



# **SUNDAY EVENING**

## **AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Title:** How to Have a Deep Relationship with God

**Passage:** 2 Chronicles 34:1-4

**Speaker:** Youth Pastor Trevor Hampton

**Introduction:** As we look at how to deepen our relationship with God, we can find inspiration in the life of King Josiah, a young boy who, despite his tragic circumstances, chose to seek God with all his heart. Josiah's story is a powerful reminder that no matter our age, background, or challenges, God desires a personal and deep connection with us. As we examine the lessons from his life, we'll discover how to truly pursue God, remove distractions, and experience the transformative power of repentance, revival, and a genuine commitment to His Word.

### **I. Surrender to Sovereignty (Verses 1-2)**

Josiah did that which was right in the sight of God!

Every person has a free will to choose whether they will serve God or not.

God can take any tragedy and turn it into a triumph.

### **II. Seek the Savior (Verses 3-4)**

If you seek God you will find Him! This is what happened with Josiah.

You cannot seek God when you are entrapped with the sin of this world.



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Revival will not come to our nation, church, and lives if we let the idols remain in our lives!

Do you desire to know the living God just as Josiah did?

### **III. Sacrifice for the Sanctuary (Verses 8-9)**

When you are interested in idols, you are not as interested in the house of God.

When God stirred Josiah's heart to repair and refurbish God's house, money was collected and given to the people to do the work.

*"And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it to the doers of the work which is in the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of the house," (2 Kings 22:5)*

*"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

### **IV. Submit to Scripture (Verses 14,18-19)**

Just by hearing the Word of God, Josiah repented.

*"Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." (2 Corinthians 7:9-10)*

Nobody will get right with God if they are only sorry for getting caught. There has to be a true change in your life!

*"And as for the king of Judah, who sent you to enquire of the LORD, so shall ye say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel concerning the words which thou hast heard; Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before God, when thou heardest his words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me,*



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*and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before me; I have even heard thee also, saith the LORD." (2 Chronicles 34:26-27)*

God gave Josiah grace because of his humility.

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)*

**Conclusion:** Josiah's story teaches us that a deep relationship with God is built on seeking Him earnestly, removing idols from our lives, and committing to the repair of His house. No matter the circumstances, God can use us, and He desires our whole-hearted pursuit of Him. True repentance, a desire for His Word, and a willingness to sacrifice for His purposes are essential for a revival in our lives. Let us learn from Josiah's example and draw near to God, knowing that He is always ready to receive those who seek His face with humility and sincerity.



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