

- Song 59 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

“An Ambitious, Wicked Woman Does Not Go Unpunished”: (10 min.)

Athaliah murdered the royal offspring so that she could rule over Judah (2Ki 11:1; *it-1* 209; see the chart “The Whole House of Ahab Will Perish”—2Ki 9:8”)

(2 Kings 11:1) 11 Now when Ath·a·li'ah, A·ha·zi'ah's mother, saw that her son had died, she rose up and destroyed the entire royal line.

*** *it-1* p. 209 Athaliah ***

Like her mother Jezebel, Athaliah egged on her husband, Jehoram, to do what was bad in Jehovah's eyes during his eight-year reign. (1Ki 21:25; 2Ch 21:4-6) And like her mother, Athaliah wantonly shed the blood of the innocent. When her wicked son Ahaziah died after a one-year reign, she killed off all the others of the royal line, except the infant Jehoash, who had been hidden by the high priest and his wife, who was Jehoash's aunt. Thereupon Athaliah installed herself as queen for six years, c. 905-899 B.C.E. (2Ch 22:11, 12) Her sons robbed Jehovah's temple of the holy things and offered them up to Baal.—2Ch 24:7.

- (1 Kings 21:25) Indeed, there has never been anyone like A'hab, who was so determined to do what was bad in the eyes of Jehovah, egged on by his wife Jez'e·bel.
- (2 Chronicles 21:4-6) When Je·ho·ram had taken control of the kingdom of his father, he strengthened his position by killing all his brothers with the sword, as well as some of the princes of Israel. 5 Je·ho·ram was 32 years old when he became king, and he reigned for eight years in Jerusalem. 6 He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as those of the house of A'hab had done, for A'hab's daughter had become his wife;

and he kept doing what was bad in Jehovah's eyes.

- (2 Chronicles 22:11, 12) However, Je·ho·shab'e·ath the daughter of the king took Je·ho'ash the son of A·ha·zi'ah and stole him away from among the sons of the king who were to be put to death, and she put him and his nurse in an inner bedroom. Je·ho·shab'e·ath the daughter of King Je·ho·ram (she was the wife of Je·hoi'a·da the priest and a sister of A·ha·zi'ah) managed to keep him concealed from Ath·a·li'ah, so that she did not put him to death. 12 He remained with them for six years, hidden at the house of the true God, while Ath·a·li'ah was ruling over the land.
- (2 Chronicles 24:7) For the sons of Ath·a·li'ah, that wicked woman, had broken into the house of the true God, and they had used all the holy things of the house of Jehovah for the Ba'als.”

November 28–December 4, 2022
 Our Christian Life and Ministry MEETING WORKBOOK and CBS
 Assigned chapters: 2 KINGS 11-12

KINGDOM OF JUDAH	KINGDOM OF ISRAEL
Jehoshaphat is king	c. 920 B.C.E.: Ahaziah (son of Ahab and Jezebel) becomes king
c. 911 B.C.E.: Jehoram (son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel) becomes sole ruler	c. 917 B.C.E.: Jehoram (son of Ahab and Jezebel) becomes king
c. 906 B.C.E.: Ahaziah (grandson of Ahab and Jezebel) becomes king	c. 905 B.C.E.: Jehu executes King Jehoram of Israel and his brothers, Jehoram's mother (Jezebel), and King Ahaziah of Judah and his brothers.—2Ki 9:14–10:17
c. 905 B.C.E.: Athaliah murders all the royal offspring and usurps the throne. Only her grandson Jehoash is saved and kept hidden from her by High Priest Jehoiada.—2Ki 11:1-3	c. 904 B.C.E.: Jehu begins ruling as king
898 B.C.E.: Jehoash becomes king. Queen Athaliah is executed by High Priest Jehoiada.—2Ki 11:4-16	(2 Kings 11:1-3) 11 Now when Ath·a·li'ah, A·ha·zi'ah's mother, saw that her son had died, she rose up and destroyed the entire royal line. 2 However, Je·hosh'e·ba the daughter of King Je·ho'ram, A·ha·zi'ah's sister, took Je·ho'ash the son of A·ha·zi'ah and stole him away from among the sons of the king who were to be put to death, keeping him and his nurse in an inner bedroom. They managed to keep him concealed from Ath·a·li'ah, so he was not put to death. 3 He remained with her for six years, hidden at the house of Jehovah, while Ath·a·li'ah was ruling over the land.
	(2 Kings 11:4-16) omitted due to length
	(2 Kings 9:14-10:17) omitted due to length

Jehosheba hid Jehoash, the heir to the throne (2Ki 11:2, 3)

(2 Kings 11:2, 3) 2 However, Je-hosh'e-ba the daughter of King Je-ho'ram, A-ha-zi'ah's sister, took Je-ho'ash the son of A-ha-zi'ah and stole him away from among the sons of the king who were to be put to death, keeping him and his nurse in an inner bedroom. They managed to keep him concealed from Ath-a-li'ah, so he was not put to death. 3 He remained with her for six years, hidden at the house of Jehovah, while Ath-a-li'ah was ruling over the land.

High Priest Jehoiada installed Jehoash as king and executed wicked Athaliah, who was perhaps the last of Ahab's house (2Ki 11:12-16; *it-1* 209)

(2 Kings 11:12-16) 12 Then Je-hoi'a-da brought the king's son out and put on him the crown and the Testimony, and they made him king and anointed him. They began to clap their hands and say: "Long live the king!" 13 When Ath-a-li'ah heard the sound of the people running, she immediately came to the people at the house of Jehovah. 14 Then she saw the king standing there by the pillar according to the custom. The chiefs and the trumpeters were with the king, and all the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing the trumpets. At this Ath-a-li'ah ripped her garments apart and cried out: "Conspiracy! Conspiracy!" 15 But Je-hoi'a-da the priest commanded the chiefs of

hundreds, those appointed over the army, and said to them: "Take her out from among the ranks, and if anyone follows her, put him to death with the sword!" For the priest had said: "Do not put her to death in the house of Jehovah." 16 So they seized her, and when she reached the place where the horses enter the king's house, she was put to death there.

*** *it-1* p. 209 Athaliah ***

When Jehoash reached seven years of age, God-fearing High Priest Jehoiada brought the lad out of secrecy and crowned him rightful heir to the throne. Hearing the tumult, Athaliah rushed to the temple and, upon seeing what was happening, cried, "Conspiracy! Conspiracy!" High Priest Jehoiada ordered her taken outside the temple grounds to be executed at the horse gate of the palace; she was perhaps the last of Ahab's abominable house. (2Ki 11:1-20; 2Ch 22:1-23:21) How true it proved to be: "Nothing of Jehovah's word will fall unfulfilled to the earth that Jehovah has spoken against the house of Ahab"—2Ki 10:10, 11; 1Ki 21:20-24.

(2 Kings 11:1-20) omitted due to length

(2 Chronicles 22:1-23:21) omitted due to length

(2 Kings 10:10, 11) Know, then, that not a single word of Jehovah's that Jehovah has spoken against the house of A'hab will go unfulfilled, and Jehovah has done what he spoke through his servant E-li'jah." 11 Moreover, Je'hu struck down all who were left of the house of A'hab in Jez're-el, as well as all his distinguished men, his acquaintances, and his priests, until he had left him no survivor.

(1 Kings 21:20-24) A'hab said to E-li'jah: "So you have found me, O my enemy!" He replied: "I have found you. 'Because you are determined to do what is bad in the eyes of Jehovah, 21 here I am bringing calamity upon you, and I will make a clean sweep after you

and will annihilate from A'hab every male, including the helpless and weak in Israel. 22 And I will make your house like the house of Jer·o·bo'am the son of Ne'bat and like the house of Ba'a·sha the son of A·hi'jah, for you have provoked my anger and have caused Israel to sin.' 23 Also concerning Jez'e·bel, Jehovah has said: 'The dogs will eat up Jez'e·bel in the plot of land of Jez're-el. 24 Anyone belonging to A'hab who dies in the city the dogs will eat up, and anyone who dies in the field the birds of the heavens will eat up.

FOR MEDITATION: How does this account illustrate the truthfulness of Proverbs 11:21 and Ecclesiastes 8:12, 13?

- (Proverbs 11:21) Be assured of this: An evil person will not go unpunished, But the children of the righteous will escape.
- (Ecclesiastes 8:12, 13) Although a sinner may do bad a hundred times and still live a long time, yet I am aware that it will turn out well for those who fear the true God, because they fear him. 13 But it will not turn out well for the wicked one, nor will he prolong his days that are like a shadow, because he does not fear God.

Spiritual Gems:

2Ki 12:1—Why is it significant that Jehovah preserved Jehoash alive? (*it-1* 1265-1266)

(2 Kings 12:1) 12 In the seventh year of Je'hu, Je·ho'ash became king, and he reigned for 40 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zib'i·ah from Be'er-she'ba.

*** *it-1* pp. 1265-1266 Jehoash ***

Thereafter, as long as High Priest Jehoiada lived and acted as father and adviser to Jehoash, the young monarch prospered. Married by the time he was 21, he had two

wives, one of whom was named Jehoaddan, and by these Jehoash became father to sons and daughters. In this way the line of David leading to the Messiah, which had come so near to being completely severed, was once again made strong.—2Ki 12:1-3; 2Ch 24:1-3; 25:1.

- (2 Kings 12:1-3) In the seventh year of Je'hu, Je·ho'ash became king, and he reigned for 40 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zib'i·ah from Be'er-she'ba. 2 Je·ho'ash continued doing what was right in Jehovah's eyes all the days that Je·hoi'a·da the priest instructed him. 3 However, the high places were not removed, and the people were still sacrificing and making sacrificial smoke on the high places.
- (2 Chronicles 24:1-3) Je·ho'ash was seven years old when he became king, and he reigned for 40 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zib'i·ah from Be'er-she'ba. 2 Je·ho'ash continued doing what was right in Jehovah's eyes all the days of Je·hoi'a·da the priest. 3 Je·hoi'a·da chose two wives for him, and he became father to sons and daughters.
- (2 Chronicles 25:1) Am·a·zi'ah was 25 years old when he became king, and he reigned for 29 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Je·ho·ad'dan of Jerusalem.

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah, the field ministry, or something else?

Bible Reading:) (4 min.)
2Ki 11:1-12 (th study 5)

(2 Kings 11:1-12) 11 Now when Ath·a·li'ah, A·ha·zi'ah's mother, saw that her son had died, she rose up and destroyed the entire royal line. 2 However, Je·hosh'e·ba the daughter of King Je·ho'ram, A·ha·zi'ah's sister, took Je·ho'ash the son of A·ha·zi'ah and stole him away from among the sons of the king who were to be put to death, keeping him and his nurse in an inner bedroom. They managed to keep him concealed from Ath·a·li'ah, so he was not put to death. 3 He remained with her for six years, hidden at the house of Jehovah, while Ath·a·li'ah was ruling over the land. 4 In the seventh year, Je·hoi'a·da sent for the chiefs of hundreds of the Ca'ri·an bodyguard and of the palace guards and had them come to him at the house of Jehovah. He made a pact with them and had them swear to it at the house of Jehovah, and then he showed them the son of the king. 5 He ordered them: "This is what you are to do: One third of you will be on duty on the Sabbath and will keep strict watch over the king's house, 6 another third will be at the Gate of the Foundation, and another third will be at the gate behind the palace guards. You will take turns watching over the house. 7 Your two divisions that are supposed to be off duty on the Sabbath must keep strict watch over the house of Jehovah to protect the king. 8 You must surround the king on every side, each with his weapons in hand. Anyone entering within the ranks will be put to death. Stay with the king wherever he goes." 9 The chiefs of hundreds did exactly what Je·hoi'a·da the priest had commanded. So each one took his men who were on duty on the Sabbath, together with those who were off duty on the Sabbath, and they came in to Je·hoi'a·da the priest. 10 The priest then gave the chiefs of hundreds the spears and the circular shields that had belonged to King David, which were in the house of Jehovah. 11 And the palace guards took their positions, each with his weapons in hand, from the right side of the house to the left side of the house, by the altar

and by the house, all around the king. 12 Then Je·hoi'a·da brought the king's son out and put on him the crown and the Testimony, and they made him king and anointed him. They began to clap their hands and say: "Long live the king!"

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

Initial Call: (3 min.) Begin with the sample conversation topic. Invite the person to a meeting, and introduce and discuss (but do not play) the video What Happens at a Kingdom Hall? (th study 4)

Initial Call

Question: Is an end to violence and war realistic?

Scripture: Ps 37:10, 11

Link: What Bible promise gives us hope?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:

• T-31; T-34

- **(Psalm 37:10, 11)** Just a little while longer, and the wicked will be no more; You will look at where they were, And they will not be there. ¹¹ But the meek will possess the earth, And they will find exquisite delight in the abundance of peace.

Return Visit: (4 min.) Begin with the sample conversation topic. Tell the person about our free Bible course, and offer the Enjoy Life Forever! brochure. Introduce and discuss (but do not play) the video What Happens at a Bible Study? (th study 3)

Return Visit

Question: What Bible promise gives us hope?

Scripture: Re 21:3, 4

Link: How can we understand the Bible?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:

• Iffi lesson 02 point 2; g22.1 15

- **(Revelation 21:3, 4)** With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: “Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his people. And God himself will be with them. ⁴ And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.”

Bible Study: (5 min.) Iffi lesson 08 Dig Deeper introduction and point 4 (th study 6)

DIG DEEPER

Learn more about how you can become Jehovah’s friend, and discover why he is the best Friend you can have.

4. Abraham was Jehovah’s friend

The Bible account of Abraham (also called Abram) gives us a glimpse of what it means to be God’s friend. Read about Abraham at Genesis 12:1-4. Then discuss these questions:

- What did Jehovah ask Abraham to do?
- What did Jehovah promise him?
- How did Abraham respond to Jehovah’s instructions?
- (Genesis 12:1-4) 12 And Jehovah said to A'bram: “Go out from your land and away from your relatives and from the house of your father to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and I will make your name great, and you will become a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who calls down evil on you, and all the families of the ground will certainly be blessed by means of you.” 4 So A'bram went just as Jehovah had told him, and Lot went with him. A'bram was 75 years old when he left Ha'ran.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

Song 84

“Why Should Christians Reach Out?”: (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Why Reach Out?* (1Ti 3:1)

Why Should Christians Reach Out?

Brothers and sisters stretch forward to reach spiritual goals, such as pioneering, Bethel service, and Kingdom Hall construction. In addition, brothers reach out to be overseers. (1Ti 3:1) Does this mean that Christians should ambitiously strive for a certain office or status?

WATCH THE VIDEO WHY REACH OUT? (1TI 3:1), AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

How do the following scriptures help us discern three reasons to reach out?

• Mt 5:14-16

• 1Ti 4:15

• Heb 5:14–6:1

- (1 Timothy 3:1) This statement is trustworthy: If a man is reaching out to be an overseer, he is desirous of a fine work.
- (Matthew 5:14-16) “You are the light of the world. A city cannot be hid when located on a mountain. 15 People light a lamp and set it, not under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it shines on all those in the house. 16 Likewise, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your fine works and give glory to your Father who is in the heavens.
- (1 Timothy 4:15) Ponder over these things; be absorbed in them, so that your advancement may be plainly seen by all people.
- (Hebrews 5:14-6:1) But solid food belongs to mature people, to those who through use have their powers of discernment trained to distinguish both right and wrong.
- (Hebrews 6:1) 6 Therefore, now that we have moved beyond the primary doctrine about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying a foundation again, namely, repentance from dead works and faith in God,
-

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)

Iff lesson 29

(Ecclesiastes 9:5) For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing at all, nor do they have any more reward, because all memory of them is forgotten.

(John 8:32) and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

(Deuteronomy 18:10-12) There should not be found in you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, anyone who employs divination, anyone practicing magic, anyone who looks for omens, a sorcerer, 11 anyone binding others with a spell, anyone who consults a spirit medium or a fortune-teller, or anyone who inquires of the dead. 12 For whoever does these things is detestable to Jehovah, and on account of these detestable practices Jehovah your God is driving them away from before you.

(Ecclesiastes 3:20) All are going to the same place. They all come from the dust, and they all are returning to the dust.

(John 11:11-14) After he said these things, he added: “Laz'a-rus our friend has fallen asleep, but I am traveling there to awaken him.” 12 The disciples then said to him: “Lord, if he is sleeping, he will get well.” 13 Jesus, however, had spoken about his death. But they imagined he was speaking about taking rest in sleep. 14 Then Jesus said to them plainly: “Laz'a-rus has died,

(Ecclesiastes 9:10) Whatever your hand finds to do, do with all your might, for there is no work nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom in the Grave, where you are going.

(Isaiah 8:19) And if they say to you: “Inquire of the spirit mediums or of the fortune-tellers who chirp and mutter,” is it not of their God that a

people should inquire? Should they inquire of the dead in behalf of the living?

(Revelation 4:11) “You are worthy, Jehovah our God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, because you created all things, and because of your will they came into existence and were created.”

(Romans 6:7) For the one who has died has been acquitted from his sin.

(Deuteronomy 32:4) The Rock, perfect is his activity, For all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness who is never unjust; Righteous and upright is he.

(1 John 4:8) Whoever does not love has not come to know God, because God is love.

• Concluding Comments (3 min.)

• Song 77 and Prayer