

Break the cycle

Sunday August 27, 2023
Celebrate Summer Series: Be Different

Definition : Reform - *“To improve by alteration, correction of error, or removal of defects; put into a better form or condition.*

(Source: The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, 5th Edition.)

My Growing Relationship with Jesus Requires Regular Seasons of Reform!

*“Before him there was no king like him,
who turned to the LORD with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might,
according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.”
2 Kings 23:25 ESV*

Josiah _____ a Mess

His _____

*“Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.”
2 Kings 22:1 ESV*

His _____

*“And he [King Amon] did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as Manasseh his father had done. He walked in all the way in which his father walked and served the idols that his father served and worshiped them”
2 Kings 21:20–21 ESV*

His _____

*“But they did not listen, and Manasseh led them astray to do more evil than the nations had done whom the LORD destroyed before the people of Israel.”
2 Kings 21:9 ESV*

Personal _____

“He abandoned the LORD, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of the LORD. And the servants of Amon conspired against him and put the king to death in his house.” 2 Kings 21:22–23 ESV

**“I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I want to be, I am not what I hope to be in another world;
but still I am not what I once used to be, and by the grace of God I am what I am”**

— John Newton

*“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”
Philippians 1:6 ESV*

*“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”
Revelation 3:20 ESV*

God Brings Reform through _____

“And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.” 2 Kings 22:2 ESV

The Power of _____

“Manasseh led Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem astray, to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the people of Israel.” 2 Chronicles 33:9 ESV

(Also: 2 Chronicles 33:10-11)

God Never _____

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9 ESV

“And when he was in distress, he entreated the favor of the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers. He prayed to him, and God was moved by his entreaty and heard his plea and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.” 2 Chronicles 33:12–13 ESV

God Brings Reform through _____

“And let it be given into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD, and let them give it to the workmen who are at the house of the LORD, repairing the house” 2 Kings 22:5 ESV

God’s Word is _____

“And Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the LORD.” And Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it. And Shaphan the secretary came to the king, and reported to the king, “Your servants have emptied out the money that was found in the house and have delivered it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD.” Then Shaphan the secretary told the king, “Hilkiyah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read it before the king.” 2 Kings 22:8–10 ESV

Why God’s Word Must Be a _____ in My Routine

“And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.” Deuteronomy 17:18–20 ESV

(Reference: 2 Kings 23)

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