Preschool–Grade 6

# King Joash

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

**Main point:** God kept Joash safe, and Joash did what was right.
**Bible passage:** 2 Kings 11–12. Read 2 Kings 11:1–12:2 yourself before class.
**Memory verse:** "Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD" *2 Kings 12:2 (KJV)*. **Jehoash** is another way to say Joash.
**You need:** a Bible, a paper crown, a blanket or a sheet, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
**Before class:** put a bookmark in your Bible at 2 Kings 11.

## 1. Opening game: Peekaboo King (5 minutes)

One child hides under the blanket. Everyone counts, "One, two, three, four, five, six!" Then everyone says, "Seven!" and the child pops out. Put the crown on the child's head, and everyone claps. Give every child a turn. Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a little boy who was hidden, and then he became the king."

## 2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to 2 Kings 11. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

A mean queen wanted to hurt the king's family (2 Kings 11:1). *(Make a grumpy face.)*
Then she ruled the land (11:3). *(Shake your head no.)*
But Aunt Jehosheba saved little Joash (11:2). *(Hug yourself.)*
She hid him in God's house, the temple (11:3). *(Cover your eyes with your hands.)*
Joash was hidden for six years. *(Count to six on your fingers.)*
**Say it with me: "God kept Joash safe!"**
Then Jehoiada the priest brought Joash out (11:12). *(Uncover your eyes: peekaboo!)*
He put the crown on Joash (11:12). *(Put your hands on your head like a crown.)*
The people clapped their hands (11:12). *(Clap, clap, clap!)*
They said, "God save the king!" (11:12). *(Shout it together.)*
They blew trumpets (11:14). *(Pretend to blow a trumpet.)*
Joash was seven years old (11:21). *(Hold up seven fingers.)*
Jehoiada taught him, and Joash did right (12:2). *(Thumbs up!)*
**Say it with me: "I can do what is right!"**


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## 3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Where was Joash hidden? *(In God's house, 2 Kings 11:3)*
2. What did the priest put on Joash? *(A crown, 11:12)*
3. How old was King Joash? *(Seven, 11:21)*

## 4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "God's Word says, 'Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD.' That means Joash did what God says is right." Teach the motions: put your hands on your head like a crown for "Jehoash," give a thumbs up for "did that which was right," and point up for "the LORD." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "2 Kings 12:2" and clap three times.

## 5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
*Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.*

## 6. Activity: The Boy King (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a big crown, and then color it yellow. While they color, ask: "Where was Joash hidden? Who taught him to do right?" Kids who finish early can play Peekaboo King again.

## 7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for keeping me safe.
Help me do what is right. In Jesus' name, amen."

**Tips for little ones:** let every child wear the crown and hear the class clap for them. Keep the queen part short and calm. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

**If a child asks about the mean queen:** say, She could not rule anymore. Joash became the king (2 Kings 11:12, 11:16).


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