

Taking God's Word Seriously

Scripture: 2 Kings 22-23

Sermon Points:

BIG IDEA: Your devotion to God's Word reflects your devotion to God.

- 1. God's Word has a convicting effect. (2 Kings 22)
- 2. God's Word has a cleansing effect. (2 Kings 23)
- 3. God's Word has a celebrating effect. (2 Kings 23)

APPLICATION: Will you devote the first minutes of each day to reading God's Word?

Group Opener

How many Bibles do you own, which one is the most special to you?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What we do with the Bible shows what we believe about it. Rate and discuss your current Bible engagement (1 = disengaged, 10 = daily reading).
- 2. Read 2 Kings 22:19 out loud. Talk about how Josiah responded to God's Word?
- 3. It's normal to be convicted by God's Word. How do you usually respond when convicted?
- 4. We rid our hearts of idols by filling them with God. Describe how God's Word has cleansed and shaped your life?
- 5. Taking God's Word seriously means it is the ultimate authority of your life. Describe your habits for living under God's Word.
- 6. Will you devote the first minutes of each day to reading God's Word?

The Gideon's Bible Introduction

"The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed.

Christ is its grand subject, our good the design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents."