

Hidden Treasure

2 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 34; Prophets and Kings, pp. 384, 385, 392-406

Have you ever looked forward to something, and then everything seemed to go wrong? Josiah was so excited when Shaphan came with the scroll from the temple, but then . . .

Shaphan returned to King Josiah and reported about the work on the temple.

"The builders have done their job well. They used the money as directed for rebuilding the temple. They have bought materials and paid the workers."

Then he added, "And Hilkiah, the high priest, gave me a book." Shaphan showed a scroll to the king.

"What is on this scroll?" asked King Josiah.

"It is the Book of the Law that was lost during your grandfather's reign," said Shaphan.

King Josiah sat up in his chair. He opened his eyes wide. "Really?" he said with a big smile. "This is wonderful! Please read it to me."

King Josiah listened very carefully. As Shaphan read, King Josiah's smile turned into a frown. He moaned and cried. Then he jumped up and tore his clothes. He couldn't believe what he had heard. The

book said the Israelites would be punished for their sins! *I have tried so hard to help the people to do right*, he thought.

"We must ask the Lord about the words," he said to Shaphan. "I know the Lord is angry because of what my father and grandfather did. They led the people to do wrong. Find out what will happen to the people who are alive today."

Shaphan and some other men went to see the prophetess Huldah. (She was a relative of the king's tailor.) When they got to her house, they read to her what the king had heard.

"Huldah, please explain this to us. What do these words mean?" they asked.

"Tell the king this is what the Lord God is saying," said Huldah. "I will do everything that is written in this



The Message

God leads His children as we study and obey His Word.

Memory Verse

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path”

(Psalm 119:105, NIV).

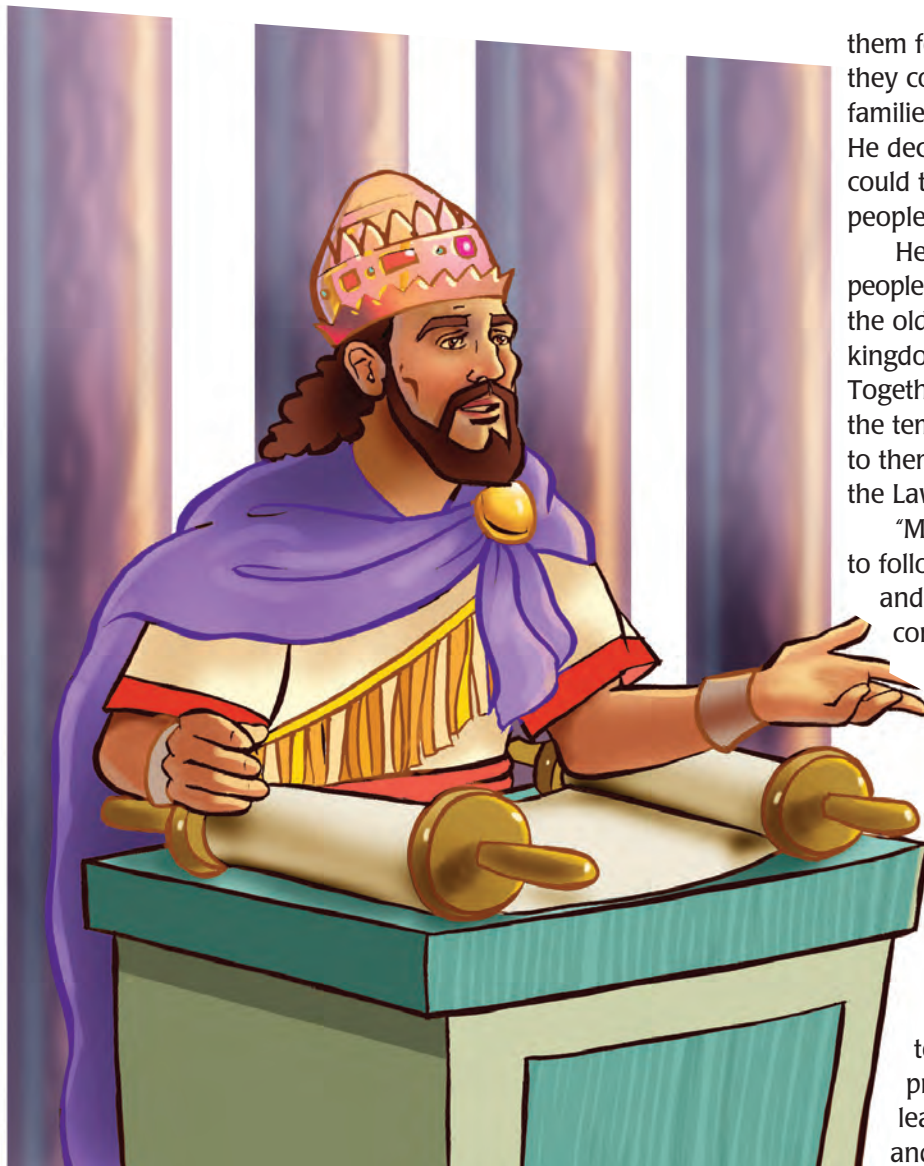
book. The people disobeyed me. They worshiped other gods. They've done a lot of bad things. They will be punished so that they will know that sin causes trouble.

“But tell King Josiah that God has a special message for him,” Huldah continued. “God says to Josiah, ‘You have listened to My words about what will happen to

your people. You are sorry for what they have done. You even tore your clothes to show how troubled you were. I have heard your sorrow. I will let you die in peace. You won't have to see all the trouble that will come to your people.’”

Shaphan took Huldah's message back to King Josiah.

King Josiah knew now that he couldn't save the people from their punishment. But he could keep it from happening right away. He would help



them follow God. And they could teach their families to do the same. He decided to do all he could to help prepare the people to obey God.

He called all the people together, including the older leaders of the kingdom and the priests. Together, they went to the temple. There he read to them from the Book of the Law.

“My people, I want to follow the Lord and obey all His commands,” King Josiah said. “Will you promise me that you'll do the same?”

And the people said, “We will! We will obey the Lord, our God.”

God wants us to make that same promise. And He will lead us as we study and obey His Word.

S A B B A T H

DO Go for a walk with your family. Talk about what it means to have God leading in your life. How can you be sure He leads you and your family?

DO Count the number of Bibles in your home.

PRAY Thank God for His Word—the Bible.

DO Teach the memory verse to your family.



The scroll found in the temple was probably the first five books of the Bible.

S U N D A Y

DRAW Draw a lamp or a light bulb and write the memory verse underneath it. Place it where you can see it every day.

DO How many different light sources can you find in your house? Count the light bulbs.

THINK Sit in a dark room and think what it would be like to live without light. Thank God for light.

M O N D A Y

READ Read and discuss 2 Chronicles 34 during family worship. Where did the Book of the Law come from? Who was Huldah?

DO Begin to memorize the names of the books of the Bible. How many do you already know? See if anyone in your family can say them all.

SHARE Ask each family member to name their favorite book or story in the Bible.

PRAY Thank God that we have the Bible to guide us.

T U E S D A Y

READ What did Jesus call the Word of God? (See Matthew 4:4.)

DO Ask if you can help bake bread or some other good thing to share at supper. Explain to the family that Jesus says that reading the Word of God is like eating good food.

ASK Ask your family to make a family promise to “feed” on the Word of God every day.

PRAY Pray that God will help you keep your promise.

W E D N E S D A Y

SHARE Read and discuss Psalm 40:8 for family worship.

DO Make a bookmark with the Memory Verse on it. Share the bookmark with a friend.

DO Ask five people to name a text that has encouraged and helped them. Find those texts and underline them in your Bible.

PRAY Pray for the friend you shared the bookmark with.

THURSDAY

READ A concordance is a special index to help us find texts. During worship today ask an adult to help you find a Bible with a concordance. Look up the word *law* and find and discuss two or three of the texts.

SING Sing a praise song during worship, then thank God for His law to guide you each day.

FRIDAY

DO Before worship begins, hide some favorite Bible texts around the room. Play hunt the text at the beginning of worship.

DO Review the story of Josiah. Act it out with your family during worship.

READ Choose a psalm and read it responsively. Then repeat your memory verse for your family.

PRAY Ask God to bless you all on His special day.

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PUZZLE

Directions: During the restoration of the temple, the Book of the Law was found. It became a light that helped the king and the Israelites to understand what God wanted. Unscramble the letters to find names of people in this week's lesson. Then draw a line from each name to the matching figure.

kihliHha _____

ahJiso _____

lHahud _____

nahpahS _____

