
Focus: Love the Lord with all your heart

Verse: Matthew 22:37 “. . . love the Lord your God with all your heart . . .” NKJV

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King Josiah

Indoor Scene (used as temple scene), Throne Room Overlay (pillars only), Priest with Scroll (23), Josiah as a Man (58), Workmen (87), Men (89), Women (97A), Women (97B), Children (108), Josiah as a Boy (115), Scroll for Josiah’s Hand (315), Crown (16M)

1. **King Josiah loved the Lord with all his heart.** Display Indoor Scene (used as temple scene), Throne Room Overlay (pillars only), Josiah as a Boy, Crown (on Josiah’s head).
   - A. Josiah loved the Lord because he knew the Lord is good.
   - B. Even as a boy, king Josiah did what was right in the sight of the Lord.

2. **When Josiah got older, he wanted to fix the house of the Lord because it was broken down.** Remove Josiah as a Boy, Crown - Add Priest with Scroll, Josiah as a Man, Workmen.
   - A. Josiah hired men to fix the house of the Lord.
   - B. Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law in the house of the Lord.
   - C. The Book of the Law was read to king Josiah.
   - D. King Josiah was sorry because he knew that no one obeyed the Book of the Law.

3. **King Josiah gathered all the people together and he read the Book of the Law to them.** Add Scroll for Josiah’s Hand, Men, Women, Children.
   - A. Josiah and the people promised to follow the Lord.
   - B. There was no king like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might.

4. **Love the Lord with all your heart.**
   - A. The Lord is worthy of your love because He is good.
   - B. He is kind to you and full of mercy.
King Josiah read the Book of the Law to the people
Loving God

Josiah loved the Lord with all of his heart, soul and mind. Do you know why? Because Josiah knew that the Lord is good.

The Bible tells you that the Lord forgives all your sins. He heals all your sicknesses. He saves your life from trouble. He crowns you with kindness and mercy. You want to love Him because He is so good.
His Goodness

Characters: Teacher
Nutmeg (or your favorite puppet)

NUTMEG: Do you love God?
TEACHER: Yes, I do! God is so good.
NUTMEG: How is God good?
TEACHER: He forgives all my sins. He heals me. He saves me in times of trouble.
NUTMEG: He is good!
TEACHER: Oh, but that’s not all. He crowns me with kindness and mercy! He gives me good things.
NUTMEG: Now I see why you love God with all your heart.
TEACHER: Yes. His goodness makes me want to love Him.
NUTMEG: Will He do all these good things for children?
TEACHER: Yes. When they believe in Jesus, God pours out His goodness on them!
...love the Lord your God with all your heart...
Matthew 22:37 \textsuperscript{NKJV}
Follow God

Preparation:
Have the children sit down. Make sure there is an open area for you to walk around in.

What to Tell Them:
I am pretending to be a hiker. Who wants to follow me up the mountain? Choose a child and have him/her get behind you. Now follow me. Begin walking around the room.

Be sure to stay right behind me. There are lots of rocks and cliffs. I want to take you to the top of the mountain safely.

Josiah loved the Lord with all of his heart. Josiah found out that the Lord is good. He followed after the Lord just like child’s name is following me. God wants you to love Him and follow Him so that He can show His goodness to you.
God wants you to follow Him
so He can show His goodness to you