

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – February 26, 2023**

**Theme: Servant Leadership Topic: Purposeful Leadership**

**Main Texts: 2 Chronicles 34:1-33**

**Key verse: 2 Chronicles 34:33a** – *“Thus Josiah removed all the abominations from all the country that belonged to the children of Israel, and made all who were present in Israel diligently serve the Lord their God.”* (NKJV)

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**INTRODUCTION:** Josiah was the son of King Amon and the grandson of King Manasseh. Both his father and grandfather were among the most spiritually corrupt kings of Judah. Josiah succeeded his father King Amon, at the tender age of eight, during some of the darkest days in Israel’s history, at a time the land was overrun with gross idolatry. Yet, according to 2 Kings 23:25 (GNT), *“There had never been a king like him before, who served the LORD with all his heart, mind, and strength, obeying all the Law of Moses; nor has there been a king like him since.”* (GNT). This places Josiah as the godliest king that ever lived! His character and conduct remained unblemished throughout his thirty-one-year reign (2 Chronicles 34:33b). According to one renowned science journal, purpose is an abiding intention to achieve a long-term goal that is personally meaningful and makes a positive mark on the world. (*GGSC at the University of California, Berkeley*). This brief biography of King Josiah fits well with this definition of purpose. And when applied in leadership, frames **purposeful leadership**. Like someone has said, “Our individual purpose inspires why we lead and how we engage others.”

1. **Read 2 Kings 22:2; 2 Chronicles 34:33 (a) How would you describe King Josiah’s purpose as a person? (b) In what ways did Josiah’s purpose in life inspire how he led the people? (c) Let some participants briefly share their personal purpose in life and how that is shaping the choice and decisions they make.**

Purposeful leadership starts with a clear sense of purpose on the part of the leader. One area where that clarity is fundamental is in being clear about who you are serving in that leadership position. By the age of sixteen Josiah was earnestly pursuing God. He demonstrated this with a massive campaign to purge the land of the idols that dominated Judah and Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 34:3–7). He did not spare any town or village (2 Chronicles 34:6), neither did he take half measures in his pursuit of national repentance and revival. The idols weren’t just cut down, they were ground to powder and scattered over the graves of those who sacrificed to them. The bones of the priests who practiced paganism were burned on their altars. Next, he turned his attention to repairing the crumbling Temple (2 Chronicles 34:8). In the course of the temple repairs, a copy of God’s law was found and brought to Josiah (2 Chronicles 34:14–18). The revelation from God’s word further fueled his effort to bring the nation back to the God they and their ancestors had long abandoned!

2. **Read 2 Chronicles 34:19-21; 29–33 (a) Looking at King Josiah’s reaction to the word of God, what would you say is his attitude towards God and God’s word? (b) Considering how far and how long the people had neglected God, what lesson can we learn from the actions of King Josiah and the people’s response in 2 Chronicles 34:29-33? (c) How can we apply this in making a difference in a world where truth is relative, and people are increasingly separating themselves from God?**

Josiah gathered the nation at the Temple and read the law to them. It was a time of national repentance, covenant renewal, and obedience to God’s commands. The reforms Josiah enacted remained intact throughout his reign (2 Chronicles 34:29–33). Because of Josiah’s humility, reverence, and intercession for his nation, God graciously granted Israel a stay of execution (2 Chronicles 34:27–28). Josiah also oversaw the return of the Ark of the Covenant to the Temple (2 Chronicles 35:3) and the restoration of the Passover sacrifices (2 Chronicles 35:1). Josiah’s reinstatement of the Passover was unprecedented (2 Chronicles 35:18). Josiah was a remarkable and heroic reformer who brought great blessings to Israel for the duration of his reign. But tragically, that reign was cut short.

3. **Read 2 Chronicles 34:2-8, 19-21, 29-33; Micah 6:8. (a) What values would you say drove Josiah? (b) What one word would you use to describe King Josiah? (c) What will our personal and family lives, and society look like if each of us lived by a God-centered value system, like King Josiah did?**

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**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, we thank You for the grace to know You. Please help us to be like King Josiah, who made it his life’s purpose to please You in every way, all through his life on earth. In Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior Amen.*