

THE COURAGE OF JEHOSEBA STUDY GUIDE

Note to teachers/parents. The following questions and activities can be used to help children learn while reading the book. There are questions on history, geography, Bible, etc. It is not an exhaustive list but is provided to give you an idea of questions and activities you can use. I encourage you to use these and/or some of your own to help your children learn while they read *The Courage of Jehosheba*.

Chapter 1 Playing in the Palace

1. In the Bible, what is a “nurse”.
2. David was the second king of Israel and reigned 40 years. (II Samuel 5:1-5). Read I Kings 12:1-24. Why did the kingdom split? Which tribes stayed with King Rehoboam? (I Kings 12:23). They were called Judah. The other tribes were called Israel.
3. Who was Jehosheba’s grandfather? Read II Chronicles 17:1-11. Did her grandfather worship God or Baal? What things did he do to help his country?
4. Who was Jehosheba’s father? Read II Chronicles 21:5-6. Did he worship God or Baal?
5. Who was Athaliah? Was she a godly woman?
6. Make a family tree for Jehosheba showing the relationships of the following: Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Athaliah, Talia, Jehoiada, Ahaziah, Joash, Ahab, Jezebel. (Note, Talia is a made up name for this book and is not in the Bible).

Chapter 2 Choosing a Lamb

1. Read II Chronicles 9:17-19. Describe the throne and the throne room.
2. Read Exodus 12:1-34. What was the Passover? Why did they still celebrate it?
3. Read I Peter 1:19. What was the Passover a picture of? Why did the lamb have to be without blemishes?
4. What month in the Jewish calendar did they celebrate the Passover? Look up what month that is in our calendar.
5. Besides choosing the lamb, what else did they have to do to prepare for the Passover?
6. Read I Corinthians 5:7-8. What does leaven represent in the New Testament? What should we do to prepare our hearts for the Lord?

Chapter 3 When I See the Blood

1. How many days after choosing the lamb did they celebrate the Passover?
2. Read Exodus 12:11. In the book, what kind of clothes did Jehosheba and Merab wear? Why did they wear them?

3. God brought many plaques on the Egyptians. What were they? What was the last plaque?
4. What is hyssop? What are some uses for it? What did King Jehoshaphat do with it? Look up pictures of it.
5. What did they eat at the Passover? Look up some recipes that are used at Passovers held now and try them. Search for “Passover seder recipes”. (My favorites are matzah ball soup and charoset).
6. At most Passovers now lamb is not eaten. Can you think of a spiritual reason why they no longer serve lamb? (I John 1:29, Hebrews 9:24-28).
7. How many days did they eat unleavened bread? (Exodus 13:6).
8. How did God save Israel from the Egyptian army when they came out of Egypt?
9. What do you think it would be like walking through the middle of the Red Sea?

Chapter 4 Neither Know We What to Do

1. Read II Chronicles 20:1-13. What countries were marching towards Judah?
2. Look on a map that shows the countries during the Old Testament. Find the three countries that were going to attack Judah. Also find the Salt Sea and Engedi. Draw the route that the three countries would have traveled.
3. What is the Salt Sea called now? Why do you think it’s called that? What are some unique things about the Salt Sea?
4. Why was there a lot of wildlife around Engedi? Look up what kinds of animals lived there. Do a study on one of the animals.
5. What did King Jehoshaphat have the people do to prepare for the battle? Do you think that was the best thing to do?

Chapter 5 The Battle is Not Yours

1. Read II Chronicles 20:14-19. When God gave them an answer, how did the king and the people react?
2. Talia talks about songs lifting the heart. What hymn helps to lift your heart?
3. What was the watch tower at Tekoa used for?
4. What did the king have the army do as they approached Tekoa?
5. Describe the battle. Is that how battles usually happen?
6. God helps us in our lives like he helped the people of Judah. Think of a time when God helped you. Did you stop and give God thanks for helping you?

Chapter 6 Give Me a Man Who... (Note, this chapter doesn’t contain stories from the Bible, however, there are Biblical principles.)

1. Why wasn’t Jehosheba interested in marrying a prince? What type of man did she want to marry?

2. Read II Corinthians 6:14. What does it mean to be “yoked” with someone? Where did that term come from? What is the most important thing in a potential husband or wife?
3. What things did Jehosheba give up by not marrying a prince? What things did she gain?

Chapter 7 Life with a Priest

1. When Jehosheba married Jehoiada, what new things did she need to learn?
2. Find a recipe for bread and make it. Do you think it would be hard to make all your food from scratch, including grinding the wheat by hand, kneading and baking the bread?
3. According to the Bible, what ages did priests serve? (Numbers 4:3).
4. What is the difference between a priest and a Levite?
5. What was God’s plan to provide for the priests and Levites? Is that similar to God’s plan to provide for pastors today?
6. Why did Jehoiada always carry a sword when they traveled?
7. Look up the types of wildlife that are in the area of Hebron. Choose one to study in depth.

Chapter 8 Joy and Sorrow

1. Why did Jehosheba feel sick?
2. Zechariah was wrapped in swaddling clothes. What are they? Who else was wrapped in swaddling clothes?
3. What did Jehoiada and Jehosheba do when Zechariah was 40 days old? (Leviticus 12:6-7).
4. Why did Jehosheba want to visit her grandfather often?
5. What did she worry would happen when King Jehoshaphat died?

Chapter 9 Evil Reigns

1. Who became king after King Jehoshaphat died?
2. What did Jehoram do as soon as he was established? II Chronicles 21:4-6.
3. Who did Jehosheba think was probably making the decisions in the kingdom?
4. Why was Jehosheba worried when Jehoiada went to work at the Temple?
5. In the chapter Jehoiada quotes Psalm 37:25. Look it up in your Bible. What does the verse talk about? Memorize the verse so you can think about it if you are worried about God’s provision.

Chapter 10 A Message from the Past

1. Read II Chronicles 21:12. Who did Jehoram receive a letter from? Why was it surprising that it was from him?
2. Read II Chronicles 21:12-15. What did the letter say was going to happen?
3. Sin doesn't only affect those who do it. How did it affect the people around Jehoram? Read II Chronicles 21:16-17. Who in the book was taken captive? How did Jehoiada help his wife when they heard the news?
4. Read II Chronicles 21:19-20. When Jehoram died, did people mourn for him? Why?
5. Who became king after Jehoram? Sometimes the kings had several names, like we sometimes have nicknames. Look at II Chronicles 21:17 and II Chronicles 22:1. What were the two names the king was called?
6. Was he a good king? Why? Who was his counsellor? (II Chronicles 22:3-4).

Chapter 11 The Courage of Jehosheba

1. Why did Jehosheba go to the palace? Describe the bedchamber.
2. Chamberlains and guards followed Athaliah. What is a chamberlain?
3. What news did the servants tell Athaliah? How did she react?
4. What did Jehosheba do when she didn't know what to do? Is that what we should do when we need help?
5. How old was Ahaziah's oldest son? How old was Joash?
6. Jehosheba was scared. How did she show courage? Can we be courageous even if we are scared?

Chapter 12 Escape from the Palace

1. At the beginning of the chapter, Jehosheba starts praying. What does she remind God?
2. How did God give Jehosheba the answer of where to hide Joash? (That is one reason it's important to memorize scripture.)
3. How did Deborah and Jehosheba get Joash out of the palace?
4. Look up a diagram of the Temple and palace in the Old Testament. They were close together. What would be an advantage of that when saving Joash? What would be a disadvantage when trying to hide him?
5. As Jehosheba was telling Jehoiada about Joash, what was she worried about?
6. The Bible says that Joash was hid in the Temple. It doesn't specify what part of the Temple. Look at diagrams of the Temple and decide where would be the best place to hide him.
7. The Temple included the courtyard surrounding the building. Look up what things were done in different areas. Where was the Ark of the Covenant? Where was the

showbread? The lamp? The alter? The curtain? The storehouses? The women's court? The brazen laver? What was the laver used for?

Chapter 13 Living in the Temple

1. What things would make it hard to keep Joash hidden in the Temple? Think about young children you know and what they need.
2. Many times in the Bible, a story in the Old Testament shows us a principle (truth) in the New Testament. Jehoiada, a representative of God, provided for Joash and Deborah. What principle does that show us? (Read Matthew 6:25-33).
3. What important things did Jehoiada teach Joash? Why is it important for you to learn the Bible?

Chapter 14 God's Promise Fulfilled

1. How long was Joash hidden in the Temple? II Kings 11:3.
2. II Chronicles 22:12 says that Athaliah reigned. What type of queen was she? Would it be hard to serve the Lord with a queen like her in charge? Think of other times in history or the Bible when Jews were persecuted for serving the Lord. Should we continue serving God even when things are hard?
3. Why did Jehoiada only tell a few people about Joash?
4. Read II Chronicles 23:1-10. What things did Jehoiada do to prepare for revealing Joash? What might happen if they weren't prepared?
5. Read II Chronicles 23:11-15. What was Athaliah's reaction when she saw Joash and heard the people? What does "treason" mean?
6. Why do you think everything that happened that day would be overwhelming to Joash? We sometimes can get overwhelmed with things in our life. When that happens, what should we do? (Psalm 61:2).
7. Read II Chronicles 23:16-17. What did the people do after Joash was crowned king? (They did two things in these verses). Relate that to your life. When God works in your life and you make a decision to follow the Lord, what should you clean out of your life?

Chapter 15 Repairing the Damage

1. Read II Chronicles 24:6-14. Even though Joash had a good life, there was something bothering him. What was it?
2. What were the tithes used for? Some people think a tithe is any amount given to the Lord. Look up the definition of tithe. Is it any amount or a specific percentage? (Note, any amount given above the tithe is an offering to the Lord.)
3. What did they do so they would have money to do the repairs to the Temple?
4. What did they do with the extra money after doing the repairs?

5. Zechariah wasn't old enough yet to be a priest. What did he do to serve in the Temple instead? Think about the church. What jobs are important to do even though they aren't "main" jobs? I Corinthians 12:12-26.

Chapter 16 The Rest of the Story

1. Read II Chronicles 24:15-25. What happened after Jehoiada died?
2. According to Romans 3:23, how many people have sinned?
3. Read Romans 6:23. What is the payment for sin?
4. Because of our sin, we deserve to go to hell when we die. How can we go to heaven instead?
5. Have you received Christ as your Saviour? If so, have you made a commitment to follow Him?

If you have any questions about salvation, please contact me at
Nancy.Hitt@SweeterDaysLiterature.com

I would love to hear if this book has been a blessing to you. Please send me an email at the address above.