

Week 4: The Life and Faith of King Hezekiah

Small Group Lesson

Key Scriptures:

- 2 Kings 18:5
- 2 Chronicles
- Isaiah 38

Introduction:

Trust means putting your full confidence in the reliability of someone or something. The scriptures tell us that there was no one like King Hezekiah. Out of all of the kings we will study in this series there are none who trusted in the Lord or were as faithful to the Lord as Hezekiah. Our lives are being challenged and enriched as we study this series on King Sized Lessons and in lesson #4 we will look at four areas where Hezekiah trusted the Lord.

1. His trust in the Lord

(2 Kings 18:5) - The scriptures record that there was no one like Hezekiah who trusted in the Lord. Verse 7 goes on to say that the Lord was with him and he was successful in everything he did. To step out in faith requires trust in the Lord. Much like a child jumping into the arms of their father.

Question: All through our christian journey we are learning to trust Jesus. Can you remember a time that you learned to trust Him? Share with the group what you learned.

2. His devotion to the Lord

(2 Kings 18:6) - A lot can be communicated through the actions of an individual. Hezekiah cleaned, restored and reopened the temple of God that had been closed by his father Ahaz. He re-instituted the priesthood and burnt offerings to the Lord as well as tithing and regular worship to the Lord. For us as believers devotion to the Lord will lead to a fruitful life of faith and walking in the power of God.

Question: What does devotion look like for you? What are some of the indicators you would say point to a devoted life?

3. His faithfulness in distress

(2 Chronicles 32) - During Hezekiah's reign the king of Assyria threatened to destroy Jerusalem. Rather than surrender Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah cried out to the Lord in prayer. God responded by sending an angel who destroyed the Assyrian army. When faced with a deadly sickness Hezekiah responded again with prayer to the Lord and was healed. Our faithfulness in distress will witness to others our trust in God when we walk through trials.

Question: Has there been a situation that you have walked through that was a witness to others to stay faithful to the Lord? Maybe you are walking through a trial right now that you would like the group to agree with you in prayer for.

4. His healing and God's power

(Isaiah 38) The prophet Isaiah tells in greater detail about the sickness that would have taken Hezekiah's life. The word of the Lord through the prophet was that he should set his house in order because he would not recover. Upon hearing this Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed reminding God of his faithfulness. God responded by sending the prophet back to tell Hezekiah that He had *"heard his prayers and seen his tears"* and would add 15 more years to his life! Prayer really can change circumstances. God hears and responds to sincere prayer.

Question: So often prayer is our last resort instead of our first response. The scriptures tell us that our prayer as a believer has great power to see things change (James 5:16). What breakthrough are you believing God for in your life? Take a minute and pray a prayer of faith for one another.

Conclusion

As we look closely at the life of king Hezekiah we can see that faithfulness does not equal perfection. Faithfulness does mean a heart that is fully devoted to God, trusts in God and responds to God. We need a fresh commitment to faithfulness and trust in God's provision and healing.