



Teach Us to Pray – Hezekiah’s Prayer July 20 | Group Guide

Ask a few reflection questions (5 minutes).

When the disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray,” they were seeking to emulate the words of our greatest Teacher and find a deeper connection with God the Father. Today, we’re asking the same. As we conclude this six-week series, we’ll echo that ancient request and allow God Himself to be our guide. Teach Us to Pray explored six powerful prayers from the Old Testament - prayers from real people in real need. Their cries for help varied from forgiveness to healing to blessing to deliverance, but each of them reveals a rich, honest, and dynamic connectivity to God. Together, we’ll learn not only how to pray, but how to live in ongoing, transformative relationship with the One who hears.

This week, we finish with Hezekiah as he seeks God in the middle of catastrophe.

- Describe a time in your life when it seemed like everything that could go wrong did. What did you think, feel, say, and do in that situation?
- What stood out to you from the sermon?

Read all of Isaiah 36:1-39:8 (20 minutes).

Take turns reading through these three chapters that detail Hezekiah’s story - his dealings with first, Sennacherib, and second, with the news that he will soon die.

Discuss the Scripture and the sermon (25 minutes).

- Read **2 Kings 18:1-8**, a story of what happens right before the events of **Isaiah 36-39**. What do you notice about Hezekiah’s relationship with God? What specific things did he do to honor God and help turn his whole nation back to God?

With the conviction to do all of that, what would you imagine his ordinary, daily life with God to be like? How would you describe your own ordinary, daily life with God?

- Now re-look at **Isaiah 36:1** and **Isaiah 38:1**. What are the circumstances of the two “catastrophes” that Hezekiah encounters? How does he react and respond to them?



- In his sermon, Dan talked about “approaching God first” when hard times hit. He said, “In times of crisis, your first instinct reveals your true dependence.” When times of crisis hit *you*, where do you first turn? What does that reveal about what you truly depend on?
- How would that dependence change if you had a deeper realization of Dan's second point in the message from Hezekiah’s prayer: Believe in God’s power?
- In Dan’s final point, he instructed us from Hezekiah’s story to “Cry out to God.” What did it mean for him to lay out the letters before God? How did God answer?

Is there a time you remember ‘spreading out your letters’ before God – openly and honestly presenting your catastrophe to God? How did God answer?

- What do you learn about prayer from Hezekiah’s story?

Break into smaller groups to pray (10 minutes).

This week, split into smaller groups of 3-4. In your smaller groups, have each person pray something hard in their life right now. It may not be catastrophe-level, but you may ask, “What is the thing, whether big or small, that is causing you the most strife right now?” Then, pray over one another.

Finally, come back together and finish with prayer as a large group (5 minutes).