

A blurred background image of a church service. In the foreground, several hands are raised in the air, silhouetted against a brighter background. In the background, a person is visible, possibly a pastor, standing at a podium or altar. The overall lighting is dim, with a soft glow from the background, creating a spiritual and communal atmosphere.

# AUSTIN UPCHURCH

---

## THE CREEK CHURCH

Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did - **with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength**, in accordance with the law of Moses.

**2 Kings 23:25 NIV**

We feel stuck, because **we don't  
know how** to make progress.

Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah; she was from Bozkath.

**2 Kings 22:1 NIV**

He did what was right in the eyes  
of the Lord and followed  
completely the ways of his father  
**David**, not turning aside to the right  
or to the left.

**2 Kings 22:2 NIV**

Choose your influencers.

**Never use legitimate excuses.**

In the eighteenth year of his reign,  
King Josiah sent the secretary,  
Shaphan son of Azaliah, the son of  
Meshullam, to the temple of the  
Lord.

**2 Kings 22:3 NIV**



Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, “I have found the **Book of the Law** in the temple of the Lord.” He gave it to Shaphan, who read it.

**2 Kings 22:8 NIV**

Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

**2 Kings 22:10 NIV**

When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he **tore his robes.**

**2 Kings 22:11 NIV**

He gave these orders to Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Akbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king's attendant:

**2 Kings 22:12 NIV**

“Go and inquire of the Lord for me  
and for the people and for all  
Judah about what is written in this  
book that has been found.

**2 Kings 22:13 NIV**

Because your heart was  
**responsive** and you **humbled**  
**yourself** before the Lord when you  
heard what I have spoken against  
this place and its people...

**2 Kings 22:19 NIV**

and because you tore your robes  
and wept in my presence, I also  
have heard you, declares the Lord.

**2 Kings 22:19 NIV**

Josiah's response to hearing God  
caused God to hear him.



Therefore I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place.’ ”

**2 Kings 22:20 NIV**

Then the king called together all  
the elders of Judah and  
Jerusalem.

**2 Kings 23:1 NIV**

He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—**all the people from the least to the greatest.**

**2 Kings 23:2 NIV**

He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord.

**2 Kings 23:2 NIV**

The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul,

**2 Kings 23:3 NIV**

thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. **Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.**

**2 Kings 23:3 NIV**

If you want to make progress,  
you have to take action.

---

Tell people.  
Use your influence.  
Destroy some things.

When you don't know the right thing to do, do some right thing.



Some right thing  
could lead to the thing  
that changes everything.

Some right thing  
could lead to the thing,  
that changes everything.  
Just ask DeWayne.