

Jehoiada—Teacher and Mentor

2 Kings 11-12

Joash did what was right in the sight of the Lord all the days in which Jehoiada the priest instructed him. (2 Kings 12:2)

Joash was a very lucky boy in some ways. Although his grandmother wanted to kill him, two people protected and cared for him. This meant that he could grow up to become a good king in Judah. One of those people was his aunt, Jehosheba, and the other was Jehoiada, the priest in the temple of Jerusalem.

Jehosheba was like a mother to Joash, while Jehoiada was like a father, teacher and mentor. While parents are the most important teachers for children growing up, teachers and mentors are also influential.

- At this point in your life you have had many teachers. Think about a teacher who has made a special impact on your life. Describe why this person is special to you.
- Mentors are like teachers, but have a more informal relationship with children than teachers do. A mentor might be a babysitter who shares his or her ideas and helps you understand and live your life better. Or a mentor might be an older sibling, or an aunt, uncle, cousin or neighbor. Your parents might be able to help you identify the mentors in your life. Write about a mentor and how he or she helps you.
- Priests, like Jehoiada, teach some of the most important ideas you will ever learn—ideas from the Word. Think about the influence a priest has had on your life and write about it. If you have not met any priests or ministers, ask an adult you know to tell you about his or her relationship with one.