

DATE: 12 NOV 2023 | SPEAKER: PS DINAH LEE
TOPIC: A PEOPLE OF HIS WORD | SCRIPTURE: 2 CHRONICLES 34

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Make a decision to foster a God-centred heart
2. To recognize the importance of doing what is right and pleasing to God

SERMON SUMMARY

King Josiah inherited a kingdom where moral anarchy and rampant idolatry were common. Through the chapter, we see how he brought about spiritual reform and restoration. King Josiah was wholehearted in his devotion to God and made up his mind to please God in all His ways. Revival begins in us and it involves taking sin/idolatry out of our lives and putting back wholehearted devotion to God. Through King Josiah's story, we are encouraged to return to the Word of God and to grow deeper in our devotion and dependence on Him.

SERMON RECAP

Part 1: The Context of Josiah's Reign

- Josiah inherited a kingdom (Judah) where moral anarchy and rampant idolatry were common.
- He was only 8 when he became King. His father and grandfather reigned for a total of 57 years together before him. They did evil in the eyes of the Lord and turned the hearts of the people against God.
- Josiah did not have any godly examples to follow from these two kings.

Part 2: The Feats of the Revival

- Through his reign, Josiah carried out the following:
 - 1) Spiritual Reform ([v3-7](#))
 - 2) Restoring the Temple ([v8-13](#)) – Josiah put in place the administration of funds for temple repairs
 - 3) Discovering the Book ([v14-18](#)) – Josiah responded positively to the discovery of the book of Moses, which changed him and changed the nation as a result.
 - 4) Conviction of God's Word ([v19-21](#))
 - 5) Fearing God's Word ([v22-28](#))
 - 6) Covenanting with the Lord ([v29-33](#))
 - 7) Celebrating the Passover ([2 Chronicles 35:18](#)) – Josiah restored the Passover celebration.

Part 3: The Heart behind the Revival

- Josiah was wholehearted in his devotion to God. ([v1-2](#), [2 Kings 23:35](#), [2 Chronicles 16:9](#))
- The choices Josiah made in fostering a God-centred heart:
 - a) Josiah set his eyes on one goal - to please God in all his ways

- b) Josiah maintained godly practices – He walked in ways that drew Him to God
- c) Josiah made up his mind that he would not be turned aside by the world ([Proverbs 4:25-27](#)). There is a simplicity to the life of the godly.

Closing challenge

- Ps Dinah exhorted us to return to the Word ([Joel 2:1](#)).
- We are encouraged to rediscover God’s truth and go deeper with Him instead of settling for mediocre Christian life. Like Josiah, it will mean that we will need to swim against the tide at times; rejecting whatever is contrary to God’s Word and His will.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How do the actions of King Josiah inspire you to examine your life to remove any spiritual idols in your life and to be wholly devoted to God and His ways as written in Scripture?**

Leader’s Notes

This question aims to allow members to look at the reforms Josiah implemented in the nation, and for them to reflect on how it inspires them to examine their own lives in their pursuit to be wholly devoted to God. One of the most common pitfalls of disciples is to depend on one’s intellect concerning issues of life – what one’s logic and deduction of matters pertaining to life. It is rare to find believers seeking the Lord by examining His written Word on what it has to say about how we should live. Cell leaders can encourage members to return to God’s Word more, rather than depend on ourselves in regards to all matters of life.

Transition

Josiah’s life and influence is an example of how personal revival can influence his community. In the same way, we can be a godly influence to others.

- 2. How can we stay true to God’s commands and reflect Him in the communities we are placed in?**

Leader’s Notes

This question aims for members to consider what are the commands we as believers need to stay true to, and to also consider if they are facing situations where they need to take a stand in their communities. When we do not read and meditate upon God’s commands on a regular basis, we will tend to depend more and more on our flesh – our intellect, our desires and the advice of men. However, when the whole community grows in the Word together, we hold each other accountable to the lives we are meant to live, and it is only then that our communities can truly blossom and be all that God desires it to be.

Transition

It is important to know God’s commands and also to put in place spiritual disciplines that enable us to walk in ways that are pleasing to Him.

- 3. What is a godly practice you have or would like to implement in your life? Share with the cell.**

Leader’s Notes

This question aims to allow members to share their own experiences in establishing godly practices in their lives. Members can share what is a practice they have implemented or wish to implement in their lives. Members can also share the challenges they faced in implementing it and the breakthroughs they had even as they sought after God. Establishing godly practices take time and can be inconvenient. However, it enables us to have a deeper intimacy with God and humbles us as He sees the challenges we face and will empower and enable us. (Emphasise the need to

your members to daily read God's Word. This is one godly practice that every believer should have.)

Closing

A wholehearted devotion to God and His Word provides us the wisdom, courage and assurance we need to be influencers and vessels of revival in our communities.

WORKS

Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. Sermon Application

- Pray for God to give us a deeper hunger and longing for His Word
- Pray for renewal and revival in our own individual lives and our communities.

2. RiverLife

- Pray for our mission teams that are heading to the nations in this season.
- Pray for our upcoming Marriage Retreat on the 24-26 November
- Pray for our members to take the initiative to be outreaching as we approach the Christmas season.

3. World

- Pray for the conflict in the Gaza Strip between Israel and Hamas, that a peaceful resolution can be reached soon.
- Pray for the situation in Northern Myanmar where 50,000 civilians are displaced as a result of war.
- Pray for Iceland as a state of emergency is declared over the threat of a volcanic eruption.
- Continue to pray for the Russia-Ukraine war and the avoidance of using nuclear weapons.

4. Opportunities for Outreach

- Ask the Lord to bless us as we step out to reach a pre-believer.
- Ask the Lord to grant you opportunities to reach out to a non-believing loved one, friend, or colleague this week as we seek to mature in Christlikeness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Digital Bulletin: rlc.sg/bulletin

1. **Christmas Is Coming! Let's Celebrate Together at RiverLife.** Share the love of Christ with someone this Christmas. Visit our Christmas microsite for details on seeker-friendly services in the month of December: rlc.sg/christmas2023. Write a heartfelt message this festive season and invite someone to our services using RiverLife Christmas cards! The cards will be distributed at our English Services on Sundays – 12, 19 & 26 Nov.
2. **Bible Equipping Sessions by Pastor David Lim - Book of Leviticus Set Apart for The Gospel: Encountering God's Holiness.** "Rules and regulations" are unfortunately what go through many believers' minds whenever they encounter the book of Leviticus. In fact, its current name can be traced to a misconception that the book contained merely instructions to the priesthood, and thus was not relevant to the rest of God's people.

But why did God give this book to Israel right after the completion of the Tabernacle? How were the various rules related to the fact that God's holy presence was now dwelling among His people? The first half of Leviticus focuses on the significance of Israel's sacrificial system, culminating in the central theology of the atonement, while the second half explores the specific instructions concerning different aspects of daily lives and how they are meant to reflect the holiness of God.

This series comprises 4 sessions:

1. Fri, 17 Nov, 8-10 pm
2. Sun, 19 Nov, 11.30am-3.30pm (with lunch break)
3. Fri, 24 Nov, 8-10 pm
4. Sun, 26 Nov, 11.30am-3.30pm (with lunch break)

Pre-order your lunch for the Sunday sessions by this Sun, 13 Nov: rlc.sg/lev-lunch

If you have not attended the Genesis book study series, please watch *Introduction to the Pentateuch*: rlc.sg/intro-penta (First 30 minutes)

3. **Celebrating with Those who Got Baptised** "...anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" – 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT). We rejoice with these RiverLifers who got baptised last Sunday!

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neo Hock Leong Lucius 梁福良• Yang Fan 杨帆• Lynn Huan• Glory Jane Cawayan• Gemma Pascua Tomas• Jennifer Buenaventura• Gina Fabillar• Joseph Ng• Yvonne Chong• Kwok Hui Ling, Janice• Dieu Tao Jie Linus• Eileen Lim Yee Ling• Magdalene Lim• Lim Yi Wen Yvonne• Lily Ng	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brielle Too Xiu Hui• Tan Shi Ying, Erica• Merrilynn Thng• Clarissa Chen Wan Qi• Celine Wong Lay Ting• Law Yi Jun, Rachel• Ian Poar Chye An• Choo Som Boon• Teh Qin An• Tan Xue Ning, Sherline• Friedel Wong Shien• Tan Aik Tat, Jayden• Molina Dathan Vince Espiritu• Jordan Lee Wong• Hoe Wey Wesley
---	---

4. **Seniors Survey for RiverLifers aged 55 & above.** We're inviting RiverLifers aged 55 & above to participate in our survey for seniors! This survey, initiated by our newly set up ministry for seniors – Caleb Ministry, seeks to understand seniors and the ways they would like to serve or be involved in church life during this season of their lives. Caleb Ministry is part of our ongoing churchwide discipleship efforts, and aims to encourage, equip, and empower our seniors to live an abundant life (John 10:10) in their autumn years.

Kindly submit your response by Thu, 30 Nov: rlc.sg/calebsurvey

5. **The RiverLife Welcome Lunch. Sun, 19 Nov | 11.30am-1pm Grace Chapel (Level 1).** Specially for those who started joining us at service or cell this year. Relationships matter to us because church is family. If you are new to RiverLife, come join us for this Welcome Lunch so that we can get to know one another better. You'll get to meet fellow RiverLifers as well as our Senior Leaders and Pastors too. This session is for those who have not attended a Welcome Lunch previously. Due to capacity constraints, each guest may be accompanied by up to two family members or friends (including their host).

RSVP online by Sun, 12 Nov: rlc.sg/welcomelunch

6. **Serve in SuperLife.** Serve in SuperLife as a Teacher or Tech Support Crew!
 - Teacher's role:
 - Support the running of weekly SuperLife services for preschool children
 - Care for and manage the children during service
 - Tech support crew role:
 - Serve at our children's services for Kindy (aged 5-6) and Nursery (aged 3-4) levels
 - Operate the Pro-Presenter software on a laptop for videos and slides support
 - Operate the sound panel and microphones for audio support No prior experience needed as training will be provided.
 - Sign up to serve: rlc.sg/serve

7. **Current Pulpit Series – In the Wake of Awakening.**

- Part 2 – Revivals (15 Oct – 26 Nov). We survey seasons of awakening in Israel's history throughout the Old Covenant. From restorations of relationships to spiritual warfare, we will glean from Israel's obedience and failures following seasons of renewal.

CHURCH CALENDAR

1. **Church Calendar Highlights**

- *Quarter 4*
 - Equipping Series - Leviticus: 17 & 19, 24 & 26 Nov
 - Marriage Retreat – 24 to 26 Nov
 - Leaders Huddle – 3 Dec

2. **YA Gatherings (For Young Adults in their 20s). First Saturday Every Month, 5pm-8.30pm Victory Chapel (Level 1).** The YA Gathering is a space where young adults can get together to connect and build community. This gathering is made up of two components – Community Conversations & Communal Dinner – both with a focus on relationship building and life conversations. If you are currently in a cell, register your attendance with your cell leader. If you are currently not in a cell, do register online: rlc.sg/YAgathering-apr-reg.

3. **RiverLife Prayer Meetings.**

RiverLife Prayer Room. Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel.

RiverLife Revive Nights. Wed, 8pm – 9.30pm, Victory Chapel (livestream: rlc.sg/revivenights)

CHURCH MINISTRIES & OPPORTUNITIES

1. **9M Ministry.** The 9M Ministry provides prayer support for expectant mothers on their 9-month journey of pregnancy. Sisters-in-Christ who are fellow RiverLifers are assigned as Prayer Buddies to walk alongside mums who sign up to receive prayer support.
 - Receive Prayer Support: rlc.sg/9m
 - Provide Prayer Support: rlc.sg/serve
2. **Missions Microsite.** Discover how you can go, give and pray for the nations. Let's make a difference in the nations together! For more information, visit rlc.sg/missions.
3. **RiverLife Cares Opportunities.** Signup: <http://rlc.sg/serve-rlcar>
4. **Prayer Ministry.** If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. fear, worry, etc), you can sign up for RLC's RTF ministry: <https://bit.ly/rlcrtf>

RESOURCES & CONNECTING WITH US

1. **Bible Reading Plan.** The church has provided 3 undated Bible Reading plans that will serve as a resource for those who wish to follow a Bible Reading plan. Link: rlc.sg/brp
 - 2 Year Chronological Bible Reading Plan.
 - 3 Year Bible Reading Schedule (Alternating readings between Old and New Testament passages)
 - Redemptive Historical Bible Reading Plan (At your own pace, focusing on the redemption story)
2. **RiverLife Podcast.** The RiverLife Podcast allows you to listen to RiverLife content anytime, anywhere! The link to go to is rlc.sg/podcast or simply search **'The RiverLife Podcast'** on Spotify.
3. **Spiritual Growth Resources.** We have put together a curated list of recommended resources for the RiverLife family. These resources (books, articles, podcasts and videos) are recommendations for the various spiritual growth stages as you seek to grow deeper in the River of God this year. You can access them at rlc.sg/resource. This list will be continually populated throughout the year.
4. **Testimony.** If you have a testimony to share, you can write to us at stories@riverlife.org.sg to share with us your testimony as an encouragement to others.
5. **Stay Connected with RLC.** Follow us to stay updated on latest church news and happenings.
 - **WhatsApp Broadcast:** Text 'Subscribe' to 8923 1939
 - **Telegram Channel:** t.me/RiverLifeChurch
 - **Facebook & Instagram:** [@riverlifechurchsg](https://www.facebook.com/riverlifechurchsg)

GIVING LINKS & QR CODES

ONLINE GIVING TO MISSIONS

Donate digitally:

PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200100806DTNO.

Interbank Transfer

UOB Account 450-309634-4

Kindly indicate "Missions" in your transaction reference.



ONLINE GIVING TO RIVERLIFE CHURCH

Contribute your tithes and offering digitally:

PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200100806DSCB.

Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account: DBS Autosave 029-902431-0

Bank Code: 7171 / Branch Code: 029



ONLINE DONATION TO RIVERLIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Donate digitally:

PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200711586WDON

Kindly indicate your NRIC No. under the Bill Reference to qualify for tax deduction.

