

THE PLAN

22. The Curse
(2 Kings 21-25)
February 6, 2022

Story Coordinates (2 Kings 20:21)

People (Who is the story about?)

M_____, J_____,

J_____, Z_____
and the Judahites

Place (Where is their home?)

Presence (How can they meet with God?)

Purpose (What did God tell them to do?)

The Story (2 Kings 21-25)

- Manasseh _____ God's plan and sought power through _____. (21:1-9)
- God declared the Covenant _____ and invoked the covenant _____. (21:10-15, Deuteronomy 28:49-64, 29:24-27)
- Even though he knew Judah's fate was _____, Josiah did everything he could to _____ God's plan. (22:15-20, 23:1-3)

- Josiah's sons _____ against Babylon because they assumed God would always _____ them. (24:1-2, 24:20-25:2, Jeremiah 7:9-11)

- Instead God allowed Babylon to destroy Jerusalem, _____ the temple, and _____ the people. (25:3-12)

- Even though the Covenant was _____, God continued to _____ his people. (25:27-29)

The Morals

- Human behaviors add up to create a _____ --a force that is powerful and hard to _____.
- God holds his people responsible for the kind of _____ they create.
- Even when we can't change the _____, God can still use our obedience to accomplish _____.

Spoiler Alert

- God sent Jesus to overcome the _____ of human rebellion and establish the true kingdom _____. (Mark 1:15)

Small Group Questions

1. Getting Started:

- What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
- How susceptible are you to peer pressure? Are you easily swayed by culture?

2. Into the Bible (Matthew 13:26-43)

- Start by reading v. 24-30 and 36-43. What does this parable teach us to expect from the world, and from our culture?
- If we have already been warned about what to expect from our culture, how should that affect our reaction to it?
- Now read v. 31-33. What do these parables teach us to expect about the kingdom? How does it start? How does it end up?

- What do these parables teach us about the world and the Kingdom of God about how we are to live amidst a fallen culture?

3. Going Deeper

- Why is it so hard for us to resist the trajectory of our culture?
- What troubling cultural trends do you see in the church?
- How can we as a church affect our culture for the better?

4. Prayer

- Pray for God to shape the culture of our nation, our community, our church, and the church in America.