

“Walking by Faith”

Hezekiah - the determination of faith (2 Kings 18-20)

1. Godliness matters - you are not simply a product of your upbringing

“Hezekiah trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. He held fast to the Lord and did not stop following him; he kept the commands the Lord had given Moses. And the Lord was with him.” (2 Kings 18:5-7)

2. Prayer matters - hope is not lost if we turn to the God over all the earth (2 Kings 19)

a. Who Hezekiah listened to:

b. Who he talked to:

And Hezekiah prayed to the Lord: ‘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. (19:15-16)

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.’ (19:19)

c. His actions, guided by faith:

“Walking by Faith”

Hezekiah - the determination of faith (2 Kings 18-20)

Digging Deeper questions for small groups and personal reflection

1. Godliness matters - you are not simply a product of your upbringing

Read 2 Kings 18:1-8

- What are some of the characteristics of Hezekiah here that you admire?
- Why was he so godly when the influence on him from his own father was not? What does this tell you about the grace of God and the determination of Hezekiah?
- Can you think of negative influences from your past that seem to have held you back in life? What do you think is the key to breaking this?
- What examples of godliness have you seen in other Christians that has inspired you to live for Jesus?

2. Prayer matters - hope is not lost if we turn to the God over all the earth (2 Kings 19)

Read 2 Kings 19:14-19

- What did Hezekiah need to remember about his situation and about God that praying enabled him to do?
- How does the very experience of praying and affirming truth about God renew our hope and faith in Him?
- How often do we wish for God to be glorified in answering our prayers, rather than simply using Him to sort out our circumstances?
- How do prayer and action go together? How do we know if we're acting in faith or in our own strength?

How's your faith doing?

- ? Has your faith in Jesus grown over the past couple of series, since the new year? What has changed in your life as a result?
- ? Has your faith been challenged? What things do you need to bring to God?
- ? Are you more thankful to God for Jesus?
- ? Are you wanting more of Him in your life?