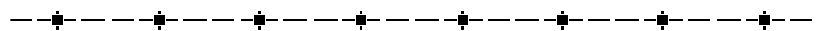


Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

A King Walks with God

Jehoshaphat

I Kings 22, II Chronicles 17

A King Walks with God
I Kings 22:1-18

Memory Verse:

Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands?"

(II Corinthians 6:14 The Message)

Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah.
2. Understand that Jehoshaphat was committed to living for God.
3. Learn that Jehoshaphat wanted the advice of God's prophet.
4. Recognize that Jehoshaphat's friendship with Ahab was not a good thing.

Last week we learned about King Asa who reigned over Judah. He got rid of the idols and did right in the eyes of the Lord. But Asa made a treaty with Be-had, an enemy of Israel. When God sent Hanani to tell Asa that he had failed to depend on God, Asa got angry and put Hanani in prison.

Read the Bible

READ: I Kings 22:1-18 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin with Prayer

This week we will learn about Jehoshaphat. He was the son of King Asa. He worked to make sure the kingdom of Judah was strong. He made the walls around Judah high. He placed soldiers in Judah and Ephraim. Jehoshaphat "lived the way King David lived." (II Chronicles 17:1-3 NIV) He didn't worship idols nor did he ask for advice from idols. Jehoshaphat followed God the way his father, Asa, had done. He followed the commands of the Lord. The people of Judah brought gifts so Jehoshaphat had great wealth and honor. Jehoshaphat was committed to living the way God wanted him to live. He tore down the altars to other gods. He also tore down the poles used to worship Asherah. God made the kingdom secure. (II Chronicles 17:4-6)

Jehoshaphat asked the Levites and priests to teach the Scroll of the Law to the people of Judah. So they went from town to town in Judah teaching the people. The kingdoms around Judah would not go to war against them because they became afraid of God. (II Chronicles 17:7-10)

Ahab ruled in Israel, the kingdom with ten tribes. But he was not a good king. (I Kings 16:30-33) For three years Israelites did not have war with Aram. Jehoshaphat went to Israel to see Ahab. Since Ahab was not a good king it was probably not a good idea that Jehoshaphat visit him. Sometimes friends can be a bad influence (not good for us). Sometimes we can be a good influence on people who don't know about God. The Bible tells us to be careful about who our friends are. "Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands?" (II Corinthians 6:14 The Message)

Ahab asked Jehoshaphat to fight with him against Aram so that he could get the town of Ramoth Gilead back. Jehoshaphat agreed to fight with

Jehoshaphat — Bible Facts

1. Jehoshaphat was the son of King Asa.
2. Jehoshaphat lived the way King David lived.
3. Jehoshaphat sent priests to teach the law.
4. God secured his kingdom.

Ahab. He offered his men and horses. But Jehoshaphat said, "First ask the Lord for advice." (I Kings 22:1-5 NIV) So Ahab brought his prophets and asked them if he should go to war. There were about 400 prophets. They all said that Ahab should go to war and that the Lord would give him victory. But Jehoshaphat asked, "Isn't there a prophet of the Lord here? If there is, ask him what we should do." (I Kings 22:6-7 NIV) Ahab told Jehoshaphat that there was one other man, Micaiah. But Ahab hated Micaiah because he never prophesied anything good about Ahab. Jehoshaphat told Ahab that he should not say anything bad about God's prophet. So Ahab called for Micaiah to come. But the messenger that went to get Micaiah told him that all the other prophets had already told Ahab that he should go to war because he would be successful. The messenger told Micaiah that he should agree with the other prophets. Micaiah told the messenger, "I can only tell the king what the Lord tells me to say." (I Kings 22:8-15 NIV) When Micaiah arrived, Ahab asked if he should go to war or not. Micaiah told Ahab to go to war because he would win. Then Ahab reminded Micaiah that he had promised to tell the truth. Ahab said, "So don't tell me anything but the truth in the name of the Lord." (I Kings 22:15-16 NIV) Then Micaiah told Ahab that they would not be successful. Ahab told Jehoshaphat that Micaiah never prophesied anything good about him. (I Kings 22:17-18) Micaiah told Ahab that a spirit had "put lies in the mouths of all his prophets" and that he (Ahab) would die at Ramoth Gilead. (I Kings 22:19-23 NIV) But Ahab had Micaiah put in prison. Then Jehoshaphat and Ahab went to war. (I Kings 22:23-29 NIV) God sent Jesus so that we could know Him. God wants us to seek Him for all we do.

Review

1. **Who was Jehoshaphat?** (Jehoshaphat was the son of King Asa.)
2. **What did he do?** (Jehoshaphat lived the way King David lived.)
3. **What else did Jehoshaphat do?** (Jehoshaphat sent priests to teach the law.)
4. **What did God do?** (God secured Jehoshaphat's kingdom.)
5. **What did Jehoshaphat do with Ahab?** (Jehoshaphat agreed to fight with Ahab.)

Do You Know Jesus? God sent Jesus so that we could know Him. Jesus came to die on the cross for our sins. But He rose from the dead three days later. His death and resurrection provide us a way to God. God wants us to seek Him for all we do. (Romans 10:9-10; John 14:6)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we can know God.
3. Ask God to help you seek Him for all things.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to know God.

Application

Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. He was committed to living for God. Ahab was a bad king. Jehoshaphat's friendship with Ahab was not a good thing. When Jehoshaphat agreed to fight with Ahab, Jehoshaphat wanted the advice of God's prophet. The Bible tells us not to become friends with those who reject God. (II Corinthians 6:14 The Message)

Planning for the next week:
Elijah (A Prophet Opposes the Enemies of God) — I Kings 17-19

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: II Chronicles 17:1–10 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

The people brought gifts to Jehoshaphat. Wrap boxes as gifts. Talk about the gifts of God. (Jesus, love, kindness, forgiveness, etc.)

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Jehoshaphat “lived the way King David lived.” (II Chronicles 17:1-3 NIV) He didn’t worship idols. He didn’t ask for advice from idols. Jehoshaphat followed God the way his father, Asa, had done. He followed the commands of the Lord. God made the kingdom secure.

The people of Judah brought gifts so Jehoshaphat had great wealth and honor. Jehoshaphat wanted to live the way God wanted him to live. He tore down the altars to other gods. He also tore down the poles used to worship the idol, Asherah. (II Chronicles 17:4-6)

Jehoshaphat asked the Levites and priests to teach the people of Judah about God’s laws. So they went from town to town in Judah to teach the people. The kingdoms around Judah would not go to war against them because they became afraid of God. (II Chronicles 17:7-10)

God sent Jesus so that we could know God.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we can know God.
3. Ask God to help you seek Him for all things.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to know God.

Did you know? Preschoolers can learn about God’s love.

Consider this: Create a drama. Have someone play the part of King Jehoshaphat. Have the other children bring gifts to him. Talk about how King Jehoshaphat wanted to live the way God wanted him to live.

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Create cards with pictures of crowns on them. On the back side write the words to the verse. Have the children put the verse in order. Practice the verse.
- **Test your memory** — Write the letters for “Jehoshaphat” on index cards. As you tell the story use the letters to emphasize something in the story.
- **Taste activity** — Bring candy in a container that glows in the dark.
- **Think about it** — Jehoshaphat was committed to living the way God wanted him to. But he made an alliance with Ahab. Talk about the importance of choosing friends wisely.
- The Bible verse says, “don't become partners with those who reject God.” Talk about what that means for choosing friends at school, at home, at church, etc.
- The Bible verse asks, “Is light best friends with dark?” Talk about the importance of being light in a world full of darkness.
- **Touch activity** — The people brought gifts to Jehoshaphat. Wrap boxes as gifts. Talk about the gifts of God. (Jesus, love, kindness, forgiveness, etc.)

Bring glow in the dark toys. Talk about the Bible verse.

Use glow in the dark paints to color.

- **Run and play** — Have each child select a partner. Play games that allow partners to participate. Potato sack race, 3 legged race, etc.
- **Listen** — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that God wants us to choose friends who love Him.
- **Sing** — “My Best Friend is Jesus,” “This Little Light,” or another song related to the story.

Memory Verse

Don't become partners
with those
who reject God.

How can you
make a partnership
out of right
and wrong?

That's not partnership;
that's war.

Is light best friends
with dark?

Does Christ go strolling
with the Devil?

Do trust and
mistrust hold hands?"

11 Corinthians 6:14 The Message

Word Art

Trace the letters.

The Lord

was with

Jehoshaphat

Word Puzzle

R E T N E G L T I K G V D
S H D R C E N B S C W F S
V S X H A I A C I M B J V
C K C R V D H G R A U J T
D D S N B R M S N D M R R
F I K A J P S D A I U A F
R K H F P D R I F T K S R
T A H P A H S O H E J R K
K J L R L R E B P U P D C
P R A N A B N M D H K B A
B M D E R V N A K P E V S
F J L Y S E H P O R P T L

JEHOSHAPHAT

KING

JUDAH

ISRAEL

AHAB

PROPHET

MICAIAH

PROPHECY

TRUTH

Word Puzzle

R	E	T	N	E	G	L	T	I	K	G	V	D
S	H	D	R	C	E	N	B	S	C	W	F	S
V	S	X	H	A	I	A	C	I	M	B	J	V
C	K	C	R	V	D	H	G	R	A	U	J	T
D	D	S	N	B	R	M	S	N	D	M	R	R
F	I	K	A	J	P	S	D	A	I	U	A	F
R	K	H	F	P	D	R	I	F	T	K	S	R
T	A	H	P	A	H	S	O	H	E	J	R	K
K	J	L	R	L	R	E	B	P	U	P	D	C
P	R	A	N	A	B	N	M	D	H	K	B	A
B	M	D	E	R	V	N	A	K	P	E	V	S
F	J	L	Y	S	E	H	P	O	R	P	T	L

JEHOSHAPHAT

KING

JUDAH

ISRAEL

AHAB

PROPHET

MICAIAH

PROPHECY

TRUTH

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

P M K I S R A E A H A B
Q F C R L B J U D A H F
B I F S W L J C K V P B
C K Z Q M F N V K C J N
I S R A E L S T R U T H
J D S T D R B F P C K V
P R O P H E T E K I N G
B R V M J L S V B T F C

KING

JUDAD

TRUTH

ISRAEL

AHAB

PROPHET

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

P M K I S R A E A H A B

Q F C R L B J U D A H F

B I F S W L J C K V P B

C K Z Q M F N V K C J N

I S R A E L S T R U T H

J D S T D R B F P C K V

P R O P H E T E K I N G

B R V M J L S V B T F C

KING

JUDAD

TRUTH

ISRAEL

AHAB

PROPHET

Anagram

1. EHATC-

2. WAL-

3. EISPTRS -

4. IEESLTV-

5. RHTPPEO-

6. SPERIOM-

7. RTTHU -

8. IEACDV -

Anagram

1. EHATC – TEACH
2. WAL – LAW
3. EISPTRS – PRIESTS
4. IEESLTV – LEVITES
5. RHTPPEO – PROPHET
6. SPERIOM – PROMISE
7. RTTHU – TRUTH
8. IEACDV – ADVICE