

Bible Stories for Adults

Hezekiah

2 Chronicles 24 – 32

Opening

Gathering: How much impact does a parent have on their children's faithfulness?

Today's Focus: Hezekiah trusted God and returned Judah to faithfulness after his father had kicked God out.

Key Verses: *As long as he sought the Lord, God gave him success.* 2 Chronicles 26:5b

Hezekiah trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. 2 Kings 18:5

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Faithfulness of Israel (*2 Kings 17*)

How faithful was the northern kingdom of Israel and its kings?

2 Kings 17:21-22

How did God respond to this faithlessness of His people?

2 Kings 17:23

How did God respond to this faithlessness of His kings?

1 Kings 21:21-22

Faithfulness of Judah's Early Kings (*1 Kings 14-15*)

How faithful were the people of the southern kingdom of Judah?

2 Chronicles 11:13-14, 16-17

Did Judah and its kings remain faithful?

2 Chronicles 12:1-2

Did Judah return to faithfulness after Rehoboam was punished?

1 Kings 15:1, 3

Why did God allow this one dynasty to remain throughout the life of the nation of Judah?

1 Kings 15:4-5

Were all of Judah's kings unfaithful?

1 Kings 15:11-14; 22:41, 43

Why were the next three rulers of Judah considered evil?

2 Chronicles 21:5-6

How was this reign of evil ended by a seven year old?

2 Chronicles 22:10-12; 23:11, 21

Joash (*2 Chronicles 24*)

How faithful was this new king?

2 Chronicles 24:2, 17-19 (1-19)

How did Joash respond when Jehoiada's son tried to turn him back to the Lord?

2 Chronicles 24:22 (20-22)

How did God respond to Joash's rejection of Him and His servant?

2 Chronicles 24:24-25 (23-27)

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Amaziah (*2 Kings 14; 2 Chronicles 25*)

How faithful was Joash's son Amaziah?

2 Kings 14:1, 3-4 (1-7)

Did God's blessing of victory over Edom (Seir) further build Amaziah's faith?

2 Chronicles 25:14-15 (5-16)

How did God punish Amaziah for rejecting Him?

2 Chronicles 25:20, 22, 27 (17-28)

Uzziah - Azariah (*2 Chronicles 26*)

How faithful was Amaziah's son Uzziah (also called Azariah)

2 Chronicles 26:1, 4-5 (1-5)

How did God reward Uzziah's faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 26:7-8, 10, 15 (6-15)

Did Uzziah lose faith over time as his predecessors had?

2 Chronicles 26:16

How did God punish Uzziah for defying His regulations regarding the temple?

2 Chronicles 26:19, 21 (17-23)

Jotham (*2 Chronicles 27*)

How faithful was Uzziah's son Jotham?

2 Chronicles 27:2 (1-2)

How did God bless Jotham for his faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 27:5-6 (3-9)

Ahaz (*2 Chronicles 28; 2 Kings 16*)

How faithful was Jotham's son Ahaz?

2 Chronicles 28:1-4

How did God punish Ahaz for this evil?

2 Chronicles 28:5, 8 (5-15)

Did Ahaz turn to God for protection from Syria and Israel?

2 Chronicles 28:16, 19-20 (16-21)

Did Ahaz come to his senses and turn to the Lord in his trouble?

2 Chronicles 28:22-25

Note: Archaeology found that Ahaz was originally called Jehoahaz. Apparently dropped Yahweh portion.

God's Responds to His Unfaithful People (*2 Kings 17*)

How did God respond at this time to the continued evil and rejection by His northern nation of Israel?

2 Kings 17:5-6

Since Judah had occasionally returned to faithfulness, did God give them even another chance?

Isaiah 1:1-2, 18-20

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Hezekiah (*2 Chronicles 29; 2 Kings 18*)

Was the next king, as evil and faithless as his father Ahaz?

2 Chronicles 29:1-2

How did he match up with the other good kings of Judah?

2 Kings 18:4-7

What is the first thing Hezekiah did as king that showed his faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 29:3-5 (3-19)

What did Hezekiah do as soon as he was told that the temple was ready (took 16 days)?

2 Chronicles 29:20-21, 27-29 (20-36)

Hezekiah's Passover (*2 Chronicles 30*)

What did Hezekiah decide to do since it was too late to celebrate Passover (14th day of 1st month)?

2 Chronicles 30:2-3

Note: Numbers 9 instructs those unclean at Passover to celebrate a month later

How did he show his desire for all of God's chosen people to return to the Lord?

2 Chronicles 30:1 (4-12)

Note: By delaying Passover a month, he'd fit Israel's schedule as set by Jeroboam

How did Hezekiah handle the problem that Israel had forgotten over 200 yrs how to be purified?

2 Chronicles 30:18-20 (13-20)

How did everyone feel about this renewed Passover festival?

2 Chronicles 30:26-27 (21-27)

Did this great joy die down the day after the festival?

2 Chronicles 31:1

Assyria Threatens (*2 Chronicles 32:1-8; 2 Kings 18-19*)

What happened in the northern nation of Israel a few years later?

2 Kings 18:9-12

Did God protect Judah from any threat by Assyria because of Hezekiah's faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 32:1

How did Hezekiah encourage the people in Jerusalem?

2 Chronicles 32:6-8 (2-8)

Note: Hezekiah had insight like Elisha in 2 Kings 6:8-23

What does this mean for our everyday lives?

Romans 8:31

Assyria Challenges God (*2 Chronicles 32:9-23; 2 Kings 19*)

How did the Assyrians try to get the Jews to turn on Hezekiah?

2 Chronicles 32:10-12 (9-12)

Why should the Jews trust the Assyrians instead of Hezekiah?

2 Chronicles 32:13-15 (13-19)

How did the people respond and how did Hezekiah respond?

2 Kings 18:36; 19:1

What else did Hezekiah do that showed his faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 32:20 (see 2 Kings 19)

How did God respond to Hezekiah's prayer?

2 Chronicles 32:21-23 (2 Kings 19:35-37)

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Hezekiah Gets Sick (*2 Kings 20:1-11*)

When is the next time we see Isaiah and Hezekiah together?

2 Kings 20:1

How does Hezekiah respond to this news that he has a terminal illness?

2 Kings 20:2-3

How did God respond to Hezekiah's prayer?

2 Kings 20:4-7

How else did God bless Hezekiah at this time?

2 Kings 20:8-11

Hezekiah's Pride (*2 Chronicles 32:25-33; 2 Kings 20:12-21*)

Why did God send a high-powered entourage from Babylon to visit Hezekiah?

2 Chronicles 32:31

How did Hezekiah respond to this test?

2 Kings 20:12-13

What kind of wealth did Hezekiah show off?

2 Chronicles 32:27-30

How did God respond to Hezekiah letting his pride get away with him?

2 Kings 20:14-18

How did Hezekiah feel about this punishment for just giving a tour to guests?

2 Kings 20:19

How did the people respond to Hezekiah's death?

2 Chronicles 32:32-33

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. When and how have I remained faithful while my friends or others around me were being unfaithful?
(1 Kings 15:11-15; 19:14, 18; Genesis 6:9-12; Jeremiah 31:34; Revelation 2:10)
2. When and how have I been unfaithful because others around me were being unfaithful?
(2 Kings 17:21-23; 2 Chronicles 24:17-19; Matthew 18:6-9; 1 Corinthians 5)
3. How have I walked in the faithfulness of my father(s)?
(2 Chronicles 26:4; Deuteronomy 4:9; 5:16; 1 Corinthians 4:14-16; Galatians 3; Hebrews 13:7)
4. How have I walked in the sins of my father(s)?
(2 Chronicles 21:6; Deuteronomy 5:8-10; Matthew 23:29-36; John 8:44)
5. How have I walked faithfully despite the sins of my father(s)?
(1 Kings 15:11-13; 2 Kings 18:1-7; Deuteronomy 24:16; Jeremiah 31:29-30)

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Kings of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

<u>King</u>	<u>Positives</u>	<u>Negatives</u>
Jeroboam		Created his own religion
Nadab		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Baasha		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Elah		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Zimri		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Omri		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and more
Ahab		Moved past Jeroboam's sin with Baal worship
Ahaziah		Walked in the ways of Ahab and Jeroboam
Jehoram	Reduced Baal worship	Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Jehu	Purged Israel of Baal worship	Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Jehoahaz		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Jehoash		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Jeroboam		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Zechariah		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Shallum		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Menahem		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Pekahiah		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Pekah		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin
Hoshea		Walked in the ways of Jeroboam and his sin

Kings of the Southern Kingdom of Judah

<u>King</u>	<u>Positives</u>	<u>Negatives</u>
Rehoboam	Started faithful	Abandoned God once established
Abijah		Continued in the sins of his father
Asa	Fully committed to the Lord all his life	
Jehoshaphat	Walked in faithful ways of his father	Allied with Ahab of Israel by marriage
Jehoram		Turned Judah to Baalism of Israel
Ahaziah		Walked in evil ways of the house of Ahab
Athaliah		Walked in evil ways of the house of Ahab
Joash	Returned Judah to faithfulness	Rejected God after Jehoida (high priest) died
Amaziah	Followed faithful early example of father	Worshipped gods of Edom after victory
Uzziah	Did right in the eyes of the Lord	Became proud and entered temple
Jotham	Did right in the eyes of the Lord like father	Left high places
Ahaz		Turned to heavy Baal worship, sacrificed sons
Hezekiah	Returned Judah to faithfulness, Best of Judah	
Manasseh	Eventually repented	Reversed goods of his father, sacrificed sons
Amon		Continued in the sins of his father
Josiah	Returned Judah to faithfulness	
Jehoahaz		Evil in the eyes of the Lord
Jehoiakim		Evil in the eyes of the Lord
Jehoiachin		Evil in the eyes of the Lord
Zedekiah		Evil in the eyes of the Lord

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Kings of the Northern and Southern Kingdoms

Judah (South)					Israel (North)					
Yr BC	King	Yr	Rule	Prophets	Eras	King	Yr	Rule	Prophets	Eras
931	Rehoboam	17	Bad Mostly		Solomon Dies					
913	Abijah	3	Bad Mostly		Civil Strife	Jeroboam	22	Bad		Civil Strife
911	Asa	41	Good		" "					" "
910					" "	Nadab	2	Bad		" "
909					" "	Baasha	24	Bad		" "
888					" "	Elah	2	Bad		" "
887					" "	Zimri	7d	Bad		" "
886					" "	Omri	12	Extra Bad		" "
876					" "	Ahab (Jezebel)	22	The Worst		" "
871	Jehoshaphat	25	Good		" "				Elijah	" "
853					" "	Ahaziah	2	Bad		Wealth &
853					" "	Jehoram	12	Bad Mostly	" "	Prosperity
851	Jehoram	8	Bad		Baalism				" "	" "
843	Ahaziah	1	Bad		" "	Jehu	28	Bad Mostly	Elisha	" "
842	Athaliah	6	Devilish		" "				" "	" "
837	Joash	40	Good Mostly		Golden				" "	" "
816					Age	Jehoahaz	17	Bad	" "	" "
800					" "	Jehoash	16	Bad	" "	" "
798	Amaziah	29	Good Mostly		" "				" "	" "
785					" "	Jeroboam	41	Bad	Amos	" "
780	Uzziah	52	Good		" "				Hosea	" "
744					" "	Zechariah	6m	Bad	" "	Rapid
					" "	Shallum	1m	Bad	" "	Decline
					" "	Menahem	10	Bad	" "	" "
736	Jotham	16	Good	Isaiah &	" "	Pekahiah	2	Bad	& Micah	" "
735	Ahaz	16	Wicked	Micah	Decline				" "	" "
734				" "	" "	Pekah	2	Bad	" "	" "
732				" "	" "	Hoshea	9	Bad	" "	" "
721	Hezekiah	29	The Best	" "	" "					
693	Manasseh	55	The Worst		" "					
640	Amon	2	The Worst	Nahum &	" "					
638	Josiah	31	The Best	Zephaniah	Reform					
				Jeremiah	" "					
609	Jehoahaz	3m	Bad	" "	Destruction					
608	Jehoiakim	11	Wicked	Habakkuk	" "					
598	Jehoiachin	3m	Bad	Jeremiah	" "					
597	Surrender to Babylon		" "	" "	" "					
	Zedekiah	11	Bad	" "	" "					
586	Gedaliah									
561	Jehoiachin Freed									

Haggai & Zechariah