

EFCDP SERMON NOTES • March 2, 2025

Series: *Revival* # 1

“The Way to God” • 2 Kings 22:1-20

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The Big Idea: *The way to God is open to anyone who will take His Word seriously.*

**1. We must be born again. Vv. 1-2**

**2. We must surrender our lives to God. Vv. 2-7**

**3. We must know His Word. Vv. 8-10**

**4. We must sincerely repent. Vv. 11-13**

**5. We must apply God's Word to our lives. Vv. 14-20**

# *Digging Deeper*

A guide for personal and small group study for the week of March 2, 2025.



→ Was any part of the message unclear? Which aspect of the message do you think will be the most challenging to apply to your own life?

→ Do you agree with the “big idea” of this passage? Why or why not?

1. Have you ever attended a meeting that was promoted as a “revival?” If so, what was your impression?

2. What would you say are the marks of a true spiritual revival?

→ What would you say are the characteristics of a spiritually **unhealthy** “revival?” What are the spiritual dangers?

3. How could a believer discern whether they need revival, either personally or in their spiritual community?

4. Pastor Steve defined “revival” as: “A renewed interest in and commitment to, knowing and applying God’s Word to daily life.” Does this definition fit revivals that you have heard about? Why or why not? Do you agree with his definition? What would you change about this definition?

5. Do you read your Bible outside of church services? If so, what reading plan do you follow? How many times do you typically read your Bible outside of church in a week or month?

6. Read 2 Kings 21:15-26. What was Josiah’s spiritual legacy? Yet, somehow, he emerged a very godly man. What might this imply about your personal potential for spiritual impact?

7. Josiah was in the line of King David. Why do you think the writer of 2 Kings refers to him as Josiah's father, rather than Amon?

8. Read 2 Kings 22:2-7. What evidence of spiritual and leadership maturity do you see in how Josiah lived?

9. How do your Christian friends regard their responsibility to financially support their local church?

→ What kind of stewardship principles were you taught in your family of origin?

10. What role did Josiah's practice of stewardship play in the revival that eventually took place in Judah? What might this imply about the power of our stewardship habits?

11. Read Matthew 19:16-30. What are the differences between a "consumer" Christian and a "fully devoted" Christian? Why does this matter?

12. Read Matthew 5:17-20 and Luke 24:25-27. What was Jesus' perspective on the value of the Old Testament for believers today?

→ How could you use these passages to challenge those (such as Pastor Andy Stanley) who say that we no longer need to know/study/teach the Old Testament in the local church?

13. Read 2 Kings 22:11-13. What does Josiah's response to hearing the Word of God indicate about his spiritual health?

→ Do believers today have a basis for a similar response? Why or why not?

14. Read 2 Kings 22:14-20. Was Huldah a good prophetess? (Compare her prophecy with 2 Kings 21:10-15 and Jeremiah 39:1-10.)

15. Read Deuteronomy 18:15-20. What is God's standard for anyone who claims to be a prophet of God? How does this help us evaluate those who claim to speak for God today?

16. How does Huldah's prophecy about Josiah in 2 Kings 22:18-20 demonstrate the value of seeking revival?

17. Read 2 Kings 23:1-3 and 21-25. How do we know Josiah's repentance was sincere?

18. Josiah was killed in battle in 609 B.C. (2 Kings 23:29-30). The first invasion of Judah by Babylon occurred in 605 B.C., followed by more invasions in 597 and 586 B.C. What does the historical record reveal about whether Huldah was a godly prophetess?

19. Have you experienced consequences in your life because you failed to take God's word seriously? If so, did those consequences cause you to make changes in your life? If so, what were they?

20. As a result of this study, do you feel a need to follow Josiah's example? If so, what changes do you want to make?

### **Application Ideas:**

1. Make sure you are truly born again. (See John 3 if you're unsure.)

2. Ask the Holy Spirit to examine your heart, revealing any areas of your life you have not surrendered to God's control.

3. How often do you read your Bible outside of church? Will you commit to reading at least one chapter per day, three times a week?

4. Do you own at least one good commentary, such as *The Moody Bible Commentary*? Get it. Read it.

5. Develop one or two relationships with other believers who are not afraid to ask you the hard questions about how you are applying God's Word to your life.

→ Which of these will be the most challenging for you to apply?

→ Pray for each group member, for one change they want to make.