



New International Version is used for questions

1. Have you ever had a repetitive behavior, or cycle, that you wanted to stop but it seemed you never could? What happened, how did you handle it?
2. Just because something is normal and everyone does it, does that make it right or healthy? What are some things that are accepted as normal but are sinful? What were the six unhealthy patterns Pastor Rick mentioned? Were you exposed to any of these as you grew up?
3. Read 2 Kings 22:8-11 and Romans 12:2. How did King Josiah become aware of the sinful patterns that existed in Israel? What must we do in order to know these patterns in our lives? Read 2 Timothy 3:16,17, what does God's Word do for us?
4. Read 2 Kings 23:4-8. What did Josiah do to the things that caused Israel to sin? Pastor Rick said that many times we think we can manage our idols without getting rid of them; what two ideas did he share about this attempt on our part to manage idols? Read Hebrews 12:1; what must we do in order to serve God successfully?
5. What are the five things we must remove in order to be set free by God?
6. Read Ezekiel 18:19,20. What excuse for not stopping bad behavior does this passage refute? What did Pastor Rick say about what shapes our behavior? Do you agree?
7. Read 2 Kings 23:1-3 and Psalm 78:4-7. What will be the result if we put a stop to our bad behavior and take a stand for being obedient to God?

## Answers

1. *Various answers*
2. *No, it does not. The six mentioned by Pastor Rick were: a. Anger; b. Addiction; c. Compromise; d. Irrational communication; e. Emotional distance; and f. Spiritual apathy.*
3. *King Josiah heard what God had written in His word, the law of Moses. We must compare what we do in our lives to what God's Word says because 2 Timothy 3 tells us that it is God's Word that gives us instruction in what is right and wrong and how we should live.*
4. *Josiah destroyed all of the places of idol worship and the idols that were being worshipped. The two ideas he shared were that many Christians want freedom from sin but then keep easy access to the very idols that are destroying them and that partial obedience to God never produces lasting freedom. Hebrews 12:1 says that we must eliminate the sin and weights that hold us back from serving God fully.*
5. *The five things are: a. Unhealthy relationships; b. Bad habits; c. Negative environments; d. Bad influences; and e. Secret compromises.*
6. *Ezekiel refutes the idea that I inherit the bad things I do from my parents and I have no control over them. We are influenced by how we were raised but it does not determine our choices. Pastor Rick said that I may not be responsible for what shaped me but I am responsible for what is shaping me now.*
7. *The result will be not only will our lives change, but it will change the lives of the future generations of people that we have an influence on. Just like our children pick up on bad things we do and may emulate them, they will pick up on the good things we do and emulate them. Our children deserve for us to be positive role models for them.*