

4. In his prayer, Hezekiah essentially preaches to himself. It fills his "faith tank." He not only rehearses God's glory, he is reminded of God's mission. How can your prayer life grow in this regard?

5. Why do you think it praying through bouts with doubt might be vitally important?

6. Hezekiah gets a yes answer to his prayer in spite of lacking faith in what God already had told him. But yes answers are not always the case in the Bible or in our lives. How do you deal with the times God says no to your prayers?

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply.

**SERIES:** Kings & Prophets

**SERMON 6:** "God Reveals the Coming Victory"

**TEXT:** 2 Kings 18-19

**DATE:** October 14/15, 2017

**Who or what will you trust if your life is seriously threatened or your way of life is endangered?**

### **MISSTEPS**

2 Kings 18

The Bible doesn't hide the faith failures of its \_\_\_\_\_ of faith.

- So that we won't hide our failures from \_\_\_\_\_.

Our greatest faith heroes failed to exercise faith and did evil in God's sight. You will too. Get over it. Not so you can \_\_\_\_\_ it, rather, so you can get back on the right path sooner than later.

Does our \_\_\_\_\_ to other people's confessions and struggles shut them down and impede their recovery?

- Because it \_\_\_\_\_ God's grace.
- Because it reminds us that God is the real \_\_\_\_\_ of the story.

### **BETTER STEPS**

2 Kings 19:6-7, 15-19

What if our prayers were always shaped by this \_\_\_\_\_ mindset even when it seems all is lost?

Hezekiah's faith-filled prayer is born out of his \_\_\_\_\_.

Hezekiah's own words, rehearsing what he knows about his covenant God, fills his own faith \_\_\_\_\_.

Is the nature of your prayers or your prayerlessness leaving your faith \_\_\_\_\_ empty?

### **GOD'S STEPS**

2 Kings 19:20, 32-37

"God will either give us what we ask for when we pray, or he will give us what we would have asked for had we known all he knows." (Tim Keller)

We are, to some degree, stuck in the present and in concerns for ourselves. But God is living in an \_\_\_\_\_ story. He promises us an \_\_\_\_\_, glorious future. And he calls us to live in his \_\_\_\_\_ story.

### **Family Discussion Questions:**

1. What does Hezekiah's story teach us about prayer?
2. How can we apply these lessons to our family life?
3. How can we seek to make God's name known in our neighborhood, church, or community this week? How can we do this together as a family?

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### **CHRIST CONNECTION**

Hezekiah prayed for God to manifest his glory by saving his people from the pagan kingdom that was rising against them. God exalted his name by answering Hezekiah's prayer. Jesus also prayed for the salvation of his people, and through His death and resurrection, he accomplished the ultimate manifestation of God's glory through defeating the enemy and saving his people.

### **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. How do you reconcile the characterization of Hezekiah in 2 Kings 18:3-8 (especially v. 5) with his actions in 18:13-16?
3. Why is it so important not to hide our faith failures, struggles, and doubts from other believers?

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### **BIG PICTURE QUESTION**

How many gods are there?