



## Small Group Guide – Week of November 23

### *Kings and Chronicles: Don't Be a Yet*

**Date:** Week of November 23, 2025

**Focus Passage(s):** 2 Kings 12; 2 Kings 15; Exodus 20:3; Psalm 16:4; Psalm 34:8

**Theme:** A faith that does not have God first is idolatry. It was the biggest struggle for the kings in Israel and Judah; and it's our struggle too.

#### **Suggested Schedule (60 minutes total)**

Segment	Time	Description
Icebreaker	10 min	Build connection and open up the room
Intro/Recap	5 min	Read the key passages for the week
Group Discussion	25 min	Dive into Scripture and discuss real-life application
Deeper Dive Option	5–10 min	Optional deeper Bible study or individual challenge
Prayer & Requests	10–15 min	Close in prayer for growth + personal needs

### Welcome + Icebreaker (10 min)

**Time:** 10 minutes

**Prompt** (choose one):

These questions help us begin thinking about what we unintentionally place first in our lives.

What is something small that easily distracts you in everyday life?

If someone looked at your weekly schedule, what might they assume is most important to you?

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### Key Message Recap + Scripture Reading (5 min)

**Time:** 5 minutes

**God remains faithful—even when we are not.**

Joash and Jotham were doing so well, yet they weren't wholeheartedly devoted to God. In other words, they wanted God in their lives, yet they also wanted to hold on to some other things. That's idolatry. A faith that does not have God first is idolatry. It was the biggest struggle for the kings in Israel and Judah, and it's our struggle too.

**Read aloud:**

2 Kings 12:2-3

2 Kings 15:3-4

What stands out to you from these verses?

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## Dig Deeper – Discussion Questions (25 min)

### *1. Understanding Idolatry in Scripture*

#### **Read Exodus 20:3 and Psalm 16:4**

- Based on these verses, how would you define idolatry in your own words?
- Why do you think idolatry was such a recurring theme among the kings of Israel and Judah?
- What parallels do you see in our culture today?

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### *2. Joash, Jotham, and the “Yet”*

#### **Read 2 Kings 12:2–3 and 2 Kings 15:34–35**

- What does it mean when the text says they followed God “yet”, or “but”, they didn’t remove the shrines?
- What does partial devotion look like today?
- Where do you see the temptation in your own life to want God, yet still hold on to something else?

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### *3. Identifying Modern Idols*

- The message mentioned potential idols such as approval, money, image, worry, entertainment, or relationships. Which ones are easiest for you to drift toward?
- When does a good thing become an idol?
- How have you noticed “troubles multiplying” (Psalm 16:4) when something other than God becomes first?

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### *4. Questions for Self-Reflection*

1. Is it leading me closer to God or distracting me?
2. Where do I turn for comfort, strength, or security?
3. If God asked me to give it up, could I?

Discuss as a group: Which of these three questions challenges you most, and why?

“Following Christ isn’t something that can be done half-heartedly or on the side. It is not a label we can display when it is useful. It must be central to everything we do and are.” – Francis Chan

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## Deeper Dive (Optional)

Good things become idols when they take the place of God. What we struggle to surrender the most is often what is controlling us. When we hesitate to give up our thing, it's because we don't realize how good God is, and the only way to know how good He is, is to put Him first.

How have you experienced God's goodness when you've trusted Him above something else? Why do you think difficult surrender often leads to deeper spiritual joy?

### Character Study: Joshua's Obedience // Joshua 24:15

Joshua's faithfulness was characterized by his **complete obedience** to God's commands, his **unwavering trust** in God's promises, and his **profound reverence** for God's law. He led the Israelites into the Promised Land by diligently following God's instructions, even when they seemed difficult, and ultimately rallied the people to commit to serving God alone at the end of his life.

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## Prayer Time (10 min)

- Ask God to reveal any “yet” areas in our lives.
- Pray for courage to surrender anything competing with God.
- Pray that each person experiences God's goodness as they put Him first.

Invite group members to share personal prayer needs that are spiritual, relational, or practical. Encourage confidentiality and care.