

“King Josiah & the Lost Scroll” Curriculum

Learning Centers:

Video: Watch “King Josiah & the Lost Scroll”

Archeology Center: Become a junior archeologist and dig up artifacts related to the Temple including the Lost Scroll

Cooking Center: Bake honey cinnamon “Sweet Scrolls” and build an editable Temple

Art Center: Paint a leaded stain glass window of Deuteronomy 6:5 as a priceless treasure from God’s Word

Bible Memory Verse: "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:5

Theme Song “King Josiah and the Lost Scroll” - Lyrics attached. Music mpeg attached.



Bible Background

King Josiah and the Lost Scroll

Discovering God's Greatest Treasure

2 Kings 22:1–23:30

Introduction

Imagine walking into an old church building that had been closed for many years. Dust covers everything. Cobwebs hang from the ceiling. During the cleanup, someone opens an old storage room and discovers a Bible that no one even knew was there.

Now imagine that Bible contains God’s instructions for how His people should live—but no one has read it for years.

That is very close to what happened during the reign of King Josiah.

The discovery of one forgotten scroll changed an entire nation.

It remains one of the greatest rediscoveries recorded in the Bible.

Where Does This Story Fit?

King Josiah lived about **630 years before Jesus**.

His story comes near the end of the Kingdom of Judah, only a few decades before Jerusalem was destroyed by Babylon.



Josiah's story reminds us that even after many years of spiritual decline, God still calls His people back through His Word.

Meet the Main Characters

King Josiah

Age:

Became king at only **eight years old** (2 Kings 22:1).

Josiah was one of Judah's best kings.

Unlike many kings before him, he wanted to obey God.

When he heard God's Word, he didn't ignore it.

Instead, he humbled himself, repented, and led the nation back to God.

Hilkiah the High Priest

Hilkiah served as the high priest in Jerusalem.

While workers repaired Solomon's Temple, he made an astonishing discovery:

"I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD."

(2 Kings 22:8)

His discovery began one of the greatest spiritual revivals in Israel's history.

Shaphan the Royal Scribe

Shaphan served as King Josiah's secretary or royal scribe.

His job included keeping official records and reading important documents.

After Hilkiah found the scroll, Shaphan carefully read it to King Josiah.

God used an ordinary government official to deliver an extraordinary message.

Huldah the Prophetess

After hearing the scroll, Josiah wanted to know what God would say.

Instead of guessing, he sought God's prophet.

Huldah confirmed that the warnings written in the scroll were true.

She also gave Josiah hope because of his humble heart.

Why Was the Scroll Forgotten?

The Bible doesn't tell us exactly how long the scroll had been hidden.

During the reigns of wicked kings such as Manasseh and Amon, idol worship filled Judah.

God's Temple was neglected.

The people stopped listening to God's Word.

Eventually the scroll seems to have been stored away and forgotten.

The tragedy wasn't that God's Word disappeared.

The tragedy was that God's people stopped reading it.

What Was the Scroll?

Most Bible scholars believe Hilkiah discovered either:

- the Book of Deuteronomy, or
- an early copy of the Torah (Genesis–Deuteronomy).

Several clues point especially toward Deuteronomy because Josiah immediately recognized the covenant blessings and warnings described there (see Deuteronomy 28–30).

The verses your children discover during the archaeology dig come directly from that same section of Scripture.

Why Did Josiah Tear His Clothes?

In Bible times, tearing one's clothing was a sign of grief, repentance, and humility.

When Josiah heard Moses' warning,

"Be careful that you do not forget the LORD..."

he realized Judah had done exactly that.

Instead of becoming angry,

he became humble.

That humility pleased God.

Archaeology and the Story

One reason this lesson is exciting is that archaeology continues to illuminate the world in which Josiah lived.

Archaeological Witnesses to Hilkiah and Shaphan

In the City of David, archaeologists have uncovered dozens of **bullae**—small clay seal impressions once attached to rolled documents.

Some carry names of officials mentioned elsewhere in the Bible and show how government documents were sealed in Josiah's day.

Archaeology has uncovered remarkable evidence connected to two of the key people in Josiah's story.

In Jerusalem's City of David, archaeologists discovered an excavated clay seal impression (bulla) reading "**Belonging to Azariah, son of Hilkiah.**" Many scholars identify this Azariah as the son and successor of **Hilkiah the high priest** who discovered the Book of the Law. Because the names, family relationship, time period, and historical setting all agree with the Bible, this tiny seal provides compelling archaeological support for Hilkiah's family.



In the same "House of Bullae" excavation, archaeologists also found the bulla of **Gemariah, son of Shaphan**. Gemariah was the son of Shaphan the royal scribe who read the discovered scroll to King Josiah. Finding bullae from both families in the same archive beautifully matches the biblical account of the government officials who served during Judah's final decades.



Ketef Hinnom Silver Scrolls

Discovered in Jerusalem in 1979.

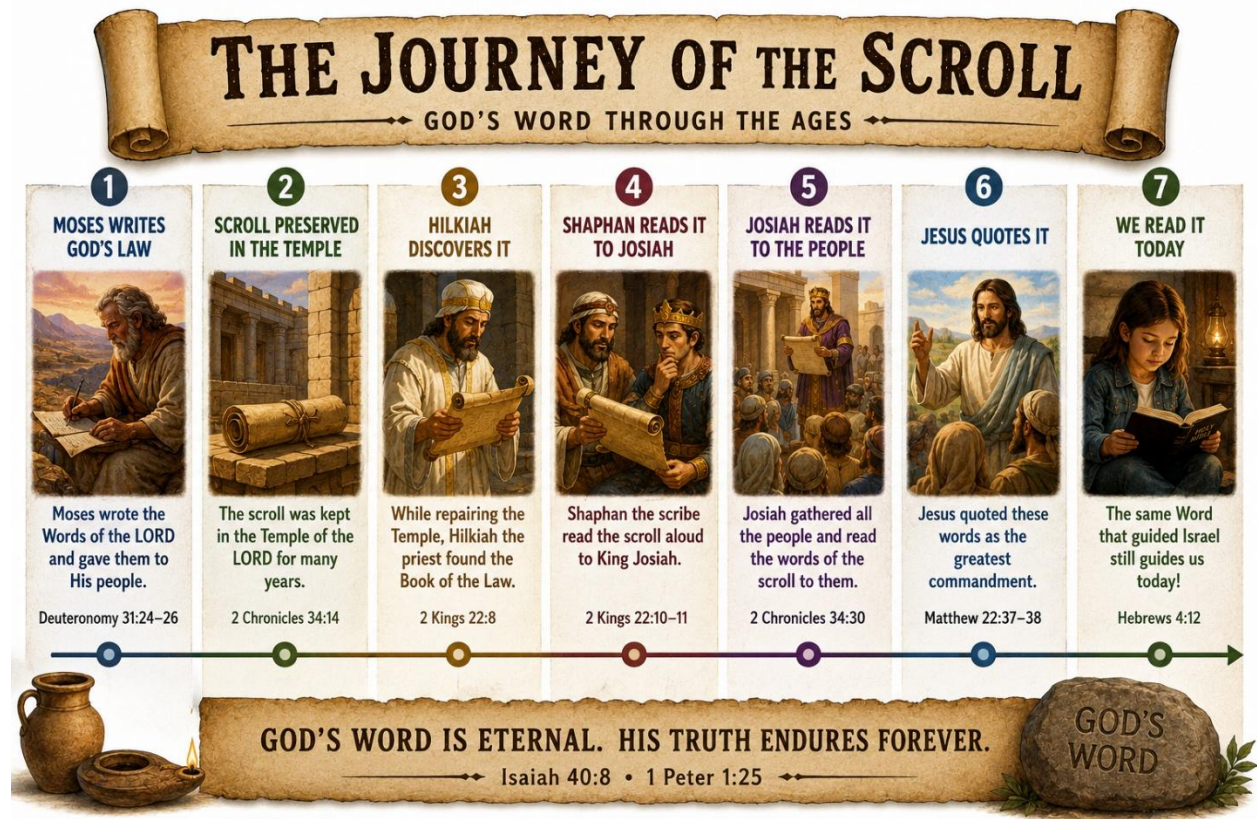
These tiny silver scrolls date to approximately the same era as King Josiah.

When carefully unrolled, they were found to contain the priestly blessing from Numbers 6:24–26.

They are the oldest known copies of Bible verses ever discovered.

This helps children realize that God's Word was already being copied and treasured during Josiah's lifetime.

God's Word Through the Bible



Teaching Truths

As children move through the four learning centers, keep returning to these truths:

- God's Word is our greatest treasure.
- God wants us to love Him with all our heart.
- We should never forget God's Word.
- God's Word changes lives.
- Reading the Bible should lead us to obey God.

Teacher Reflection

King Josiah did not become great because he discovered an ancient scroll.

He became great because he listened to it.

Children will spend this month digging for artifacts, painting a beautiful scroll, tasting sweet honey rolls, and watching Josiah's story come to life. Every activity points to the same life-changing truth:

The greatest treasure is not something buried in the ground—it is God's Word, living and active, calling every generation to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and strength.

“King Josiah and the Lost Scroll” Song

Style: Joyful Children’s Worship | Tempo: Upbeat (120–130 BPM) | Acoustic guitar, piano, hand claps, light percussion, children’s choir

[Verse 1]

King Josiah loved the Lord,
Wanted all to know His Word.
Then one day a scroll was found,
God’s great truth was all around.

[Pre-Chorus]

Open up your heart today,
Hear what God has to say!

[Chorus]

Read God’s Word, hear His voice,
Love the Lord and make the right choice!
Trust His truth, walk in His way,
Jesus leads us every day!
Clap your hands, sing out loud,
We’re God’s happy, joyful crowd!
Read God’s Word, every day—
God will guide us all the way!

[Verse 2]

When the people heard God’s Word,
Every promise they had heard,
They turned back with all their heart,

Ready for a brand-new start.

[Bridge]

God’s Word is a shining light,
Helping us choose what is right.
Every story, every page,
Shows His love from age to age!

[Final Chorus]

Read God’s Word, hear His voice,
Love the Lord and make the right choice!
Trust His truth, walk in His way,
Jesus leads us every day!
Thank You, God, for all You do,
Your love is faithful, strong, and true!
Read God’s Word, every day—
We’ll follow You all the way!

[Outro]

God’s Word is our treasure bright,
Leading us with love and light!





VIDEO CENTER (40 Minutes)

KING JOSIAH AND THE LOST SCROLL

Learning Center 1 – Video Center

God's Word Is the Greatest Treasure

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 22:1–23:30

Length: 40 Minutes

Learning Center Theme:

"See the Story"

Teacher Preparation

Main Point

God wants us to read, love, and obey His Word.

Learning Objectives

By the end of class children will:

- Tell who King Josiah was.
 - Explain how the lost scroll was found.
 - Describe why Josiah became sad.
 - Explain why God's Word is still important today.
-

Memory Verse

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Deuteronomy 6:5

Supplies

- Bible
 - Large paper scroll (rolled and tied with ribbon)
 - Treasure chest or decorated box
 - Six small paper scrolls
 - String or ribbon
 - Small prizes or stickers
 - TV/projector
 - 30-minute animated Bible video
-

Before Class

Hide six paper scrolls around the room.

Each contains one word:

LOVE

THE

LORD

YOUR

GOD

FIRST

(These are clues—not the actual memory verse. "FIRST" becomes the discussion word about priorities.)

Place the large scroll inside a treasure chest.

Room Decorations

Scatter around the room:

- cardboard "Temple stones"
-

- toy hammers
- paint brushes
- construction hats
- rolled scrolls

Play quiet instrumental worship music as children enter.

Welcome (3 Minutes)

Smile and greet each child.

Ask:

"Have you ever lost something important?"

Allow several answers.

Continue:

"What if someone lost the Bible?"

Pause.

"That sounds impossible—but something very much like that happened in today's Bible story."

Show the treasure chest.

Ask:

"What do you think is inside?"

Take several guesses.

Do not open it yet.

Opening Prayer (2 Minutes)

"Dear God,

Thank You for giving us Your wonderful Word.

Help us learn why it is the greatest treasure in the world.

Teach us to love it and obey it.

Amen."

Introduction (3 Minutes)

Hold up a modern Bible.

Ask:

"How many Bibles do you think you have at home?"

Explain:

"In King Josiah's day there were no bookstores.

No printers.

No phones.

No tablets.

Every copy of God's Word had to be written by hand."

Show the rolled scroll.

"This is what God's Word looked like."

Watch the Video (30 Minutes)

"King Josiah & the Lost Scroll"

During the video, encourage children to listen for two questions:

1. Who found the scroll?
 2. Why did King Josiah become upset?
-

Follow-Up Activity (5 Minutes)

Treasure Hunt

Say:

"The workers searched God's Temple."

Now you're going to search this room."

Children hunt for six hidden scrolls.

As each is found, gather everyone together.

Read each word aloud.

LOVE

THE

LORD

YOUR

GOD

FIRST

Ask:

"Those words remind us of today's memory verse.

What should come first in our lives?"

Expected answer:

God.

Open the treasure chest.

Inside is the large scroll.

Read together:

Deuteronomy 6:5

Explain:

"This was the kind of message Josiah heard.

God's Word changed his heart."

Discussion Questions

Why had God's Book been forgotten?

Could God's people follow God's rules if they never read them?

Why did Josiah want everyone to hear God's Word?

How can we keep God's Word from becoming forgotten today?

Possible answers:

Read it.

Bring it to church.

Listen during worship.

Memorize verses.

Pray.

Life Application

Hold the Bible high.

Say:

"This Book isn't valuable because of its paper.

It's valuable because these are God's words."

Ask:

"What is one thing you can do this week to spend time in God's Word?"

Allow responses.

Closing Song: "King Josiah and the Lost Scroll"

Closing Prayer

"Dear Lord,

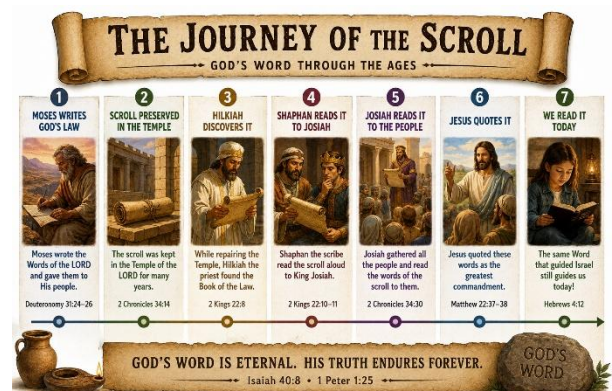
Thank You for giving us the Bible.

Help us treasure it more than anything else.

Help us read it.

Help us obey it.

Help us share it with others.

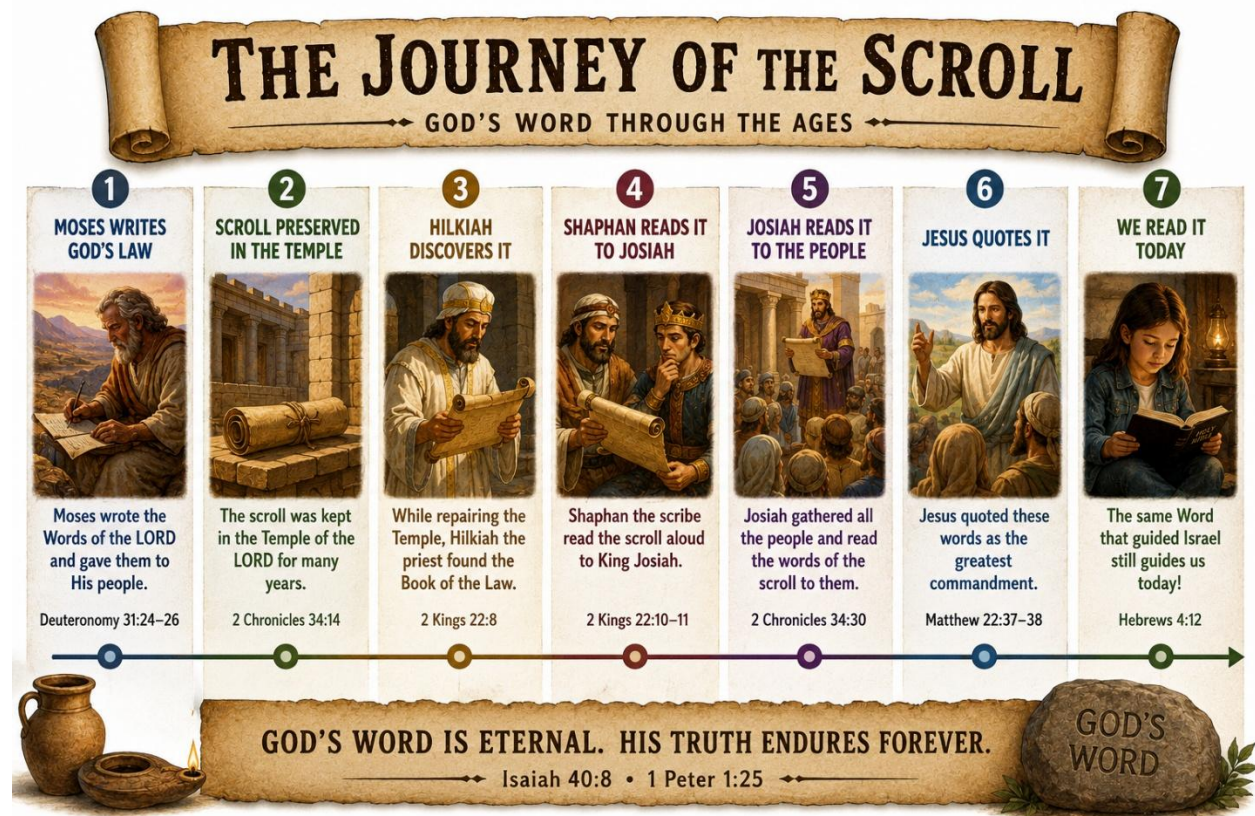


Amen."

Pass out a copy of "The Journey of the Scroll" to each student before they leave.

Teacher Background

King Josiah became king when he was only eight years old. During repairs to Solomon's Temple, the high priest Hilkiah discovered the long-forgotten Book of the Law—probably a copy of Deuteronomy or the Torah. When the scroll was read aloud, Josiah realized how far Judah had drifted from God's commands. Rather than ignore what he heard, he humbled himself before God, led the nation in repentance, renewed the covenant, and restored the celebration of Passover. Josiah's response teaches children that hearing God's Word should lead us to trust and obey God, not simply learn facts.





ARCHEOLOGY CENTER (40 Minutes)

King Josiah and the Lost Scroll

Digging for God's Treasure

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 22:1–23:30

Length: 40 Minutes

Center Theme:

"Discover the Story"



Teacher Overview

Big Idea

God's Word is the greatest treasure ever discovered.

Learning Objectives

Children will:

- Retell how Hilkiah discovered the Book of the Law.
- Learn what archaeologists do.
- Discover that archaeology helps us understand the world of the Bible.
- Understand that God's Word is more valuable than gold or jewels.

Memory Verse

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

—Deuteronomy 6:5

Teacher Background

King Josiah ordered repairs to God's Temple around 622 B.C. During those repairs, Hilkiah the high priest discovered the Book of the Law that had been neglected for many years. When it was read to King Josiah, he immediately recognized how far Judah had wandered from God and began sweeping reforms.

Today, archaeologists often uncover objects buried for hundreds or even thousands of years. While no one has discovered Josiah's actual scroll, archaeologists **have** discovered ancient Bible scrolls and inscriptions that help us understand the Bible's world.

This lesson helps children understand that archaeology supports the historical setting of Scripture—but the greatest treasure is not an artifact. It is God's Word itself.

Supplies

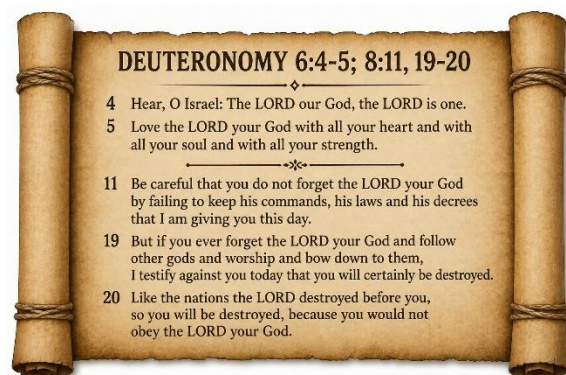
For each child

- Small plastic archaeology tray or shoebox
- Sand or clean play sand
- Soft paintbrush
- Wooden craft stick
- Magnifying glass
- "Discovery Record" worksheet
- Pencil



Hidden in each tray

- Small rolled paper scroll tied with twine
- Broken pottery pieces (air-dry clay)
- Small clay oil lamp replica
- Coin (plastic or replica)
- Stone labeled "Temple"



Teacher Display

- Replica scroll

- Photo of the Dead Sea Scroll jars
 - Photo of Hilkiah Bulla
 - Photo of Shaphan Bulla
 - Modern Bible
-

Room Decorations

Transform the room into an archaeological dig.

Ideas:

- "Temple Excavation Site" sign
- Dig flags
- Brushes
- Measuring tape
- Buckets
- Maps of ancient Judah
- Photos of real excavations

Welcome every child by saying:

"Welcome, Junior Archaeologists!"

40-Minute Lesson

Welcome (3 minutes)

Place a small treasure chest on the table.

Ask:

"If you could discover one buried treasure, what would you hope to find?"

Take several answers:

Gold?

Jewels?

Coins?

Then smile and say:

"Today we're going to discover something even more valuable."

Opening Prayer (2 minutes)

"Dear God,

Thank You for preserving Your Word through many generations.

Help us discover why Your Word is the greatest treasure of all.

Amen."

Bible Discovery (10 minutes)

Hold up the replica scroll.

Tell the story.

Teaching Script

"King Josiah loved God.

He wanted God's Temple repaired.

Workers cleaned dusty rooms that hadn't been used for years.

While cleaning, the high priest Hilkiah found something hidden.

It wasn't gold.

It wasn't silver.

It wasn't jewels.

It was God's Word written on a scroll.

When the scroll was read to King Josiah, he realized how much the people needed to return to God.

That one discovery changed an entire nation."

Hold up today's Bible.

"We still have God's Word today."

Archaeology Time (20 minutes)

Temple Excavation

Explain:

"Real archaeologists dig very slowly.

They never rush.

Every discovery tells part of a story."

Demonstrate:

Brush gently.

Move sand carefully.

Record discoveries.

Give each child a tray.

As children uncover each object, pause to discuss.

Artifact 1

Temple Stone

Ask:

Where was the scroll discovered?

Answer:

Inside God's Temple.



Artifact 2

Pottery

Explain:

Broken pottery is one of the most common discoveries archaeologists make.

It helps determine the age of an ancient site.



Artifact 3

Oil Lamp

Explain:

The Temple was lit by lamps like this.

Imagine Hilkiyah searching with the light of an oil lamp.



Artifact 4

Coin

Discuss:

Money tells us about everyday life in Bible times.

King Josiah had the priests take some of the money from the offerings given to the Temple to repair the House of the Lord. It was during these repairs that the High Priest Hilkiyah found the lost Scroll.

This coin is special. It has a verse from Deuteronomy inscribed on it.



Artifact 5 (Last)

The Scroll

Have every child wait until everyone has found theirs.

Together say:

"We found God's treasure!"

Open the scroll.

Inside is printed:

Deuteronomy 6:4–5, 8:11, 19–20

Read it together.

Ask:

What do the first two verses from the Scroll of Deuteronomy tell us about God and how we should treat God?

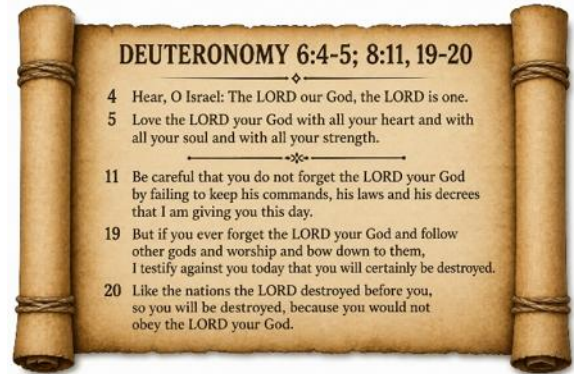
Moses wrote in Deuteronomy that there is only one God and we should love God with all of our heart, soul and strength. That means we should put God first before anything else and only worship Him.

Why do you think King Josiah tore his robes when he heard the last three verses printed on this Scroll being read to him?

Josiah was so distressed because Judah had done exactly what Moses warned against: they had forgotten the Lord.

What did King Josiah do next?

He shared God's Word with the people, so that everyone would learn to love God as their God. He also destroyed all the idols in the land so no other gods would be worshipped anymore.



Real Archaeology (3 minutes)

Pass out the Archeology Center Take Home paper, and discuss the three items depicted.

Hilkiah and Shaphan Bulla

Explain:

"These tiny clay bulla (seal impressions) were made by the sons of Hilkiah, the High Priest, and Shaphan, Josiah's Scribe. What's cool about them is they actually name their dad's Hilkiah and Shaphan on them. They were found by archeologists in the city of Jerusalem not far from the Temple and royal palace and they date to around 630 B.C., the time around when King Josiah lived. They prove that these people who met with King Josiah when the Lost Scroll was rediscovered, were actual people who lived in history."



Dead Sea Scrolls

Explain:

"Hidden in caves for nearly 2,000 years, these scrolls helped show how carefully God's Word had been copied through the centuries. The Dead Sea Scrolls are an ancient library that contains almost every book of the Old Testament. Archeologists found a number of copies of the book of Deuteronomy among the Dead Sea Scrolls. After King Josiah, God's people made sure that His Word would never be lost ever again."

Review Game (3 minutes)

Hold up each artifact.

Children answer:

"What does this remind us about today's story?"

Stone

Temple

Pottery

Ancient times

Lamp

Searching

Scroll

God's Word

Bible

Our greatest treasure

Closing Application (2 minutes)

Ask:

"If you had found a chest full of gold and Josiah's scroll, which would be the greater treasure?"

Guide children to answer:

God's Word.

Explain:

"Gold can buy many things.

Only God's Word can lead us to Jesus."

Closing Sing "King Josiah and the Lost Scroll"

Closing Prayer

"Dear Lord,

Thank You for letting us discover the treasure of Your Word.

Help us read it. Help us obey it. Help us share it with others.

Amen."

Did You Know?

One of the most exciting discoveries ever made is the **Ketef Hinnom Silver Scrolls**, found in a burial cave near Jerusalem in 1979. When carefully unrolled, they contained the

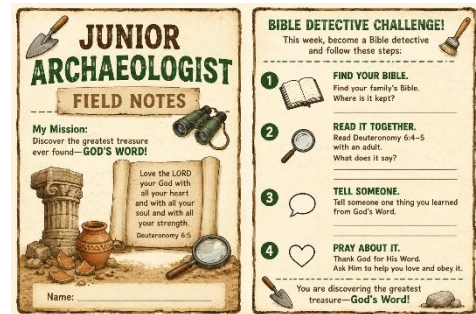
priestly blessing from **Numbers 6:24–26**, making them the oldest known copies of Bible verses ever discovered—dating to about the same general period as King Josiah. That means children can see that people in Josiah's day were already carefully preserving God's Word on scrolls.

Optional Take-Home Challenge

Give each child a small "Junior Archaeologist Field Notes" card with this challenge:

This week, become a Bible detective!

- Find your family's Bible.
- Read Deuteronomy 6:4–5 with an adult.
- Tell someone why God's Word is the greatest treasure.



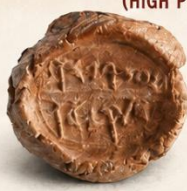
Next week, share one thing you discovered from God's Word.

ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER TAKE HOME

THE BIBLE IS TRUE! GOD'S WORD HAS BEEN PRESERVED!

During the time of King Josiah (about 630 B.C.), God's Word was rediscovered in the Temple.
Archaeology has uncovered amazing evidence that people in the Bible really existed—and that God's Word is trustworthy!

BULLA OF AZARIAH, SON OF HILKIAH (HIGH PRIEST'S FAMILY)



Archaeologists discovered this clay seal impression (called a bulla) in the City of David in Jerusalem.

It reads: "Belonging to Azariah, son of Hilkiah."

Many scholars believe Azariah was the son of Hilkiah, the high priest who found the Book of the Law in the Temple!

Photo of the excavated bulla, on display at the Israel Museum, Jerusalem.

WHAT IS A BULLA?

A bulla (plural: bullae) is a clay seal impression used to seal important documents. The wet clay was pressed over string or rope that was wrapped around a scroll or package. When the clay hardened, it protected the document. Only someone with the matching seal could open it.



These tiny seals are like ancient signatures!

DEUTERONOMY FOUND AMONG THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS



In caves near Qumran, by the Dead Sea, archaeologists discovered thousands of ancient scrolls.

Among them were many copies and fragments of the Book of Deuteronomy!

These scrolls are more than 2,000 years old—yet they match our Bibles today!

Deuteronomy 31:1–9 from Cave 4 (4QDeut-). Israel Antiquities Authority.

BULLA OF GEMARIAH, SON OF SHAPHAN (SCRIBE'S FAMILY)



This bulla was also found in the City of David.

It reads: "Belonging to Gemariah, son of Shaphan."

Gemariah was the son of Shaphan, the royal scribe who read the scroll to King Josiah.

Finding these bullae proves that the families of Hilkiah and Shaphan really lived during this time in Judah!

WHAT THIS MEANS

- People in the Bible—like Hilkiah and Shaphan—really lived.
- The Bible is not just a story—it is real history!
- God preserved His Word through the years.
- We can trust that God's Word is true and forever.



DID YOU KNOW?

King Josiah heard the words from Deuteronomy and led the people back to obeying God. When we read God's Word, it changes our hearts too!

Hide God's Word in your heart!
Psalm 119:11



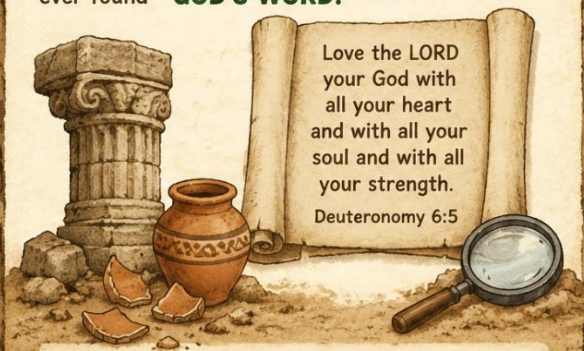


JUNIOR ARCHAEOLOGIST

FIELD NOTES

My Mission:

Discover the greatest treasure
ever found—**GOD'S WORD!**



Name: _____

BIBLE DETECTIVE CHALLENGE!

This week, become a Bible detective
and follow these steps:



1



FIND YOUR BIBLE.

Find your family's Bible.
Where is it kept?

2



READ IT TOGETHER.

Read Deuteronomy 6:4–5
with an adult.
What does it say?

3



TELL SOMEONE.

Tell someone one thing you learned
from God's Word.

4



PRAY ABOUT IT.

Thank God for His Word.
Ask Him to help you love and obey it.



You are discovering the greatest
treasure—**God's Word!**



DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5; 8:11, 19-20

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

11 Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God by failing to keep his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day.

19 But if you ever forget the LORD your God and follow other gods and worship and bow down to them, I testify against you today that you will certainly be destroyed.

20 Like the nations the LORD destroyed before you, so you will be destroyed, because you would not obey the LORD your God.



COOKING CENTER (40 Minutes)

King Josiah and the Lost Scroll

God's Word Is Sweeter Than Honey

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 22:1–23:30

Recipe Project:

Honey Cinnamon Sweet Scrolls

Repair the Temple Challenge

Length: 40 Minutes

Center Theme: “Taste the story”



Teacher Overview

Big Idea

God's Word is sweeter than honey because it teaches us how to know and love God.

Learning Objectives

Children will:

- Tell the story of Josiah discovering the lost scroll.
- Learn that the Bible compares God's Word to honey.
- Bake edible scrolls that remind them of the Book of the Law.
- Connect reading God's Word with growing closer to God.
- Kids will also remember the importance of restoring God's Temple.

Memory Verse

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

—Deuteronomy 6:5

Teacher Background

When King Josiah heard God's Word read aloud, he realized God's people had forgotten how they were supposed to live.

The Bible often compares God's Word to food because just as our bodies need food every day, our hearts need God's truth every day.

Psalm 119:103 says,

"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

Today's recipe reminds children that spending time in God's Word is one of life's greatest joys.

Supplies

For each child

- 1 refrigerated crescent roll triangle
- Softened butter (about 1 teaspoon)
- Honey (about 1 teaspoon)
- Cinnamon sugar mixture (about 1 teaspoon)
- Small craft stick or butter knife
- Paper plate
- Plastic spoon
- Apron
- Wet wipes



Teacher

- Baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- Oven

- Cooling rack
- Bible
- Replica scroll
- “The King’s Table Placemats” one per child

Optional

Small cups of extra honey for dipping after baking.

Repair the Temple Challenge Ingredients

- Graham crackers
- Mini marshmallows
- White frosting
- Pretzel sticks



Before Class

Prepare:

Butter

Honey

Cinnamon sugar

Preheat oven to **375°F**.

Line baking sheet with parchment paper.

Display a Bible beside a rolled scroll.

As children enter, let them smell cinnamon and honey.

Ask:

"What smells so good?"

Room Decorations

Decorate the room like an ancient bakery.

Ideas:

- baskets of bread
 - jars of honey
 - wheat stalks
 - wooden rolling pin
 - Bible verse posters
-

40-Minute Lesson

Welcome (3 minutes)

Hold up a honey jar.

Ask:

"What is the sweetest thing you've ever tasted?"

Allow children to answer.

Ice cream?

Chocolate?

Cookies?

Now hold up the Bible.

Ask:

"Did you know the Bible says something is even sweeter than honey?"

Opening Prayer (2 minutes)

"Dear God,

Thank You for giving us Your wonderful Word.

As we make our sweet scrolls today, help us remember that Your Word is sweeter than honey because it teaches us how to love You.

Amen."

Bible Discovery Time (8 minutes)

Hold up the scroll.

Tell the story.

Teaching Script

"King Josiah wanted God's Temple repaired.

Workers cleaned dusty rooms that hadn't been used for many years.

Suddenly Hilkiah the priest found something hidden.

It wasn't treasure.

It wasn't jewels.

It wasn't gold.

It was God's Word written on a scroll.

When King Josiah heard God's Word, he knew the people needed to return to God.

That old scroll became the greatest treasure in the whole kingdom."

Hold up today's Bible.

"We still have God's Word today.

Every time we read it, God teaches us."

Now read Psalm 119:103.

"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

Explain:

"The Bible isn't talking about eating paper!

It means God's truth fills our hearts with joy."

Cooking Project (20 minutes)

Step 1 – Prepare the Scroll

Give each child one crescent roll triangle.

Explain:

"This dough reminds us of a blank scroll."

Step 2 – Spread the Butter

Children gently spread softened butter.

Teacher says:

"Just like butter covers the dough, God's love covers our lives."

Step 3 – Add Honey

Children drizzle honey down the center.

Ask:

"What does honey remind us of?"

Answer:

God's Word is sweet.

Step 4 – Sprinkle Cinnamon Sugar

Discuss how the wonderful smell fills the room.

Teacher says:

"When we read God's Word, our lives spread God's goodness to others."

Step 5 – Roll Into a Scroll

Starting with the wide end, roll the dough into a log.

Now gently curl both ends slightly outward.

The finished roll resembles an ancient scroll with wooden handles.

Place on baking sheet.

Baking Time Activity (about 10–12 minutes) + Waiting Time (5 minutes)

While the scrolls bake, gather the children around the table.

Say, “One of King Josiah’s most important projects while he was king was to repair the Lord’s House, God’s Temple in Jerusalem, that had become neglected by the evil kings who ruled before him. He put the High Priest Hilkiah in charge of making those repairs. It was during that remodeling that Hilkiah found the Lost Scroll of the book of Deuteronomy.

While our Sweet Scrolls are baking, I want to divide you up into two teams and let’s see how quickly we can rebuild the Temple using the ingredients before you and this picture as our guide.”

Build the Temple Challenge Ingredients

- Graham crackers
- Mini marshmallows
- White frosting
- Pretzel sticks

Divide the kids into two teams and let them use their supplies to see how quickly they can rebuild their Temple.



Memory Verse (2 minutes)

Repeat together three times:

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Challenge:

Can everyone say it without looking?

Snack Time (5 minutes)

Pass out “The Kings Table” Placemats for kids to eat their Sweet Scrolls on.

Instead of serving the scrolls on plain paper plates, print a simple placemat on parchment-colored cardstock titled "The King's Table." Around the edge, include four short verses about God's Word:

- Deuteronomy 6:5 – Love the Lord...
- Psalm 119:103 – Sweeter than honey...
- Psalm 119:105 – Your word is a lamp...
- Joshua 1:8 – Keep this Book of the Law...



As the children eat, they naturally read the verses, reinforcing the lesson without adding extra teaching time.

Serve warm scrolls.

Optional:

Offer a tiny cup of honey for dipping.

While everyone eats ask:

"What was sweeter—

the honey,

or learning about God's Word?"

Guide children toward understanding that while the honey tastes sweet for a few moments, God's Word brings joy for a lifetime.

Closing Application (2 minutes)

Hold up the Bible.

Say:

"Today you made a scroll you could eat.

But God's real scroll wasn't meant to be eaten.

It was meant to be read...

believed...

and obeyed.

Every time you eat something sweet this week, remember that God's Word is even sweeter."

Closing Song "King Josiah and the Lost Scroll"

Closing Prayer

"Dear Jesus,

Thank You for giving us the Bible.

Help us hunger for Your Word every day.

May Your truth fill our hearts just as this sweet treat filled our stomachs.

Help us love You with all our heart, soul, and strength.

Amen."

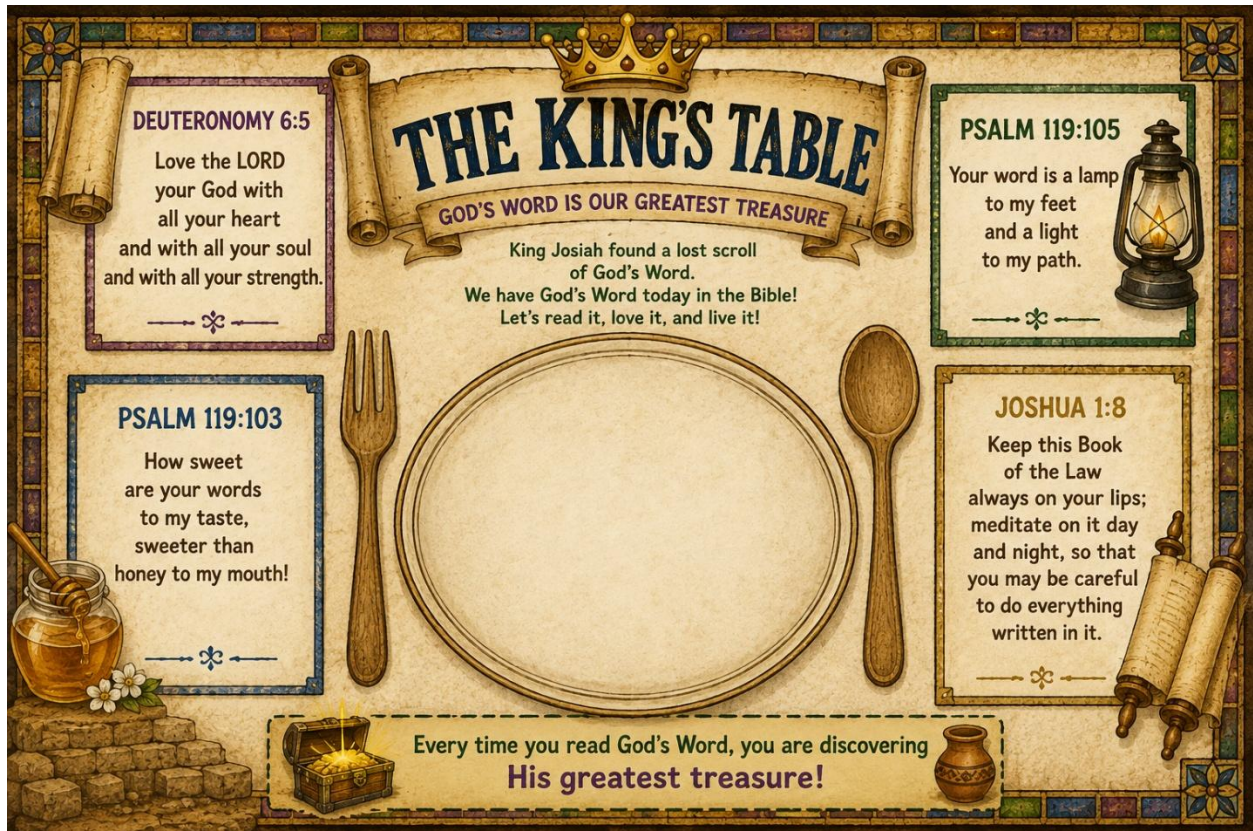
Did You Know?

Honey was one of the most important sweeteners in Bible times because refined sugar was unknown. The Promised Land was described as **"a land flowing with milk and honey"** (Exodus 3:8), a picture of God's abundant blessings. When Psalm 119 compares God's Word to honey, it reminds us that knowing God is one of the sweetest blessings He gives His people.

Teacher Tips

- Pre-measure ingredients into small cups to keep the lesson moving.
 - Have an adult helper place trays into and remove them from the oven.
-

- If time is short, prepare a second batch ahead of time so children can still enjoy warm scrolls while theirs finish baking.
- Encourage children to smell the cinnamon and honey before they taste them. Ask, "Can you imagine how excited Josiah must have been when he discovered something even sweeter—God's Word?" Connecting the senses to the lesson helps children remember the story long after class is over.





INGREDIENTS:

- Graham Crackers
- Mini Marshmallows
- White Frosting
- Pretzel Sticks



ART CENTER (40 Minutes)

King Josiah and the Lost Scroll

Painting God's Word

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 22:1–23:30

Project:

**8×10 Faux Leaded Glass Scroll featuring
Deuteronomy 6:4–5**

Length: 40 Minutes



Teacher Overview

Big Idea

God's Word is the greatest treasure we can ever discover.

Learning Objectives

Children will:

- Describe what King Josiah discovered in God's Temple.
- Learn that God's Word was originally written on scrolls.
- Create a beautiful keepsake featuring God's Word.
- Understand that God's Word belongs in our hearts—not forgotten on a shelf.

Memory Verse

Deuteronomy 6:5

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Teacher Background

King Josiah became king when he was only eight years old. Years later he ordered repairs to God's Temple. During the repairs, Hilkiah the high priest discovered the Book of the Law—God's Word written on a scroll.

When the scroll was read aloud, Josiah realized the people had stopped following God's commands because they had stopped reading God's Word.

Instead of ignoring it, Josiah gathered everyone together so they could hear God's Word and begin following God again.

Today's project reminds children that God's Word is still precious and should always have a place in our lives.

Supplies

One per child

- 8×10 clear acrylic sheet (or plexiglass)
- Printed scroll pattern placed underneath acrylic
- Black Gallery Glass Liquid Leading
- Gallery Glass paints
 - Cream
 - Light tan
 - Brown
 - Blue
 - Green
 - Gold
- Fine paint brushes
- Cotton swabs
- Baby wipes
- Apron or paint shirt

Teacher

- Bible
- Replica scroll (or rolled parchment)
- Modern Bible

Before Class

Place the printed scroll pattern beneath each acrylic sheet.

Have volunteers trace out the lines of the leading parts of the project with Glass Liquid Leading.

Trace the Lead Lines.

Carefully trace:

- scroll edges
- wooden handles
- decorative border
- Scripture lettering

Arrange paints at each table.

Display a rolled scroll beside an open Bible.



Room Decorations

Decorate the room like an ancient scribe's workshop.

Ideas:

- rolled scrolls
- feather quills
- ink bottles
- candles (battery operated)
- parchment paper
- Hebrew alphabet poster

Soft instrumental worship music plays as children arrive.

40-Minute Lesson

Welcome (3 minutes)

Hold up the rolled scroll.

Ask:

"What do you think this is?"

Allow answers.

Now hold up a Bible.

Ask:

"How are these alike?"

Explain:

"Long before books looked like this, God's people read His Word from scrolls."

Opening Prayer (2 minutes)

"Dear God,

Thank You for giving us Your Word.

Help us treasure it every day.

As we make our scroll today, remind us to keep Your Word close to our hearts.

Amen."

Bible Discovery Time (8 minutes)

Show the scroll.

Slowly unroll it.

Tell the story.

Teaching Script

"King Josiah loved God.

One day workers were fixing God's Temple.

As they cleaned and repaired the building, something amazing happened.

The high priest named Hilkiah found an old scroll.

It wasn't just any scroll.

It was God's Word!

For many years no one had been reading it.

When the scroll was read to King Josiah, he became very sad.

He realized the people had forgotten God's commands.

Josiah didn't hide the scroll again.

He gathered everyone together.

He listened carefully.

Then he promised to obey God.

Because of one old scroll, an entire nation began following God again."

Hold up the Bible.

"We don't read scrolls very often anymore.

Instead, we have Bibles.

But they still contain God's wonderful Word."

Discussion Questions

Why was the scroll important?

Why do you think people forgot about it?

How many Bibles do you have at home?

Where should we keep God's Word?

Expected answer:

"In our hearts."

Art Project (30+ minutes)

Step 1

Paint the Scroll (6 minutes)

Fill the parchment with:

Cream

Light tan

Encourage children to dab colors together for an aged appearance.

Teacher says:

"This scroll reminds us of the one Hilkiah discovered."

Step 2

Paint the Handles (3 minutes)

Use shades of brown.

Add darker streaks for wood grain.

Step 3

Paint the Background (10 minutes)

Suggested colors:

Sky blue

Green

Gold border

Teacher explains:

"God's Word brings light and life wherever it goes."

Step 4

Final Touches (2 minutes)

Check for missed spots.

Carefully move artwork to drying rack.

Memory Verse (3 minutes)

Read together slowly.

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Now ask:

"What part of us should love God?"

Children answer:

Heart

Soul

Strength

Closing Application (1 minute)

Hold up the Bible.

Say:

"King Josiah found God's Word in God's Temple.

You don't have to search through an old building.

You already have God's Word.

The question is—

Will you read it?"

Closing Prayer (1 minute)

Thank You for giving us the Bible.

Help us read it.

Help us obey it.

May Your Word always live in our hearts.

Amen."

Pass out **Take Home Paper** for each student to take home with them.



The scroll Josiah found may have been a copy of the Book of **Deuteronomy**. The verses on your artwork, **Deuteronomy 6:4–5**, are called the **Shema** (pronounced *shuh-MAH*). Jewish families have prayed these words every day for thousands of years because they remind us that there is one true God and that we should love Him with our whole lives.

Teacher Tips

- Complete one finished sample before class so children can see the goal.
- Encourage children to work slowly—this project is a keepsake they can proudly display at home.
- As children paint, keep the conversation focused on the story by asking questions like, "How do you think Josiah felt when he heard God's Word?" or "What is your favorite Bible story?" This naturally connects the creative activity to the lesson rather than making it feel like simply an art class.

Unlike many crafts that are enjoyed briefly and then discarded, this faux stained-glass scroll is something families are likely to hang in a window or on a wall, keeping **Deuteronomy 6:4–5** visible long after the lesson is over. It becomes both a memory of the story of Josiah and an ongoing reminder to treasure God's Word.





ART CENTER TAKE-HOME

KING JOSIAH AND THE LOST SCROLL

THE MOST IMPORTANT WORDS ON THE SCROLL

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

King Josiah was only 8 years old when he became king. Many years later, workers were repairing God's Temple when the high priest Hilkiah found something that had been forgotten for many years—a scroll containing God's Law. When the scroll was read aloud, King Josiah realized the people had forgotten God's commandments. He called everyone together to hear God's Word and promised to obey the LORD once again.

The words on your stained-glass artwork come from that same part of God's Law.

THE SHEMA

For over 3,000 years, God's people have called these verses the SHEMA, from the Hebrew word "Hear." Jewish families still recite these words every morning and evening as a reminder to love God with their whole lives.

IN HEBREW

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ
יְהוָה אֶחָד:
וְאָהַבְתָּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ
בְּכָל-לִבְבְּךָ
וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ
וּבְכָל-מְאֹדְךָ:

IN ENGLISH

Hear, O Israel:
The LORD our God,
the LORD is one.
Love the LORD your God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your strength.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5

DID YOU KNOW?

SCROLLS, NOT BOOKS!

The Bible wasn't originally printed in books. God's Word was carefully copied by hand onto long scrolls made from parchment. Scribes worked slowly and carefully because every word was precious.

THREE AMAZING CONNECTIONS

1. MOSES

Moses spoke these words to Israel before they entered the Promised Land. He taught God's people that loving God is more than keeping rules—it means loving Him with your whole heart.

2. KING JOSIAH

More than 800 years later, King Josiah heard these same words when the lost scroll was discovered in God's Temple. Hearing God's Word changed his heart and helped bring the nation back to God.

3. JESUS

When Jesus was asked, "What is the greatest commandment?" He answered by quoting these exact verses from Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (Matthew 22:37-38).

4. US TODAY

Today, we still read these same words in our Bibles and ask God to help us love Him with all our heart, soul, and strength.

FAMILY TALK

- Why do you think the scroll was forgotten?
- What do you think King Josiah felt when he heard God's Word?
- Why did Jesus call this the greatest commandment?
- How can our family show that we love God this week?

FAMILY PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for giving us Your Word.
Help us treasure the Bible just as King Josiah did. Teach us to love You with all our heart, all our soul, and all our strength. Help our family read Your Word together and follow Jesus every day. Amen.

"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

PSALM 119:103

TODAY'S BIG IDEA:

GOD'S WORD IS THE GREATEST TREASURE WE CAN EVER DISCOVER!