

LESSON PLAN

AMAZIAH AND UZZIAH

2 Chronicles 25 – 26

Lesson Memory Verse: 1 John 1:6 "If we say we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth."

Lesson Aim: Show how sin will cause a believer stray from the Lord and no longer be a close friend with Him.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): One day Tommy asked his mother if he could go outside to play. His mother told him that he could as long as he would stay close to his house and not leave the yard. As Tommy was playing, he decided it would be fun to go down the street and see what was at the other end. As he left his yard, he crossed the street. He noticed the STOP sign and thought about what his mother had told him. But instead of stopping, he went on down the street. He walked on and on until at last he noticed that the sky was getting darker. He stopped and looked around, and then he started to cry because he had disobeyed his mother and now he was lost. As he stood there crying, a policeman came by. Tommy told the policeman how he had done wrong and had not stayed close to home as he had been told. The policeman then helped Tommy find his way home. Tommy was very happy to be back home and close to his mother.

Just as Tommy disobeyed his mother, we often sin and disobey our heavenly Father (God). It was fun for Tommy when he first started to walk away from home, but when he realized that he was lost, the fun of disobeying his mother was over. When we sin and go away from God we will soon be in lots of trouble, too. Then our fun will be gone and we will not know what to do. Are you going to be like Tommy and be disobedient, or are you going to obey God and stay close to Him?

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse warns us about those who sin and say they are close friends with God. Our memory verse says they are liars. You cannot sin and be a close friend with God. If a person sins, he or she has walked away from God. God walks in the light, which means that He does those things which are right. When people walk in the dark, it means they do those things which are sinful. Do you think God will be a close friend to those who are living in sin? No, God will not walk with them in darkness. Do not be fooled. God is not a close Friend of those who live in sin.

Explanation of words and phrases in the verse:

"Fellowship with Him" – be a close friend with God Him

"Walk in darkness" -- live in sin

"Do not the truth" – do not obey God's Word

See (for Apperception and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. Our Bible story today tells about two kings who sinned and did not remain close friends with God. They no longer walked in the light with God. Let us find out what caused them to walk in darkness.

I. Amaziah Surrendered to God (2 Chronicles 25:1-10)

Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he became king. He was king of Judah for twenty-nine years and was called a good king. Although Amaziah did not serve the Lord as well as he should have, he did show faith in Him. When Amaziah became king he had a war with the country of Edom, so he called for all of the soldiers of Judah to come to him. There were thousands and thousands of them that came (300,000), but he thought he needed more. So he also hired thousands of soldiers from Israel (100,000) to join his army. After he hired these soldiers from Israel, a man of God came to Amaziah and told him not to use the soldiers from Israel because the Lord was not with these sinful men (they worshipped idols). He listened to the man of God, paid the soldiers and sent them back to Israel. This made the soldiers from Israel angry that they were not good enough to fight with the soldiers of Judah. But God was pleased with Amaziah because he obeyed His messenger, so God gave him a great victory.

WE: When we hear what God says in the Bible and obey it, He is pleased with us and will be our close friend.

LESSON PLAN

II. Amaziah Set Up Idols (2 Chronicles 25:11-16)

After the Lord gave Amaziah a great victory over the Edomites, he did a very foolish thing. Amaziah brought back the idols (false gods) of the Edomites and bowed down and worshipped them. This was sin and it made the Lord very angry. Amaziah failed to keep himself from sin, so God sent a prophet to warn Amaziah. But Amaziah was stubborn and would not listen to the prophet as he did the first time. Therefore, God punished him with a great loss in a war with Israel. A large section of the wall around Jerusalem was torn down, all the gold and silver in God's house of God and the treasures in the king's house were taken, plus many hostages were brought to Samaria (2 Chr 25:23-24).

WE: If we sin we will lose our close friendship with God; God will not walk with us in our sin. In fact, He will punish us for our sin if we are stubborn and do not turn away from our sin. We must obey God and not sin, if we want to be a close friend of God.

III. Uzziah Served God (2 Chronicles 26:1-16)

After the death of Amaziah, his son, Uzziah, was made king. Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king and was king for fifty-two years. Uzziah was a good king and trusted the Lord to save him from his sins and from his enemies. When he fought with the Philistines, the Lord helped him. The Lord kept helping Uzziah until he was very strong and very wealthy and was well known in many countries. The Lord helped Uzziah as long as he asked Him for His wisdom and obeyed Him (26:5, 15).

WE: We need to pray for God to help us in everything that we do. If we pray and stay close to the Lord, He will be a close friend to us and help us do good work.

IV. Uzziah Sinned Against God (2 Chronicles 26:17-23)

When Uzziah became strong he also became proud. One day he went into the temple to burn incense upon the altar. This was sin because God said only the priests were permitted to do this. When the priests told him to leave, he was so proud that he would not listen to them. So God punished him while he was still in the temple; God gave him the terrible skin disease called leprosy. The priests saw it and then Uzziah saw it. He was quickly taken out of the temple and put in a separate house. He never got well and finally died with this disease. God will not be a close friend to a person who is proud.

WE: We are in great danger when we become proud. Pride is sin and it leads us into other sins. God will punish a proud person. If you are proud, quickly tell God that you are sorry for your pride and ask for His forgiveness. If you are sincere, He will forgive you and you can be a close friend to God again. We must never forget that it is God who gives us our strength, our ability to be skillful and be successful in all that we do. When we remember that, it will help us to be humble and keep close to Him. He wants us to thank Him for all that He gives us. He wants us to have fellowship with Him and to walk close to Him. Will you walk in the light with Him? If you do, He will be a close friend to you.

BE (for Action): What happened when Amaziah and Uzziah obeyed God? (They had victory over their enemies and were given great riches.) What did Amaziah do to lose his favor with God? (He took the idols of the Edomites and worshipped them.) What happened to Uzziah when he became proud of his riches and power? (He went into the temple to offer incense on the altar, which only the priests were permitted to do.) What happened to Amaziah when he sinned? (He lost a war with Israel and they destroyed a large part of the wall around Jerusalem; they also took his riches and many hostages.) What happened to Uzziah when he sinned? (God gave him leprosy for the rest of his life.) God wants you to walk with Him in the light and be a close friend. To do this you must stay away from sin. If you do sin, quickly confess your sin to Him and ask for His forgiveness. If you want to be a close friend with God, you must listen to Him as you read your Bible and you must talk to Him by prayer. Do you want to be a close friend with God? If so, I want you to pray silently and tell God that you want to be His friend and will do your part to be a good friend to Him.