

## Lesson 101

# God Protects Joash

Joash becomes king and repairs the temple.

# Studying God's Word

## Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Lesson Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

## Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of adoration and praise God for something.

I'll start. Dear God, I love you and praise you for . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration  
I'm sorry prayers—Confession  
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving  
Please prayers—Supplication

## **Bible Truths**

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

Because God is just, what must he do when we sin? He must punish us.

What word means God may not punish us as we deserve? Mercy.

Can we trust God all the time? Yes, because he is faithful.

What word means God knows all things? Omniscient.

## **Bible Pass Around**

Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Today, we are going to look into God's Word, the Bible. Hold up Bible. God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. I want everyone to count with me up to the number \_\_\_\_\_. (You may also choose to recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.) As we say each number (or word), you will carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you. Remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready for it in our lesson. Hand the Bible to the first student. Here we go!

K-1<sup>st</sup> Lesson continues next. Pre-K Lesson follows.

## **Pre-K Lesson**

## **K-1st Lesson**

## **Pre-K Lesson**

## **Introduction**

Refer to #24 on the Exodus to Malachi Timeline. We have been learning about the nation of Israel after it was divided into two kingdoms—the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.

All the kings of Israel did evil things, and they led the people to do sinful things like worshipping false gods and idols. God had to punish their sin by bringing the enemy against Israel, and the people were taken away far from home. Point to #27 on the timeline where the Israel path ends.

Point to the Judah path at #24 on the timeline. Now let's learn about some of the kings of Judah. In today's lesson, we'll learn about an evil woman who did terrible things so she could be the queen over Judah! What did God do about this? Let's find out.

## **Joash Is Rescued**

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. We'll read from 2 Kings 11 in the Old Testament. Have the student with the Bible bring it up and turn to the sticky note.

2 Kings 11:1 & 3

Listen to verse 1 so you can tell me who the evil woman was. Read the verse.

Who started destroying the royal family?  
Athaliah.

Athaliah was married to a king of Judah. Then when he died, her son Ahaziah became the next king. But later, he was killed. Athaliah decided that she didn't want

another king to take the throne—she wanted to be the queen over all Judah.

But first, she had to get rid of all the boys in her family so that none of them could become king. So Athaliah killed her own grandsons!

Isn't that terrible? Raise your hand if you think God could take care of this problem. Show of hands.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. God made sure one of the grandsons was rescued. His name was Joash. His aunt secretly took him and his nurse away and hid them from Athaliah.

Have the Illustrations/items inside a bag or box for you to pull out to show. Show Illustration #1 or a baby doll. I have a few pictures (or objects) to help us learn some important things about Joash's life. This first one reminds us that God saved baby Joash from being killed. As you continue, attach the Illustrations to the board or set the objects where they can be seen.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word.

Where did Joash hide? Listen for the answer as I read verse 3. In the house of the Lord.

Show Illustration #2. Attach it to the board. The house of the Lord is the temple where

the people worshipped God. Joash's aunt was married to the high priest Jehoiada, who was in charge of the temple. That's probably why she hid Joash there so Jehoiada could help keep him safe. How many years did Joash stay hidden in the temple? Six years.

During the six years Joash lived in the temple, Jehoiada the priest taught him the laws of God and how to be a good king. Finally, when Joash was seven years old, Jehoiada decided it was time for him to become king. But what about his evil grandmother, Queen Athaliah? How could they crown Joash without her knowing about it?

## **Joash Becomes King**

Jehoiada had a plan. First, he called the captains of the guard and showed them that Prince Joash was still alive! The guards all promised to protect Joash and help make him king. Together, they would secretly crown Joash before the queen found out.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Jehoiada brought Joash out to the people who came to the temple. What did he put on Joash? A crown.

Show Illustration #3 or a toy crown. Right. A crown. Joash became king that day.

Show Illustration #4 or a piece of paper rolled up and tied like a scroll. Jehoiada also gave Joash a copy of God's laws. Joash needed God's laws to help him understand how to obey God. Knowing these laws would help him be a good king and please the Lord.

When Jehoiada brought Joash out to the people, they were glad to see him. They clapped their hands and shouted, "Long live the king!"

Queen Athaliah heard the people shouting, so she went to find out what was going on. And guess who she saw standing there with a crown on his head—her grandson Joash!

Athaliah was so surprised, she tore her clothes and shouted angrily. But Jehoiada commanded the guards to take her out of the temple and put her to death for all the terrible things she had done.

Whew! Athaliah did a lot of awful things. But God was still in control. He was faithful to save Joash and make him king over Judah.

Joash was only a few years older than you—seven years old—when he became king. What a big responsibility! But Joash didn't have to do it by himself. Jehoiada the priest was a faithful friend who helped Joash do things that were pleasing to God. But when



Jehoiada was 130 years old, he died. That's when things changed.

## Joash Turns from God

King Joash began to listen to bad ideas from people who did not love the Lord. Soon, Joash gave up on God! Joash turned to idols and started worshipping false gods.

Show Illustration #5 or if using a figurine, explain: this figurine is just a decoration, but we'll use it to remind us of the idols people worshipped.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. This was terrible! Joash listened to these people and chose to follow what they said instead of following God. He even commanded the people to kill a priest who tried to tell them to turn back to God.

Show Illustration #6 or toy soldier. When God saw what Joash had done, he sent an army to attack Judah as punishment. Joash was badly wounded in the battle and was later killed by two of his own servants.

Refer to the Illustrations/objects. Isn't it sad that King Joash's life ended this way? Joash started out being rescued by God, becoming king, and obeying the Lord. But in the end, Joash was punished because he chose to do terrible things. He turned away from God by following people's bad ideas instead of following God's good laws.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

## **K-1st Lesson**

### **Introduction**

Refer to #24 on the Exodus to Malachi Timeline. We have been learning about the nation of Israel after it was divided into two kingdoms—the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.

All the kings of Israel did evil things, and they led the people to do sinful things like worshipping false gods and idols. God sent prophets like Elijah, Elisha, Amos, and Hosea to warn the people to stop sinning.

Did the people listen to the prophets and turn back to God? No.

No, they didn't. God had to punish their sin by bringing the Assyrian army against Israel, and the people were taken away far from home. Point to #27 on the timeline where the Israel path ends.

Point to the Judah path at #24 on the timeline. Now let's learn about some of the kings of Judah. Remember, Judah (the southern kingdom) was ruled by the descendants, or people in the family line, of King David. Many years earlier, the Lord had given David a special promise that the

Savior, Jesus, would come from his family line someday.

However, in today's lesson, we'll see how an evil woman tried to get rid of the people in David's family line! What did God do? Let's find out.

## Joash Is Rescued

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. We'll read from 2 Kings 11. This is a book of history in the Bible. Have the student with the Bible bring it up and turn to the sticky note.

2 Kings 11:1–3

Listen to verse 1 so you can tell me who the evil woman was. Read the verse.

Who started destroying the royal family?  
Athaliah.

Athaliah was married to a king of Judah. Then when he died, her son Ahaziah became the next king. But later, he was killed. Athaliah decided that she didn't want another king to take the throne—she wanted to take over herself and be the queen over all Judah.

But first, she had to get rid of all the boys in her family so that none of them could become king. So Athaliah killed her own grandsons so she could rule Judah!

Isn't that terrible? Raise your hand if you think God could take care of this problem. Show of hands.

God made sure one of the grandsons was rescued. Let's read about him now. Read verses 2 and 3.

Which of Athaliah's grandsons was rescued? What was his name? Joash.

Have the Illustrations/items inside a bag or box for you to pull out and show.

Show Illustration #1 or a baby doll. I have a few pictures (or objects) to help us learn some important things about Joash's life. This first one reminds us that God saved baby Joash from being killed. As you continue, attach the Illustrations to the board or set the objects where they can be seen.

What did the woman named Jehosheba do? She took Joash and stole him away.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Joash's aunt Jehosheba was very brave. She took baby Joash and his nurse away and hid them from Athaliah.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word.

Where did Joash stay hidden? Verse 3. In the house of the Lord.

Show Illustration #2. The house of the Lord is the temple where the people worshipped God. Jehosheba was married to the high priest Jehoiada, who was in charge of the temple. That's probably why she hid Joash there so Jehoiada could help keep him safe. How many years did Joash stay hidden? Six years.

During the six years Joash lived in the temple, Jehoiada the priest taught him the laws of God and how to be a good king. Finally, when Joash was seven years old, Jehoiada decided it was time for him to become king. But what about his evil grandmother, Queen Athaliah? How could they crown Joash without her knowing about it?

## Joash Becomes King

Jehoiada had a plan. First, he called the captains of the guard and showed them that Prince Joash was still alive! The guards all promised to protect Joash and help make him king. Together, they would secretly crown Joash before the queen found out.

2 Kings 11:12

Let's see if their plan worked. Listen to 2 Kings 11, verse 12. Read the verse.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Jehoiada brought Joash out to the people. What did he put on Joash? A crown.

Show Illustration #3 or a toy crown. Right. A crown. Joash became king that day.

What else did Jehoiada give to Joash? The testimony.

Show Illustration #4 or a piece of paper rolled up and tied like a scroll. The testimony was the laws of God. Joash needed God's laws to help him understand how to obey God. Knowing these laws would help him be a good king and please the Lord.

When Jehoiada brought Joash out to the people, they were glad to see him. They clapped their hands and shouted. What did the people shout? "Long live the king!"

Queen Athaliah heard the people shouting, so she went to find out what was going on. And guess who she saw standing there with a crown on his head—her grandson Joash!

Athaliah was so surprised she tore her clothes and shouted angrily. But Jehoiada commanded the guards to take her out of the temple and put her to death for all the terrible things she had done.

Whew! Athaliah came close to wiping out David's royal family line. But God was still in control. He was faithful to keep his promise he had made to David long ago by saving Joash and making him king so the family line would continue.

Joash was taken to the palace where he was seated on the throne. He was just a little older than you—seven years old—when he became king. What a big responsibility! But Joash didn't have to do it by himself.

Jehoiada the priest was a faithful friend who helped Joash do things that were pleasing to God. But when Jehoiada was 130 years old, he died. That's when things changed.

## **Joash Turns from God**

King Joash began to listen to bad ideas from people who did not love the Lord. Soon, he gave up on God! Joash turned to idols and began worshipping false gods.

Show Illustration #5 or if using a figurine, explain: this figurine is just a decoration, but we'll use it to remind us of the idols people worshipped.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. This was terrible! Joash listened to these people and chose to follow what they said instead of following God.

How do you think God felt about this?  
Angry; sad.

God was angry with Joash and the people of Judah for their sin. He chose a priest named Zechariah to remind the people that they were breaking God's laws by doing these evil things.

But King Joash and his people didn't want to listen to him. They wanted to keep sinning. So Joash commanded the people to do a terrible thing—he told them to kill Zechariah!

Show Illustration #6 or toy soldier. When God saw what Joash had done, he sent an army to attack Judah as punishment. Joash was badly wounded in the battle and was later killed by two of his own servants.

Refer to the Illustrations/objects. Isn't it sad that King Joash's life ended this way? Joash started out being rescued by God, becoming king, and obeying the Lord. But in the end, Joash was punished because he chose to do terrible things. He turned away from God by following people's bad ideas instead of following God's good laws.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game.

## Lesson Review



We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

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## **Bible Version**

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