

Faith Like a Child

Pt 2 - "A Kid Becomes King!"

Joash Becomes King and Repairs the Temple (2 Chronicles 24:1-14 - NLT)

Joash was seven years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem forty years... ² Joash did what was pleasing in the LORD's sight throughout the lifetime of Jehoiada the priest...

⁴ At one point, Joash decided to repair and restore the Temple of the LORD. ⁵ He summoned the priests and Levites and gave them these instructions: "Go to all the towns of Judah and collect the required annual offerings, so that we can repair the Temple of your God. Do not delay!" But the Levites did not act immediately.

⁶ So the king called for Jehoiada the high priest and asked him, "Why haven't you demanded that the Levites go out and collect the Temple taxes from the towns of Judah and from Jerusalem? Moses, the servant of the LORD, levied this tax on the community of Israel in order to maintain the Tabernacle of the Covenant."

⁷ Over the years the followers of wicked Athaliah had broken into the Temple of God, and they had used all the dedicated things from the Temple of the LORD to worship the images of Baal.

⁸ So now the king ordered a chest to be made and set outside the gate leading to the Temple of the LORD. ⁹ Then a proclamation was sent throughout Judah and Jerusalem, telling the people to bring to the LORD the tax that Moses, the servant of God, had required of the Israelites in the wilderness. ¹⁰ This pleased all the leaders and the people, and they gladly brought their money and filled the chest with it.

¹¹ Whenever the chest became full, the Levites would carry it to the king's officials. Then the court secretary and an officer of the high priest would come and empty the chest and take it back to the Temple again. This went on day after day, and a large amount of money was collected. ¹² The king and Jehoiada gave the money to the construction supervisors, who hired masons and carpenters to restore the Temple of the LORD. They also hired metalworkers, who made articles of iron and bronze for the LORD'S Temple.

¹³ The men in charge of the renovation worked hard and made steady progress. They restored the Temple of God according to its original design and strengthened it. ¹⁴ When all the repairs were finished, they brought the remaining money to the king and Jehoiada. It was used to make various articles for the Temple of the LORD—articles for worship services and for burnt offerings, including ladles and other articles made of gold and silver. And the burnt offerings were sacrificed continually in the Temple of the LORD during the lifetime of Jehoiada the priest.

After reading the above story with/to your child/children, ask your child/children these questions while video recording their responses. Feel free to encourage them into more details with appropriate follow-up questions. If your child/children doesn't/don't want to (or can't) answer a question, feel free to skip it. You are welcome to record all the responses in a single video, or start a new video with each question (we will do a lot of editing later!).

- Do you think that a 7-year-old kid would make a good king or queen? Why or why not?
- For Joash and the people of Israel, the temple was a reminder that God was close to them, and a place they could worship. (Sort of like our church building today.) Why do you think it was such a big deal for Joash to repair the temple? Why was it so important to him?
- Joash tried to get the priests and Levites to help collect the resources they needed to start restoring the temple. But, they didn't seem to want to help. Have you ever wanted someone's help with something, and they refused to give it? How did/would something like that make you feel?
- The king's officials had to collect a large amount of money for the temple repair project. Have you ever tried to save up your money for a long time and put it toward something really big, expensive, or unique?
- The workers who helped repair the temple had a really important job. Do you have anything that you are responsible for that is important in your family?
- The workers were "diligent" in their work. Do you know what that means? (Parents help if needed.) Why do you think it can be hard sometimes to be "diligent" in the things we are asked to do? Is there something that you struggle to be diligent with?

To upload your response video(s), visit saalemfirstfriends.org/fifthsundayvideos/ and follow the instructions. If you need help, call the church office at 330.332.0001 or email Pete at petefowler@saalemfirstfriends.org. If you can't get the website working to upload your videos, we will figure out an alternate way for you to get them to us. Thanks!