

Devotional Guide

August 17-21, 2026



The Choice to Protect

Big Idea: God keeps His promises through the quiet courage of ordinary people.

Speaker: Mike Kleven, Lead Pastor

The message explores how a largely unknown woman named Jehosheba made one of the most critical and daring choices in the Bible. When Queen Athaliah sought to destroy the entire royal family of David—and with it the promise of an eternal kingdom—Jehosheba risked everything to rescue the infant Joash, the last living link in the line that would lead to Jesus. Hidden for six years in the house of God, that fragile life was protected until the right moment.

This story reveals that God keeps His promises through the quiet courage of ordinary people. The same pattern continues today: God places the right person in the right place at the right time so His purposes advance and more people find their true home in Jesus.

How to Use This Guide:

Set aside 10-15 minutes daily. Read the Bible, reflect on the thought, answer questions, pray, and take the action step. Commit to this for growth—journal insights and share with a friend for accountability.

Day 1: The Threat Was Total

Bible Reading: 2 Chronicles 22:10; Matthew 2:16

Devotional Thought:

The sermon opened with a childhood memory of waves that nearly claimed a toddler's life—and a mother who saw the threat and acted. In Judah, Athaliah saw the death of her son Ahaziah and rose up to destroy the entire royal family. Her goal was not merely power; it was to erase the line of David and, with it, the promise of an eternal kingdom that would culminate in Jesus. The enemies of God do not simply oppose God's people; they aim to erase the promises of the Eternal King. Herod later tried the same thing in Bethlehem. Our culture offers a "better life" without God and seeks to silence the name of Jesus. The threat is total—but God is not finished.

Reflection Questions:

1. What stands out about Athaliah's attempt to wipe out David's line?
2. Where do you see similar "total threats" against God's promises today?
3. How does the sermon's childhood wave story connect to spiritual threats?
4. What promise of God feels under pressure in your own life right now?
5. How does knowing the threat is total, yet God still keeps His word encourage you?

Prayer Prompt: Lord, open my eyes to the real threats against Your promises in my world and my heart. Thank You that no scheme can overturn what You have sworn. Give me courage to stand. Amen.

Action Step: Name one area where God's promise feels threatened and write a one-sentence prayer of trust over it today.

Day 2: The Courage Was Quiet and Costly

Bible Reading: 2 Chronicles 22:11-12; 2 Kings 11:2-3

Jehosheba entered the chaos of a royal slaughter, stole the infant Joash from among the doomed princes, and hid him with his nurse in a bedroom of the temple complex. For six long years she and her husband Jehoiada lived under the shadow of Athaliah's reign, protecting a single fragile life while the queen installed Baal worship. Their lives were uprooted; this was not the vision they had for their marriage or ministry. Yet faithfulness is not based on circumstances—it is based on the God who is faithful. Quiet courage often costs more than dramatic heroics because it must be sustained day after ordinary day.

Reflection Questions:

1. What details in the rescue show both the danger and the quietness of Jehosheba's act?
2. How would six years of hidden faithfulness have reshaped Jehosheba and Jehoiada?
3. Where is God inviting you into costly but quiet courage right now?
4. Why does sustained, unseen faithfulness often matter more than a single dramatic moment?
5. How does the big idea—"God keeps His promises through the quiet courage of ordinary people"—speak to your season?

Prayer Prompt: Father, teach me the courage that stays when no one is watching. Help me pay the daily cost of protecting what You have entrusted. Amen.

Action Step: Choose one quiet act of protection or nurture (a hard conversation, a daily prayer rhythm, a refusal to compromise) and do it today without announcing it.

Day 3: Right Person, Right Place, Right Time

Bible Reading: 2 Chronicles 22:11; Esther 4:14

Jehosheba was the daughter of a king and the wife of a priest. That dual access gave her entry both to the palace slaughter and to the safety of the temple. God had positioned her precisely for this moment. Her name—“Yahweh has sworn”—itself testified to the promise she was protecting. If you follow Jesus, there will be seasons when you are the right person in the right place at the right time for God’s purpose in the world. The question is not whether the opportunity will come, but whether a heart already committed to God’s cause will recognize and respond.

Reflection Questions:

1. How did Jehosheba’s unique position enable the rescue?
2. What does her name (“Yahweh has sworn”) reveal about the story she was living in?
3. Where might God have already placed you “for such a time as this”?
4. What keeps ordinary people from recognizing their moment of opportunity?
5. How can you cultivate a heart ready to act when the moment arrives?

Prayer Prompt: Sovereign Lord, You place people where You need them. Make me attentive and willing. Use my ordinary life for Your extraordinary purposes. Amen.

Action Step: Ask God to show you one relationship or setting this week where you may be the “right person.” Take one small step of faithful presence there.

Day 4: The Outcome Was Cosmic

Bible Reading: 2 Chronicles 23:11-15; 2 Samuel 7:12-16

Six years later the hidden king is crowned. Athaliah is removed. The line of David continues. From that single fragile sapling would eventually come the Root and the Offspring of David—Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection reshape heaven and earth. A quiet act of costly courage became the human instrument God used to keep His oath to David and to open the way for the Savior of the world. The most decisive turns in human history often hinge on people almost no one knows who act with quiet integrity when it costs them. Your unnoticed faithfulness is not a small thing; it is part of your chapter in God’s big story.

Reflection Questions:

1. Trace the line from Joash’s rescue to the arrival of Jesus. What does that path teach about God’s ways?
2. Why does the sermon call the outcome “cosmic”?
3. How does this story reframe the value of your own quiet acts of faithfulness?
4. Where have you seen God turn a small, costly choice into something far larger than the person who made it?
5. What does it mean that your faithfulness is “part of your chapter in God’s big story”?

Prayer Prompt: King Jesus, thank You that the line was protected so You could come. Use my small acts of courage for purposes bigger than I can see. Amen.

Action Step: Write the big idea on a card and place it where you will see it daily this week. Let it reshape how you view ordinary faithfulness.

Day 5: Protecting What God Has Entrusted

Bible Reading: 2 Samuel 7:16; Psalm 119:89-90

God keeps His promises. That is the foundation under every call to courage. He has entrusted each of us with things that feel fragile: the faith of children or grandchildren, a marriage under pressure, the next generation of the church, personal integrity in a hard season. The pattern of Jehosheba invites us to identify what feels threatened and then take one quiet, concrete act of protection or nurture. Faithfulness is the natural reflex of a heart already committed to the cause of God in the world. When we protect what He has entrusted, we participate in the same story that preserved the line of the Messiah.

Reflection Questions:

1. What specific promise or person has God entrusted to you that currently feels vulnerable?
2. What would a “quiet, concrete act of courage” look like for that trust this week?
3. How does remembering God’s faithfulness free you from fear when the threat feels larger than you?
4. Why is protecting the next generation’s faith or the integrity of the church a kingdom priority?
5. How will living this truth help more people find their true home in Jesus?

Prayer Prompt: Faithful God, You have never failed a single promise. Show me what You have placed in my care and give me courage to protect it well. Amen.

Action Step: Identify one threatened trust and take one protective step today—whether a conversation, a boundary, a prayer commitment, or an invitation.

Day 6: Living the Pattern of Quiet Courage

Bible Reading: 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Hebrews 11:1-2, 39-40

Review the week: the threat was total, the courage was quiet and costly, God placed the right person at the right time, and the outcome reached all the way to the cross and empty tomb. The same God still keeps His promises through the quiet courage of ordinary people. Your unnoticed faithfulness is not a small thing. It is part of your chapter in God's big story of helping more people find their true home in Jesus. Keep living the pattern. Keep protecting what He has entrusted. The world needs the life of heaven flowing through people who stay faithful when the cost is real.

Reflection Questions:

1. What is one key insight you are taking away from this guide?
2. How has your view of "ordinary" courage changed over these six days?
3. Where will you apply "quiet courage" in the coming week?
4. Who is one person you could encourage with this story of Jehosheba?
5. How will you keep the momentum of this truth alive beyond this week?

Prayer Prompt: Loving Father, thank You for Jehosheba and for every quiet act of courage that has kept Your promises alive. Keep me faithful. Use my life in Your big story. Amen.

Action Step: Memorize the big idea this week. Share one takeaway with a friend or family member today. Review this guide whenever a threat feels larger than your courage.



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