



Teach Us to Pray – Hezekiah's Prayer

July 20 | Weekly Devotionals

This week, as we reflect on Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance, let's dive a little deeper into the kind of person he was, how he relied on God, and how that reliance led him to seek God in the most dire of circumstances. Take time to explore the foundation of his life rooted in his love of God, how he reacted to the catastrophe that fell upon him, and the way he candidly asked God to deliver him. As you explore, ask yourself what his response teaches you about the way you cry out to God for deliverance.

Laying a Foundation

Read 2 Kings 18:1-8.

- 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?

Reacting to Catastrophe

Read 2 Kings 18:13,19-25, and 2 Kings 19:1-2.

No more "ordinary life" for the king! Think about what you've just explored about Hezekiah's devotion. With that in mind, answer these questions.

- In your own words, describe what's happening in the story. What would be your response?
- What was the king's response? See Genesis 37:34 and Esther 4:1 for other examples and more context of tearing your clothes) Who did the king call for and why was it significant Hezekiah called for him?
- What have been some of your reactions when catastrophe – no matter how big or small – has struck?



Asking God to Deliver You

Read 2 Kings 19:14-20 and 32-36

- After receiving multiple threats, what did Hezekiah do? 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 Him? How did God answer?

Putting it Together

In this story, you can see Isaiah playing two parts. He represents wise, trusted counsel from friends. But he also represents God’s Word; he was the prophet – the spokesperson for God in those days.

- In what ways do you seek wise counsel from godly friends when catastrophe strikes? Who do you lean on?
- How integrated into your prayer life is God’s Word? In what ways do you seek its counsel and wisdom?
- What do you need to do to lay, strengthen, or shore up your foundation of faith?

Read Hezekiah’s prayer again:

“Lord, the God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. Give ear, Lord, and hear; open your eyes, Lord, and see; listen to the words Sennacherib has sent to ridicule the living God. It is true, Lord, that the Assyrian kings have laid waste these nations and their lands. They have thrown their gods into the fire and destroyed them, for they were not gods but only wood and stone, fashioned by human hands. Now, Lord our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone, Lord, are God.”

Notice the humility and honesty that Hezekiah shows – acknowledging who God is and Hezekiah’s predicament. How might Hezekiah’s response to catastrophe influence your own response in the future?



Read Psalm 27.

Spend time asking God to grow your trust that He can and will deliver you. Ask Him to grow your desire to seek wisdom and understanding in Scripture and that He would increase your capacity to receive it from what you read.

Paraphrase Psalm 27 into your own words as a continuation of that prayer.