

**Get Ready!****Text**

II Kings 22-23

**Key Quest Verse**

Keep God's Word (Deuteronomy 4:2).

**Bible Background**

The nation of Israel, God's chosen people, was now a divided kingdom. The northern portion, Israel, had already been destroyed and taken captive by the Assyrians. Judah had been ruled mostly by kings that had forsaken Jehovah - God. They had allowed the worship of false gods and idols into the country. Altars and shrines to other gods had even been erected inside the temple.

Because of the unfaithfulness of His people, God had spoken through His prophets to say that He would bring destruction upon His people and their land. Into this setting, young Josiah was anointed king of Judah. "While he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David" (2 Chronicles 34:3). The Book of the Law was discovered when the temple was being repaired and it was read to Josiah. In it, Josiah discovered how they had failed to obey God. He then ordered that all evidence of idol worship be removed throughout the nation. He encouraged the people to worship only God. Then the nation of Judah enjoyed a brief reprieve from the anger of God; no disaster came as long as Josiah was king.

**Get Ready!****Lesson Quest**

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**What I want my students to:**

- Know:** The Bible is God's Word.  
**Feel:** God's Word is special.  
**Do:** Treat the Bible with respect.

**Leader's Devotion**

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How much do you treasure the Word of God? Do you make it a priority to spend time in the scriptures daily? Pray that the Lord will use you as His tool to teach these young children the importance of His Word. Read the Key Quest Verse from various translations of the Bible.

## Get Set!



### Option A



**Talk about finding something you forgot you had.**

**Materials:** A bag, an item you have found that you forgot you had lost. (Examples: a dollar bill that was in a jacket pocket, a piece of jewelry that was tucked away in a pocket of your suitcase, a special dish/mug which had been pushed way back in your cupboard, etc.)

**Procedure:** Tell your students that you have something in your bag that is special to you. Have them guess what it is. Then, take it out and show them. Tell them the story about how you had lost it for awhile. At first you missed it, but then you sort of forgot about it. Then one day when you were going through your pockets, suitcase, cupboard, etc., you found it. Let them know how excited you were to find the item you lost.

“Have you ever lost something important to you?” (Let them tell about things they have lost.) “Did you find it some time later? How did you feel when you found it?”

Introduce the lesson by saying, “today's lesson tells us about something very important that was lost for a long time. It was found in the temple, which was their church. What do you think it was?” (Give them a chance to guess before you go on to tell the story. On a chalkboard or piece of chart paper, write out their guesses.)

**GO TO THE BIBLE STORY**



### Option B



**Materials:** Make a scroll out of a piece of paper and attach a straw or craft stick at each end of the paper with tape. On the scroll write the Key Quest Verse. Roll it up. Also, have a few Bibles that look different from one another: red, big, small, etc.

**Procedure:** (Show scroll to students.) “Does anyone know what this is?” (Wait for answers.) “This is a scroll. These are what books used to look like a very long time ago. Let me unroll this scroll and see what it says.” (Unroll scroll.) Keep God’s Word. “Does anyone know what is another name for God’s Word? Yes, it’s the Bible. Does anyone have his/her own Bible? I want to show you some different Bibles. Look at this little one and now look at this one . . . do see anything different?” (Do this with several Bibles letting the students compare them.) “Even though these Bibles look different from the outside, they all have the same very important thing to tell us on the inside. I want to tell you a story about how a king very long ago, discovered a treasure that was lost.”

**GO TO THE BIBLE STORY**



Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles!

## Get Set!



### Bible Story



(Use the picture of the temple and scroll from the Teacher Resource pages.)

“A young boy became the King of Judah when he was only eight years old!” (Have them tell you how old they are. Using their fingers, show how many more years it would be until they are eight.)

“Josiah wanted to follow God and be a good king. He tried his best to do what was right. When he had been king for eighteen years, he sent some men to repair the temple. That was a building like our church.” (Show your picture of the temple.) “Can you say the word temple?” (Have them say the word with you.) “The people hadn’t been very good about going to church and the building wasn’t in very good shape. While the men were working in the church, someone found a book there.” (Show the scroll and explain that this what their Bible looked like.) “It looked very important, so they gave it to the king’s secretary. The secretary took it to the king and read it to him.”

“When Josiah heard what was written in the book, he knew that these were God’s words. It seems that the kings before him had forgotten to follow God and the book was tucked away where it was lost. When he was reading from the book, Josiah found that they had been doing some things that would make God very unhappy. Since he was king, Josiah commanded all the people of the land to stop doing what was bad and to start living the way God would want them to. Because Josiah led the people to follow God, God was happy and He blessed them.”

### Memory Verse:

Keep God’s Word (adapted from Deut. 4:2). This Memory Verse will help the children remember that the Word of God is important to them, and it is important to keep the words written in it.

Learn the Memory Verse word by word. Say one word and do the motions. Have them repeat it.

**Keep-** Act like you are grabbing something with your two hands and pull it toward you.

**God’s-** Point to God above.

**Word-** Hold your hands like holding a book.



*MUSIC: Have the students do the motions while they sing.*

Go!



Music



### The Bible Hokey Pokey

**(To the tune and motions of the “Hokey Pokey”)**

You put your right hand in, you put your right hand out

You put your right hand in, and you shake it all about

If you keep God's Word it will turn your life around

That's what it's all about !

(Continue with left hand, right foot, etc.)

### B-I-B-L-E

**(Sing “The B-I-B-L-E with the following motions)**

The B-I-B-L-E (Hold hands out like you are holding a book)

Yes, that's the book for me (Point at yourself with your thumb)

I stand alone on the Word of God (Firmly step with one foot and then the other)

The B-I-B-L-E (Hold hands out like you are holding a book)

### Read God's Word

**(To the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)**

Read, Read, Read God's Word every single day

Happy, Happy, we will be

If we follow God's way!



Quest Connection

“We know that the Bible is God's Word. If we read the Bible and obey what it says, we will be happy. One of the ways that we show that we are happy is by singing! I have a new song to teach you today!”



Close

Prayer: Thank You, God, for our Bibles. Thank You for our voices so that we can sing! In Jesus name, Amen.



**SENSORY:** This is a sand, water, dough, shaving cream, etc. - tactile activity. **TIP:** A plastic table cloth under the "sandbox" makes clean-up easy.

Go!



### Buried Treasure



**Materials:** A box or plastic tub filled with sand. Add to it small objects such as shells, pebbles, pennies, beads, or buttons.

**Procedure:** Let your students, one or two at a time, search for the "buried treasure." When they have found as many of the treasures as they can, ask them to count the objects or to match them to a card with a picture or one of each of the hidden objects taped or glued on it. Provide a sifter for the children to use when searching for the treasure, if desired.



### Quest Connection

"Remember how excited Josiah was when he found a treasure? Do you remember what that treasure was? We are going to look for buried treasures today!"



### Close

"Boys and girls, let us remember the best treasure of all, the Bible! Let's remember to take care of our Bibles."



*GAME: For this activity, it might be helpful to have an adult assist you.*

Go!



### Seek and Find



**Materials:** A small Bible or scroll

**Procedure:** Have a child hide their eyes or have a helper take them outside of the room. With the other students watching, hide the Bible or scroll somewhere in the room. Have the child open his/her eyes or come back into the room. Have him/her start looking for the Bible. As he/she is looking, the rest of the class claps together softly and slowly. As the student gets closer to where the Bible is, the class claps faster and louder. This continues until the Bible is found. Another student then takes his/her turn to look for the Bible.



### Quest Connection

“Don’t you feel sad when you have lost something? What are some things that you have lost? Remember in our story that something very special was lost? Do you remember what it was?”



### Close

Prayer: Dear God, Thank You for all the stories and things You tell us about in Your word, the Bible. Amen.



*ARTS AND CRAFTS: Display the student's artwork for the congregation to see.*

Go!



### Sandwich Bag Bibles



**Materials:** Self-seal sandwich bags, pieces of paper that would fit in the bags, masking tape, pieces of construction paper the same size as the bags.

**Procedure:** Make a stack of four plastic bags, lining up the self-seal sides on top of each other. Put a piece of construction paper on the bottom and the top of the stack. Staple the stack together on the non self-seal side of the stack. It should resemble a book, with plastic bag pages that open and close. Put tape over the staples on both sides of the stack, creating a binding. After the students have drawn pictures of things that are found in the Bible, slip each paper into a separate bag. On the front of the book, write "MY BIBLE." Explain to the students that they can change the pictures in their Bibles whenever they want!



### Quest Connection

"The Bible tells us about many important things in the Bible. What are things that are important to you? What are some of the things that are found in the Bible? I would like for you to draw a picture of those things on these pieces of paper."



### Close

Prayer: Dear God, Thank You for all the stories and things You tell us about in Your word, the Bible. Amen.



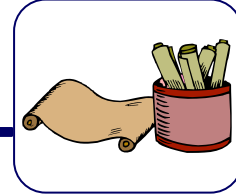


*FOOD: Check for food allergies!*

Go!



### Edible Scrolls



**Materials:** Small flour tortillas (one per student), peanut butter, jelly, Alpha-bits cereal, plastic or butter knives.

**Procedure:** Give each student a tortilla, a knife, and a tablespoon of peanut butter. Have them carefully spread the peanut butter over the tortilla. Give them a small amount of jelly to spread on top of the peanut butter.

Give them each a handful of Alpha-bits to “spell out” words on top of the peanut butter and jelly. Help them carefully roll their tortilla like a scroll. Let them enjoy eating their scrolls!



### Quest Connection

“Do you remember what they wrote on in Bible times?” (Scrolls.) “Which king found a treasured scroll?” (Josiah.) “We are going to make some scrolls that you can actually eat!”



### Close

“We know that we are just eating pretend scrolls. The real scrolls long ago were like a book, something that you would read. Our Bibles today look much different than those of a long time ago! Let’s pray and thank God for His Word, the Bible!”



**PUPPETS:** Preschoolers would enjoy a performance by the teacher with a theater, just like the one they are going to make!

Go!



### King Josiah Theater



**Materials:** Paper plate, crayons or markers, tape, pair of scissors, craft sticks, small pieces of paper for drawing.

Before the session, cut a horizontal slit in the center of the paper plate, as indicated by the dotted line by the illustration below. Cover each side of the slit with tape to prevent paper cuts. Make a 1-inch vertical cut at each end of the slit.

**Procedure:** Have the students color with crayons or markers on the paper plate creating the temple. On the small pieces of paper, have the students draw king Josiah and the Bible. Cut out their pictures and tape them to the craft sticks.



### Quest Connection

“Do you remember what they called the place in our story where they worshiped God?” (Temple.) “What was the name of the King who was upset about how they were taking care of the temple?” (Josiah.) “We are going to make a little puppet theater so we can tell the story to our family and friends!”



### Close

Slip the stick puppets through the slits on the paper plates. Let the children put on a “show” by retelling the story with their theaters.

# Discovery Center

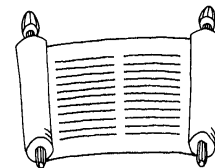
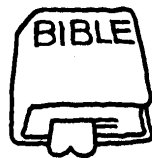
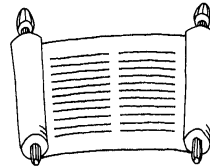
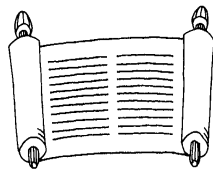
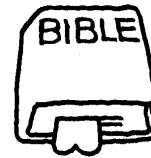
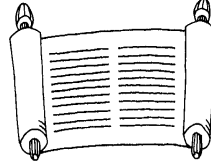
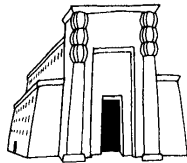
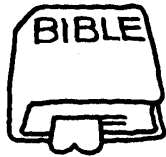
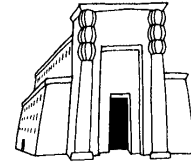
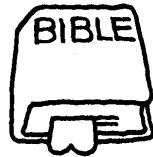
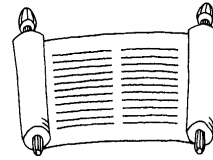
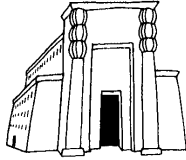
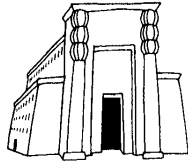
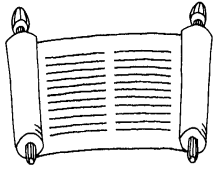
**This is an area or table where children can go on their own and discover more about the Bible story with more hands-on experiences.**

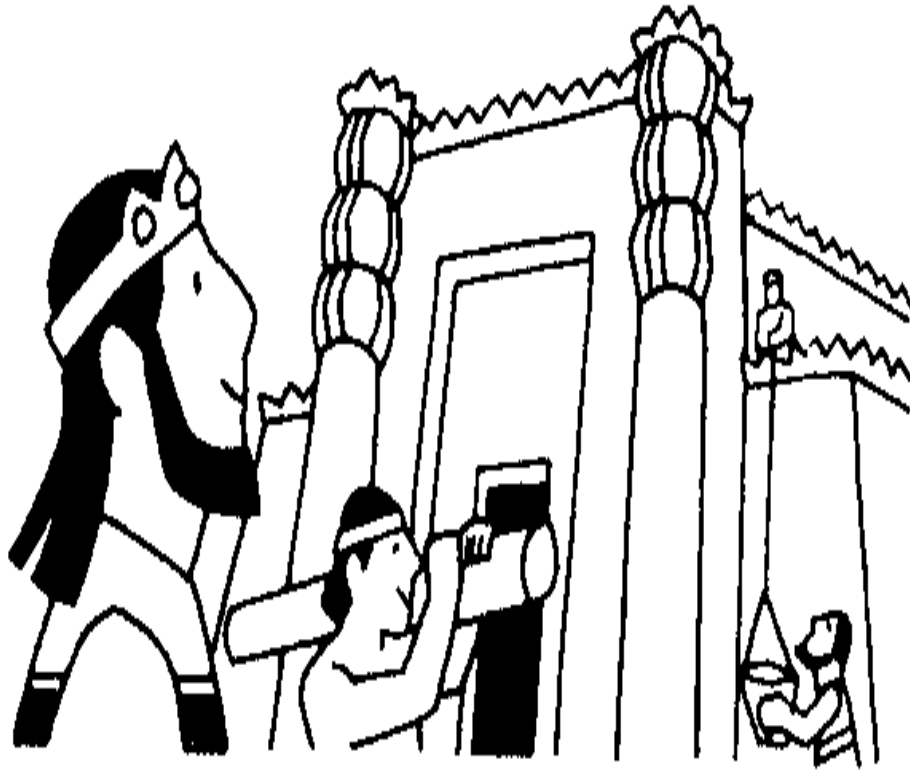
**AREA:** A place on the floor with pillows or a table with chairs.

**MATERIALS:** Possibilities include: Books with Bible stories, children's Bibles, a scroll, a crown, Bible times head dress.

Let children explore the books on their own. Give them directions on how to handle the books and let them practice showing care and respect to God's Word!

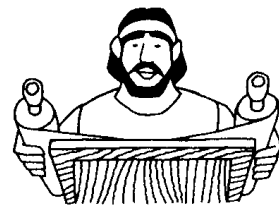
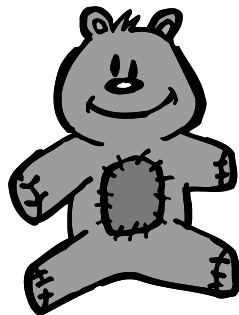
How many scrolls can you find? Circle them.

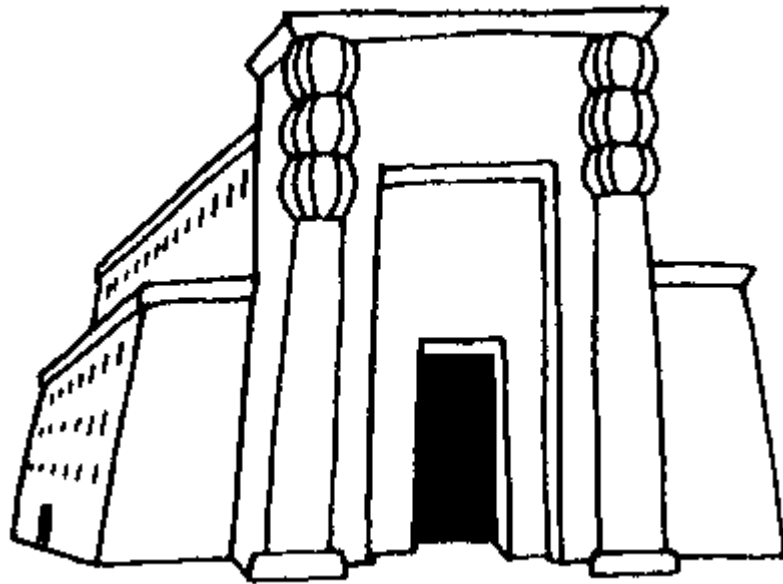




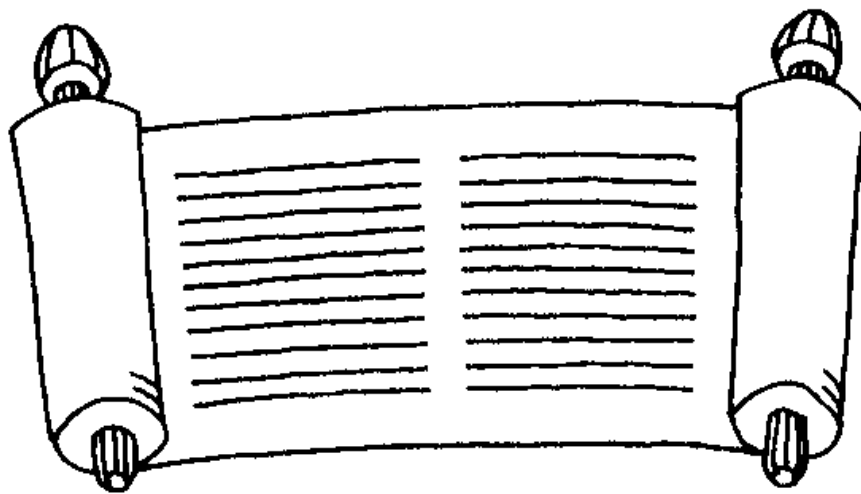
Do you remember what king Josiah found in the temple?  
Circle the answer then color the picture!

Keep God's Word (Deuteronomy 4:12).



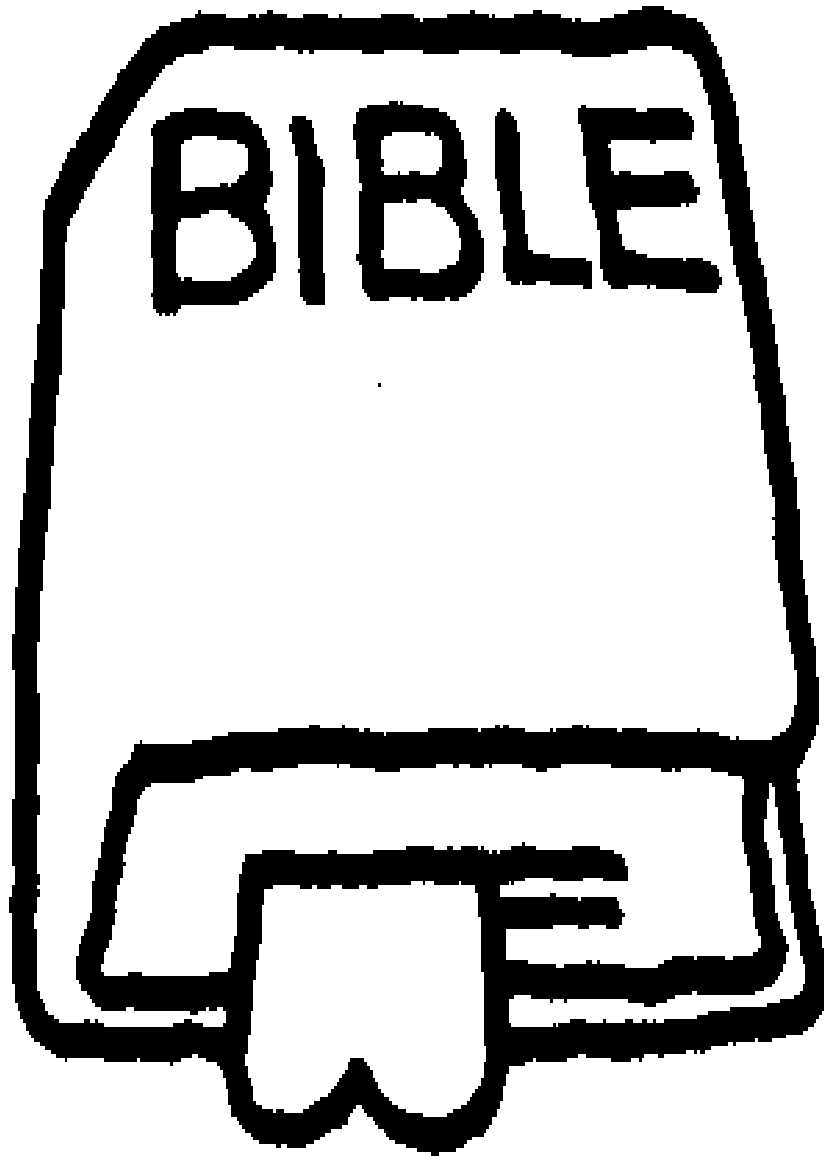


TEMPLE



SCROLL

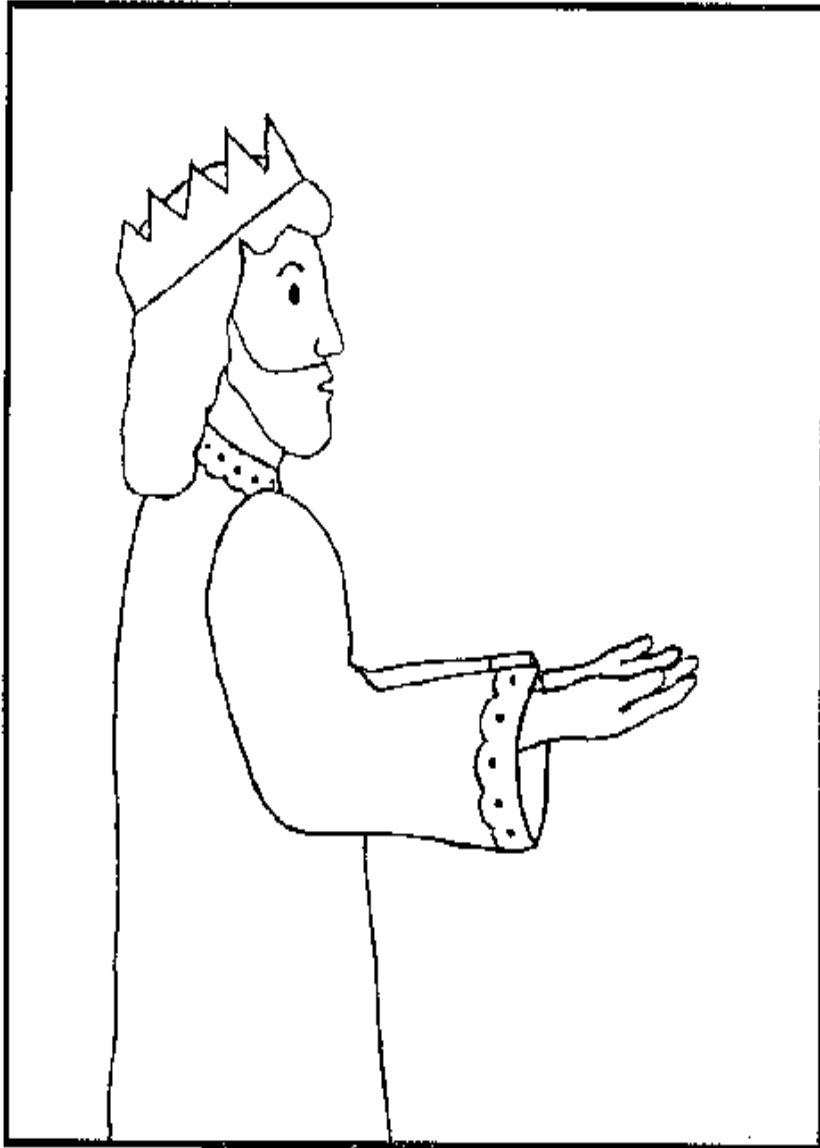
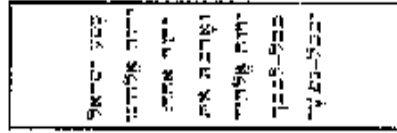
Write your name on this Bible.



Keep God's Word  
(Deuteronomy 4:12).

Have students color the page below. Tape each end of the scroll to a piece of plastic straw cut about one inch long. Roll the pieces of straw together to form a scroll and tie it with a piece of yarn. Tape the scroll in King Josiah's hands.

scroll →



**Keep God's Word  
(Deuteronomy 4:2).**