

## COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

### Jerusalem Burns, Hope Rises

2 Kings 23:31-25:30

#### APPLY // 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. How does Josiah's ministry inform or inspire you? Why? Be specific.
2. What similarities do you see between the ministry of Josiah and that of Jesus?
3. Talk through how you see these things working our church's life together:
  - a. Hear the word
  - b. Repent of sin
  - c. Commit personal & corporately
  - d. Destroy idols (not just manage them)
  - e. Remember the gospel together
  - f. Love the Lord with all

#### OBSERVE & INTERPRET // 2 KINGS 23:31-25:30

**Main Idea:** The word of the Lord is fulfilled entirely in the fall of Judah.

1. **Read 2 Kings 23:28-24:6.** What two empires were against Judah? What happened to one of those empires that made them cease attacking Judah? What does that tell the reader about the remaining empire?
2. **Read 2 Kings 24:1-4.** What stands out in regard to how the attackers of Judah were sent to Judah? Verse three is the author's interpretation of those events. What does he say is the reason for Judah being attacked?
3. **Read 2 Kings 24:20.** This is the climactic point of Judah's demise. Based on what we have learned throughout Kings how should we think about the Lord's anger and his casting Judah out?
4. **Read 2 Kings 25:8-21.** What is the author's emphasis in his description of the fall of Judah? What does this description do for the reader who is remembering the promises God made to David in 2 Samuel 7? Since God had promised his presence would reside in the temple, what message is sent when the temple is destroyed? How is this event to be interpreted through the earlier predictions (cf. 23:27; 24:20)?
5. **Read 2 Kings 25:24.** Compare this verse to Joshua 1:9, in which the Lord spoke to Joshua just before he led the unified nation of Israel into the promised land following the 40 years of wandering. What differences stand out between these two verses? How does the verse in Joshua help the reader to understand what has happened to Judah?
6. **Read 2 Kings 25:27-30.** The book of Kings begins with the anointing of David's son Solomon (1 Kings 1) and now ends with a king of Judah dining at the table of a foreign empire. Following the arc of the book of Kings, how does this point the reader to the need for Jesus? How does this show God's faithfulness in still preserving a way to bring forth a king from the line of Judah?

#### 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?