

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Reformation

2 Kings 22:1-23:30

APPLY // 2 KINGS 21**Main Idea:** Sin deforms. Christ reforms. What name are you following?

1. *Story of Sin:* What ‘god around us’ are you tempted to follow? How about us as a church? What is a ‘name’ or a narrative or an indulgence that is or could be leading you to trade the Creator for the created (cf. Rm. 1:24-25)?
2. *Story of the Savior:* Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. Have a few CG members share how Christ has placed his ‘name’ in the to re-story them/us into all that is good, right, and true.
3. Spend time praying that we’d joyfully live in light of the Story of the Savior not be swayed by the false narrative of sin.

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // 2 KINGS 22:1-23:30**Main Idea:** Josiah feared and respected the Book of the Law of the Lord, yet the judgment against Judah remained (but is delayed).

1. **Read 2 Kings 22:1-2.** How does this introduction differ from previous introductions of other good kings of Judah? What’s the significance of the author referencing (again!) “the way of David”?
2. **Read 2 Kings 22:8-13.** Discuss the events described. What explicit and implicit observations can be taken from this passage about Judah’s (dis)obedience to the Law? What do you observe about Josiah’s words in verse 13.
3. **Read 2 Kings 14-20.** What does the Lord’s response to Josiah reveal about Josiah’s character? How doe God’s mercy and justice relate to each other in this passage? Where have we seen the Lord act in a similar way throughout Kings? What does this tell us about the Lord’s character?
4. **Read 2 Kings 23:1-3.** What is Josiah’s response to reding the word and hearing from the Lord? What does Josiah covenant to do? What’s the significance of Josiah’s actions? How do the people respond?
5. **Read 2 Kings 23:1-24.** (Depending on the translation used) How many times does the author start a clause/sentence with the word And/Then/Moreover? What does this do to the reading of the text? Why would the author write this passage in such a way?
6. From what the author describes about Josiah’s actions, was he half-hearted in his ‘reforms’?
7. **Read 2 Kings 23:16-18.** Read **1 Kings 13:2.** What do these verses tell us about the character of the Lord?
8. In verses 21-23 we read of Judah keeping the Passover for the first time since Judges. What’s the significance of this celebration and Josiah’s reinstition of it?
9. **Read 2 Kings 23:25-27.** How is the reader supposed to view Josiah as king? How did Josiah’s actions altar God’s judgment made in 2 Kings 21? Following Josiah’s reforms what is the fate of Judah according to the words of the Lord? What is named as the cause of this fate?
10. How does Josiah embody / preview the greater King, Jesus?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: What has the Lord been teaching you through our study in Kings?