Josiah was 8 years old when he became the king of Judah after the assassination of his father, but the scriptures call him the greatest king that ever lived. How is that possible?

The scriptures tell us that Josiah walked in the ways of God and followed the example of his ancestor David. The nation of Israel had traded the laws of God for a lifestyle of parties, prostitutes, and idol worship. But God was ready to set things right and *He was looking for a man to use.*

**“The Man God Uses”** is a 4-part series that will equip and empower you to be a Kingdom leader at home, work, church and community. Are you ready for God to use you?

We'll show you how!



# MANUP Utah 2019

*Big Canyon Ranch : MANUP.co*

<b>FRIDAY ::</b>	<b>2.8.19</b>
4:30 - 6:30 pm	Check In
6:30 - 7:30 pm	Dinner
7:30 - 9:30 pm	<b>Session 1 :: Repent</b>
9:30 - 10:30 pm	Small Groups
10:30 - 12:00 pm	Free Time - Settle Into Rooms

<b>SATURDAY ::</b>	<b>2.9.19</b>
8:00 - 8:45 am	Breakfast
8:45 - 10:15 am	<b>Session 2 :: Remove</b>
10:15 - 11:15 am	Small Groups
11:30 - 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 - 6:00 pm	Free Time - Activities
6:00 - 7:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 - 9:00 pm	<b>Session 3 :: Replace</b>
9:00 - 10:00 pm	Small Groups
10:00 - 12:00 pm	Free Time

<b>SUNDAY ::</b>	<b>2.10.19</b>
8:00 - 8:45 am	Breakfast
8:45 - 10:15 am	<b>Session 4 :: Repeat</b>
10:15 - 11:00 am	Small Groups
11:00 - 12:00 pm	<b>Closing Session</b>

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# **SESSION 1**

**[ Repent ]**

# Repent.

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***God is looking for a MAN  
who will set things RIGHT.***

## **2 Chronicles 34**

<sup>1</sup> Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. <sup>2</sup> He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight and followed the example of his ancestor David. *He did not turn away from doing what is right.* <sup>3</sup> During the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, *Josiah began to seek the God* of his ancestor David.

**Q:** What made Josiah different than everyone else?

**Q:** What made him usable by God?

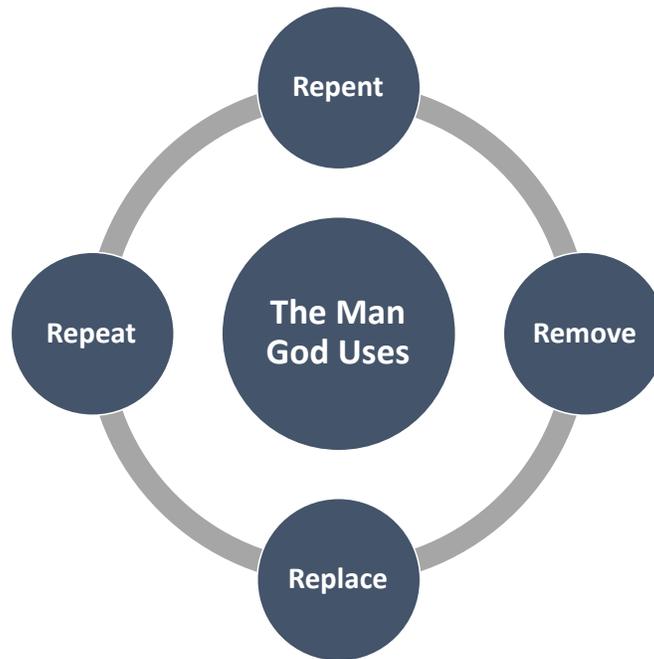
## **2 Kings 23**

<sup>25</sup> 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.

*The greatest king who ever lived was  
an 8 year-old BOY with a heart for GOD.*

## **Josiah did 3 things:**

- He repented of his sin.
- He removed the idols.
- He replaced God at the center.



*REPENTANCE is the first step  
to becoming the man God uses.*

**We don't like to Repent:**

- Because we're prideful.
- Because we're selfish.
- Because we think we're OK.

**Jeremiah 4**

<sup>3</sup> This is what the Lord says to the people of Judah and Jerusalem: "Plow up the hard ground of your hearts! Do not waste your good seed among thorns. <sup>4</sup> O people of Judah and Jerusalem, surrender your pride and your power. *Change your hearts before the Lord*, or my anger will burn like an unquenchable fire because of all your sins. <sup>5</sup> "Shout to Judah, and broadcast to Jerusalem! Tell them both to *sound the alarm* throughout the land: 'Run for your lives! Flee to the fortified cities!' <sup>6</sup> *Raise a signal flag* as a warning for Jerusalem: 'Flee now! Do not delay!' For I am bringing terrible destruction upon you from the north."

*Sin is telling God - NO.*

*Repentance is telling God - YES.*

**Jeremiah 3** *(Jeremiah was prophet during time of King Josiah)*

<sup>12</sup> This is what the Lord says, “O Israel, my faithless people, come home to me again, for I am merciful. I will not be angry with you forever. <sup>13</sup> Only acknowledge your guilt. Admit that you rebelled against the Lord your God and committed adultery against him by worshiping idols under every green tree. Confess that you refused to listen to my voice. I, the Lord, have spoken!”

<sup>14</sup> “Return home, you wayward children,” says the Lord, “for I am your master. I will bring you back to the land of Israel . . . from wherever you are scattered. <sup>15</sup> And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will guide you with knowledge and understanding.”

<sup>22</sup> “My wayward children,” says the Lord, “come back to me, and I will heal your wayward hearts.” “Yes, we’re coming,” the people reply, “for you are the Lord our God.”

### **Repentance is:**

- Agreeing with God about your sin.
- Turning from your sin and back to God.
- An action not a feeling.

### **God’s Response:**

- I will forgive you.
- I will take you back.
- I will guide you.
- I will heal you.

# Questions.

**Q:** What do you think of when you hear the word “*repent*”?

**Q:** Have you ever thought of repenting as “*Good News*”?

**Q:** Which of these responses do you most need to hear from God right now?

\_\_\_\_\_ “*I forgive you.*”

\_\_\_\_\_ “*I will take you back.*”

\_\_\_\_\_ “*I will guide you.*”

\_\_\_\_\_ “*I will heal you.*”

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**Prayer:** God, thank you for hearing my prayer. Sometimes I avoid you because I’m ashamed or afraid of what you might say, but today I’m “*COMING HOME.*” I’m coming to you as a son who needs his father. A son who needs forgiveness, healing, and direction. I’m certainly not perfect, but I am repentant, and I’m ready for you to *change me* and *use me*. Amen.

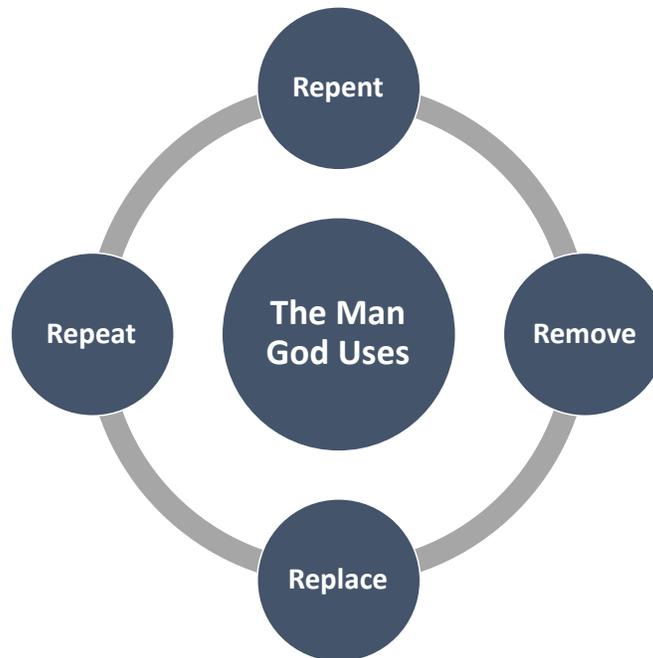
**Notes.**

# **SESSION 2**

[ Remove ]

# Remove.

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## God Uses The Man Who Will.

- Repent of his sin.
- Remove the idols.
- Replace God at the center.
- Repeat the process every day.

### 2 Kings 23

<sup>25</sup> 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.

*Josiah didn't stop with REPENTING.*

*He moved on to REMOVING.*

## 2 Chronicles 34:3-5

<sup>3</sup> During the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, Josiah began to seek the God of his ancestor David. Then in the twelfth year, he began to purify Judah and Jerusalem, destroying all the pagan shrines, the Asherah poles, and the carved idols and cast images. <sup>4</sup> He ordered that the altars of Baal be demolished and that the incense altars which stood above them be broken down. He also made sure that the Asherah poles, the carved idols, and the cast images were smashed and scattered over the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. <sup>5</sup> He burned the bones of the pagan priests on their own altars, and so he purified Judah and Jerusalem.

*Anything you put BEFORE God is an IDOL.*

## Jeremiah 2

<sup>11</sup> “My people have exchanged their Glorious God for worthless idols! The heavens are shocked at such a thing and shrink back in sorrow and dismay,” says the Lord. <sup>12</sup> “For my people have done two evil things: They have abandoned me - the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all.”

## An idol can be a:

Person	Place	Thing	Feeling
Yourself	Work	Money	Pride
Wife	School	Habit	Anger
Children	Home	Hobby	Lust
Relationship	Vacation	Sports	Greed
Friends	Church	Social Media	Comfort
Boss	Country	Entertainment	Approval

**Q:** What are your idols?

**Q:** How long are you going to let them rule your life?

**Q:** Are you ready to get serious about removing them?

## 2 Chronicles 34

<sup>33</sup> So Josiah removed all detestable idols from the entire land of Israel and required everyone to worship the Lord their God. And throughout the rest of his lifetime, they did not turn away from the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

## How do you remove your idols?

- **Quickly.**

*The SOONER you do the BETTER you'll be.*

Q: If not now . . . when?

- **Completely.**

*God will not SHARE his throne.*

Q: What's the one thing you're still holding on to?

- **Publicly.**

*Sin will always GROW  
in the soil of SECRECY.*

Q: Who can you ask to help you?

- **Intentionally.**

*You'll never be God's Man by ACCIDENT.*

Q: What's your next step?

# Questions.

**Q:** Do you struggle with any of these being an idol?

Person	Place	Thing	Feeling
Yourself	Work	Money	Pride
Wife	School	Habit	Anger
Children	Home	Hobby	Lust
Relationship	Vacation	Sports	Greed
Friends	Church	Social Media	Comfort
Boss	Country	Entertainment	Approval

**Q:** What keeps you from putting God at the center?

**Q:** What's your next step to removing your idols?

**Q:** Who can you ask to help you in your journey?

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**Prayer:** God, I'm ready for you to be at the center of my life. I'm ready to call the idols what they are: deceitful, destructive, controlling, and empty. They have never satisfied me, never filled me, and never produced anything worth living for. Today, I turn to you as my LIVING GOD and commit to removing and destroying my idols in the power of YOUR NAME. Amen.

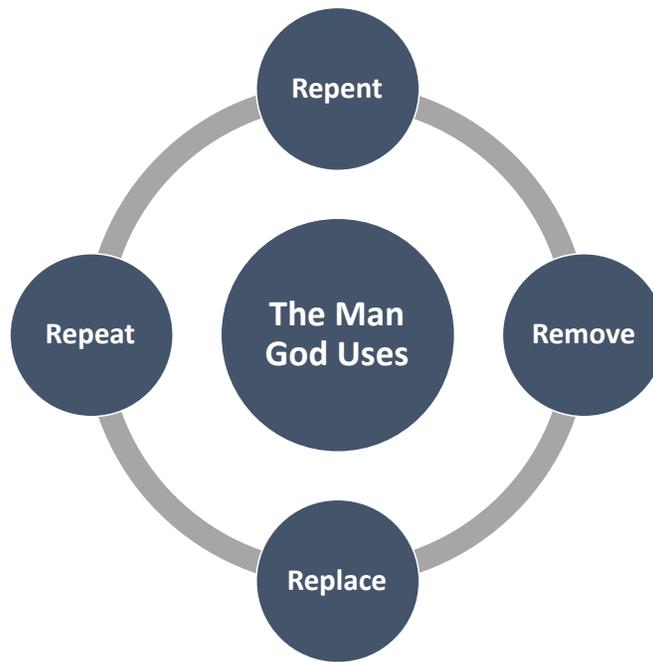
**Notes.**

# **SESSION 3**

[ Replace ]

# Replace.

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## Josiah REPENTED of his sin.

### 2 Chronicles 34

<sup>1</sup> Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. <sup>2</sup> He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight and followed the example of his ancestor David. *He did not turn away from doing what is right.* <sup>3</sup> During the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, *Josiah began to seek the God* of his ancestor David.

*Repentance is telling God - YES.*

## Josiah REMOVED the idols.

### 2 Chronicles 34

<sup>33</sup> So Josiah *removed all detestable idols* from the entire land of Israel and required everyone to worship the Lord their God. And throughout the rest of his lifetime, they did not turn away from the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

*Anything you put BEFORE God is an IDOL.*

*An idol is often a GOOD thing  
that's become a GOD thing.*

Have any of these become your idol?	
Wife	Become your savior instead of your partner.
Kids	Become your purpose instead of your blessing.
Home	Become your place to escape instead of serve.
Job	Become your identity instead of your calling.
Hobbies	Become your schedule instead of your Sabbath.
Money	Become your security instead of God's provision.
Sex	Become your master instead of your pleasure.
Food	Become your addiction instead of your enjoyment.
Power	Become your goal instead of God's gift.

*The only way to REMOVE an idol  
is to REPLACE it with truth.*

### **Josiah REPLACED God at the center.**

#### **2 Chronicles 34:19-32**

<sup>19</sup> When the king heard what was written in the Law, he tore his clothes in despair. <sup>20</sup> Then he gave these orders to Hilkiah... <sup>21</sup> "Go to the Temple and speak to the Lord for me and for all the remnant of Israel and Judah. Inquire about the words written in the scroll that has been found. For the Lord's great anger has been poured out on us because our ancestors have not obeyed the word of the Lord. *We have not been doing what the scroll says we must do.*"

<sup>29</sup> Then the King summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup> And the king went up to the Temple of the Lord with all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, along with the priests and the Levites - all the people from the greatest to the least. There the king read to them the entire Book of the Covenant that had been found in the Lord's Temple.

<sup>31</sup> The King took his place of authority beside the pillar and renewed the covenant in the Lord's presence. He pledged to obey the Lord by keeping all his commands, laws, and decrees with all his heart and soul. He promised to obey all the terms of the covenant that were written in the scroll.

<sup>32</sup> And he required everyone in Jerusalem and the people of Benjamin to make a similar pledge. The people of God did so, renewing their covenant with God, the God of their ancestors.

***The TRUTH of God's Word is the only thing that will set you FREE.***

### Jeremiah 10

<sup>10</sup> The Lord is the only TRUE GOD. He is the living God and the everlasting King! <sup>15</sup> Idols are worthless; they are ridiculous LIES! On the day of reckoning they will all be destroyed. But the God of Israel is no idol! He is the creator of everything that exists, including Israel, his own special possession. The Lord of Heaven's Armies is his name!

Replace the LIE.	With the TRUTH.
Nobody loves me.	I do.
Nobody sees me.	I do.
It's impossible.	All things are possible.
I'm tired.	I will give you rest.
I'm afraid.	I have not given you fear.
I'm alone.	I will never leave you.
I'm weak.	My power works best in weakness.
I'm not smart enough.	I will give you all wisdom.
I can't go on.	My grace is sufficient.
I don't have enough.	I have more than you need.

# The 4 Circles of Life.



## Mark 12

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “The most important commandment is this: ‘Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’ The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself.”

## 4 Truths about the 4 Circles.

- It’s all spiritual.
- It’s all connected.
- Let God fill you so you can fill others.
- You’ll never get your life in order until God is at the center.

**Q:** What’s at the center of your life?

**Q:** Are you ready to trust God as your King?

# Questions.

**Q:** Where do you struggle the most putting God first?

**Q:** Which of these truths do you most need to believe?

Replace the LIE.	With the TRUTH.
Nobody loves me.	I do.
Nobody sees me.	I do.
It's impossible.	All things are possible.
I'm tired.	I will give you rest.
I'm afraid.	I have not given you fear.
I'm alone.	I will never leave you.
I'm weak.	My power works best in weakness.
I'm not smart enough.	I will give you all wisdom.
I can't go on.	My grace is sufficient.
I don't have enough.	I have more than you need.

**Q:** Are you ready to trust God as the KING of your life?

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**Prayer:** God, you are my KING and the boss of my everyday life. I'm choosing to put you at the CENTER of everything I do today and for the rest of my days. May you rule supreme in my heart, soul, mind, and strength! Amen.

**Notes.**

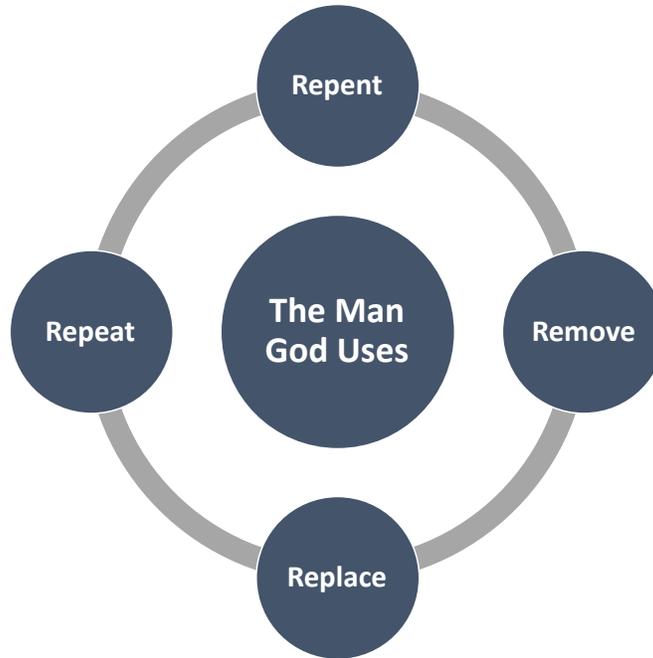


# **SESSION 4**

**[ Repeat ]**

# Repeat.

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## God Uses The Man Who Will.

- Repent of his sin.
- Remove the idols.
- Replace God at the center.
- Repeat the process every day.

### 2 Kings 23

<sup>25</sup> 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.

**Q: Are you ready for God to use YOU?**

# How.

## 1. LISTEN to God's Word.

### Deuteronomy 6:1-3

<sup>1</sup> "These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, <sup>2</sup> and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the Lord your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. <sup>3</sup> Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk & honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

*The truth of God's Word will SET you free and KEEP you free.*

## 2. DO what it says.

### Deuteronomy 6:4-6

<sup>4</sup> "Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. <sup>5</sup> And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. <sup>6</sup> And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today.

*Obedience is DOING what God says.*

## 3. SHARE it with others.

### Deuteronomy 6:7

<sup>7</sup> Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.

*REPEATING is the key to remembering.*

## 4. Set up REMINDERS.

### Deuteronomy 6:8-9

<sup>8</sup> Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as *reminders*. <sup>9</sup> Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

*Put it where you'll SEE it and you'll be more likely to DO it.*

## Why.

- **Because we FORGET God's goodness.**

### Deuteronomy 6:10-13

<sup>10</sup> "The Lord your God will soon bring you into the land he swore to give you when he made a vow to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It is a land with large, prosperous cities that you did not build. <sup>11</sup> The houses will be richly stocked with goods you did not produce. You will draw water from cisterns you did not dig, and you will eat from vineyards and olive trees you did not plant. When you have eaten your fill in this land, <sup>12</sup> *be careful not to forget the Lord*, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt. <sup>13</sup> You must fear the Lord your God and serve him. When you take an oath, you must use only his name.

*NOTHING feels as good as being FREE.*

- **Because we WORSHIP other gods.**

### Deuteronomy 6:14-19

<sup>14</sup> "*You must not worship any of the gods of neighboring nations*, <sup>15</sup> for the Lord your God, who lives among you, is a jealous God. His anger will flare up against you, and he will wipe you from the face of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> You must not test the Lord your God as you did when you complained at Massah. <sup>17</sup> You must diligently obey the commands of the Lord your God - all the laws and decrees he has given you. <sup>18</sup> Do what is right and good in the Lord's sight, so all will go well with you. Then you will enter and occupy the good land that the Lord swore to give your ancestors. <sup>19</sup> You will drive out all the enemies living in the land, just as the Lord said you would.

*God wants to GIVE you  
what the enemy TOOK from you.*

- **Because we have a FUTURE.**

**Deuteronomy 6:20-25**

<sup>20</sup> "In the future your children will ask you, 'What is the meaning of these laws, decrees, and regulations that the Lord our God has commanded us to obey?'

<sup>21</sup> "Then you must tell them, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with his strong hand. <sup>22</sup> The Lord did miraculous signs and wonders before our eyes, dealing terrifying blows against Egypt and Pharaoh and all his people. <sup>23</sup> He brought us out of Egypt so he could give us this land he had sworn to give our ancestors.

<sup>24</sup> And the Lord our God commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear him so he can continue to bless us and preserve our lives, as he has done to this day. <sup>25</sup> For we will be counted as righteous when we obey all the commands the Lord our God has given us.'"

*God has a FUTURE that's better than your PAST.*

**Q: Do you trust God as your KING?**

## **Josiah was a man just like YOU.**

- He repented from his sin.
- He removed the idols.
- He replaced God at the center.
- He repeated the cycle every day.

### **2 Chronicles 34**

<sup>33</sup> So Josiah removed all detestable idols from the entire land of Israel and required everyone to worship the Lord their God. And throughout the rest of his lifetime, they did not turn away from the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

***All because ONE man  
said YES to God.***

### **Q: Are you ready for God to use YOU?**

**Prayer:** God, my answer is - YES! Whatever you ask me to do. Wherever you ask me to go. My heart is your home, and I welcome you as the KING of my life. Fill me today with your truth, your power, and your presence so that I can overflow blessings to everyone around me. I am a man that is ready to be used. My answer is YES . . . USE ME!

**And all God's men said . . . YES!**

# Questions.

**Q:** What's been the most impactful thing you've learned during this series?

**Q:** Which of these do you struggle with?

\_\_\_\_\_ Listening to God's Word.

\_\_\_\_\_ Doing what it says.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sharing it with others.

\_\_\_\_\_ Setting up reminders.

**Q:** What's your next step in the cycle?

\_\_\_\_\_ Repent of your sins.

\_\_\_\_\_ Remove the idols.

\_\_\_\_\_ Replace God at the center.

\_\_\_\_\_ Repeat the cycle every day.

**Q:** What will be your reminder to keep God first?

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**Prayer:** God, my answer is - YES! Whatever you ask me to do. Wherever you ask me to go. My heart is your home, and I welcome you as the KING of my life. Fill me today with your truth, your power, and your presence so that I can overflow blessings to everyone around me. I am a man that is ready to be used. My answer is YES . . . USE ME!

**Notes.**

## 2 Chronicles 34

### Josiah Rules in Judah

<sup>1</sup> Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. <sup>2</sup> He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight and followed the example of his ancestor David. He did not turn away from doing what was right.

<sup>3</sup> During the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, Josiah began to seek the God of his ancestor David. Then in the twelfth year he began to purify Judah and Jerusalem, destroying all the pagan shrines, the Asherah poles, and the carved idols and cast images. <sup>4</sup> He ordered that the altars of Baal be demolished and that the incense altars which stood above them be broken down. He also made sure that the Asherah poles, the carved idols, and the cast images were smashed and scattered over the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. <sup>5</sup> He burned the bones of the pagan priests on their own altars, and so he purified Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> He did the same thing in the towns of Manasseh, Ephraim, and Simeon, even as far as Naphtali, and in the regions all around them. <sup>7</sup> He destroyed the pagan altars and the Asherah poles, and he crushed the idols into dust. He cut down all the incense altars throughout the land of Israel. Finally, he returned to Jerusalem.

<sup>8</sup> In the eighteenth year of his reign, after he had purified the land and the Temple, Josiah appointed Shaphan son of Azaliah, Maaseiah the governor of Jerusalem, and Joah son of Joahaz, the royal historian, to repair the Temple of the Lord his God. <sup>9</sup> They gave Hilkiah the high priest the money that had been collected by the Levites who served as gatekeepers at the Temple of God. The gifts were brought by people from Manasseh, Ephraim, and from all the remnant of Israel, as well as from all Judah, Benjamin, and the people of Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> He entrusted the money to the men assigned to supervise the restoration of the Lord's Temple. Then they paid the workers who did the repairs and renovation of the Temple. <sup>11</sup> They hired carpenters and builders, who purchased finished stone for the walls and timber for the rafters and beams. They restored what earlier kings of Judah had allowed to fall into ruin.

<sup>12</sup> The workers served faithfully under the leadership of Jahath and Obadiah, Levites of the Merarite clan, and Zechariah and Meshullam, Levites of the Kohathite clan. Other Levites, all of whom were skilled musicians, <sup>13</sup> were put in charge of the laborers of the various trades. Still others assisted as secretaries, officials, and gatekeepers.

### **Hilkiah Discovers God's Law**

<sup>14</sup> While they were bringing out the money collected at the Lord's Temple, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the Lord that was written by Moses. <sup>15</sup> Hilkiah said to Shaphan the court secretary, "I have found the Book of the Law in the Lord's Temple!" Then Hilkiah gave the scroll to Shaphan.

<sup>16</sup> Shaphan took the scroll to the king and reported, "Your officials are doing everything they were assigned to do. <sup>17</sup> The money that was collected at the Temple of the Lord has been turned over to the supervisors and workmen." <sup>18</sup> Shaphan also told the king, "Hilkiah the priest has given me a scroll." So Shaphan read it to the king. <sup>19</sup> When the king heard what was written in the Law, he tore his clothes in despair.

<sup>20</sup> Then he gave these orders to Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Acbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the court secretary, and Asaiah the king's personal adviser: <sup>21</sup> "Go to the Temple and speak to the Lord for me and for all the remnant of Israel and Judah. Inquire about the words written in the scroll that has been found. For the Lord's great anger has been poured out on us because our ancestors have not obeyed the word of the Lord. We have not been doing everything this scroll says we must do."

<sup>22</sup> So Hilkiah and the other men went to the New Quarter of Jerusalem to consult with the prophet Huldah. She was the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah, son of Harhas, the keeper of the Temple wardrobe.

<sup>23</sup> She said to them, "The Lord, the God of Israel, has spoken! Go back and tell the man who sent you, <sup>24</sup> 'This is what the Lord says: I am going to bring disaster on this city and its people. All the curses written in the scroll that was read to the king of Judah will come true. <sup>25</sup> For my people have abandoned me and offered

sacrifices to pagan gods, and I am very angry with them for everything they have done. My anger will be poured out on this place, and it will not be quenched.'

<sup>26</sup> " But go to the king of Judah who sent you to seek the Lord and tell him: 'This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says concerning the message you have just heard: <sup>27</sup> You were sorry and humbled yourself before God when you heard his words against this city and its people. You humbled yourself and tore your clothing in despair and wept before me in repentance. And I have indeed heard you, says the Lord. <sup>28</sup> So I will not send the promised disaster until after you have died and been buried in peace. You yourself will not see the disaster I am going to bring on this city and its people.'" So they took her message back to the king.

### **Josiah's Religious Reforms**

<sup>29</sup> Then the king summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup> And the king went up to the Temple of the Lord with all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, along with the priests and the Levites—all the people from the greatest to the least. There the king read to them the entire Book of the Covenant that had been found in the Lord's Temple.

<sup>31</sup> The king took his place of authority beside the pillar and renewed the covenant in the Lord's presence. He pledged to obey the Lord by keeping all his commands, laws, and decrees with all his heart and soul. He promised to obey all the terms of the covenant that were written in the scroll. <sup>32</sup> And he required everyone in Jerusalem and the people of Benjamin to make a similar pledge. The people of Jerusalem did so, renewing their covenant with God, the God of their ancestors.

<sup>33</sup> So Josiah removed all detestable idols from the entire land of Israel and required everyone to worship the Lord their God. And throughout the rest of his lifetime, they did not turn away from the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

*\* The Story of King Josiah can also be found in 2 Kings 22-23*

**“Never before had there been a king  
like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with  
all his heart and soul and strength.”**

2 Kings 23:25