

Trust in the Lord

Message Notes

1. INTRO

1. "Have you ever seen a little child jump off the diving board in the deep end for the first time? You never really know if he trusts His parents unless he jumps."
2. Our king-sized lesson today comes from "Hezekiah." His name means to "become strong or trust in the Lord." Hezekiah was a man who overcame his fears and learned to "jump" to the arms of the Lord. He jumped in everything with both feet!

2. "Trust in the Lord"

1. *"He trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him. For he held fast to the Lord (2 Kings 18: 5-6).* Hezekiah proved his trust in the Lord in three big areas:
2. He trusted in the Lord in his DEVOTION: As soon as he became king (2 Chron. 29:3), in the "first month of the first year of his reign," he reopened the doors of the temple after his father (Ahaz) had closed them (first day, first month, BOTH FEET FIRST). He cleansed the entire temple, re-instituted the covenant, the priesthood, burnt offerings, the worship of the Lord, the Passover feast, the tithing system (heaps).
 1. *"Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah, and he did what was good and right and faithful before the Lord his God" (2 Chron. 31:20).*
 2. Devotion means you trust the Lord in every area: friends, marriage, parenting, business, prayer, giving, thanksgiving, everything. *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In ALL YOUR WAYS acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths."* (Prov. 3: 5-6) BOTH FEET.
3. He trusted in the Lord in his DISTRESS: *"After these things and these acts of faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and invaded Judah and encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them for himself" (2 Chron. 32: 1).* 185,000 soldiers came to destroy Jerusalem and the nation. Their generals challenged Hezekiah and mocked Hezekiah outside the city wall for trusting in his God. Hezekiah did not hit the "FEAR" button, he hit the "FAITH" button! Maybe he divided the people into three groups:
 1. "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him, for there are more with us than with him (THAT'S GOOD!, LEFT). With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God, to help us and to fight our battles (Come on, somebody, RIGHT!)" And the people took confidence from the WORDS of Hezekiah king of Judah (AMEN, CENTER and all campuses)." (2 Chron. 32: 7-8). He knew the power of WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH AGAINST AN ENEMY MAKING YOU AFRAID!
 2. "And that night the angel of the Lord went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians" (2 Kings 19:35). ONE ANGEL killed a WHOLE ARMY in one evening: THAT'S GOOD! (LEFT), COME ON SOMEBODY (RIGHT), AMEN (CENTER.) Don't mess with

God!!

3. Trusted in the Lord in His DISEASE

1. "Disease does not mean you have been unfaithful."

1. After this great victory, Satan attacked Hezekiah again with a sudden sickness. It was a boil that became life-threatening. Isaiah, his dear friend who was a prophet, told him his days on earth were ended:
2. *"In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, 'Thus says the Lord: Set your house in order, for you shall die, you shall not recover.'"* (Isa. 38: 1)
3. Satan and disease can attack the best of Christians (like Job). It does not mean you have sinned. You are under the blood of Jesus!

2. "God answers prayer"

1. *"Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, and said, 'Please, O Lord, remember how I have walked before you in FAITHFULNESS and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.' And Hezekiah wept bitterly."* (Isa. 38: 3).
2. God responded to his prayer. Isaiah had left the room and was walking through the middle of the court when the Lord said to him to go back and say to Hezekiah: *"Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer (THAT'S GOOD!, LEFT); I have seen your tears (COME ON SOMEBODY!). Behold, I will add fifteen years to your life (AMEN!)"* (Isa. 38: 5).
3. Isaiah said that GOD would give him a sign to prove to him that He loved him and wanted to heal him. He asked Hezekiah: "Do you want the sun to go down or to go back up?" God can do anything. The sun went back up ten steps on the sundial of Ahab! (COME ON SOMEBODY, RIGHT!)
4. Isaiah then instructed the doctors to make a poultice out of figs and put it on the boil and he WILL RECOVER: *"Let them take a cake of figs and apply it to the boil, that he may recover (AMEN, CENTER)"* (Isa. 38: 21). God is not opposed to doctors and medicine. He never wants you, however, to put your TRUST in them but only in Him.
5. MY TESTIMONY OF HOW GOD RESPONDS TO PRAYER: In 2011, I was diagnosed with a blood disorder that made me have too much blood (don't ignore any attack of the devil, no matter how small and manageable).
6. Eleven years later, September of 2022, my doctor called me and said, *"It has turned aggressive. You are now LOSING BLOOD and are very anemic."* The Bethany elders anointed me with oil that week (Sept. 26, 2022, 20 months ago). My healing started that day!
7. I immediately started losing weight. Lost 50 pounds down from 190 to 140. In June of 2023, I was in the hospital eight days and could not travel or fly. Began having transfusions that increased to at least twice a week for an entire day (sometimes every other day, just to stay alive).
8. November, 2023, my doctor mentioned we may need to call hospice. I told him, "I'm planning on living and not dying." He decided to give me some rounds of chemo injections and tablets.
9. MY SITUATION TURNED IN DECEMBER WHEN I PREACHED THE FIRST TIME AT BETHANY. In January, started gaining weight and my blood counts improved. Now, I have

gained 31 pounds back (THAT'S GOOD, LEFT). I have not had a transfusion in six to eight weeks. I have flown to Pennsylvania, travelled in a motorhome over 4000 miles, and even played 15 holes of golf last Thursday. I FEELING VICTORY (LEFT) IN MY SPIRIT. (Come on somebody RIGHT, Amen, CENTER!)

3. "Your tongue is going to give you VICTORY."

1. Hezekiah was at first speaking DEATH out of his mouth: "*In the middle of my days, I must depart*" (v. 10). He had become convinced that he was going to die and spoke it out over himself everywhere. STOP THAT. Your tongue has the power to stop the sun. It is the most powerful thing in your entire being.
2. Then, his speech changed: "*What shall I say? For he has spoken to me, and he himself has done it.*" (v. 15). "He has spoken to me." God's Word is the secret of your miracle. Find healing verses and put them in your speech EVERY DAY.
 1. I memorised parts of or all of Ps. 23, Ps. 91, Ps. 103, Ps. 118. Every day I worship the Lord in His words. I praise and worship His Word.
3. You must talk to your disease. You must tell the devil NOOOO!" "*Resist the devil and he will flee from you*" (James 4: 7).
 1. Norvel Hayes testimony of woman with lupus.
 2. "*I will live and not die and declare the works of the Lord.*" (Ps. 118: 17). "How to live and not die!"
4. Put your trust in the Lord. THAT is the king-sized lesson of Hezekiah: "TRUST IN THE LORD!"

4. Response:

1. Hezekiah trusted in the Lord in his devotion, his distress, and his disease. His devotion to God was His ROCK in his distress and his disease.
2. Prayer for the sick. "I sought the Lord and He heard and he answered (x. 3), that's why I trust Him, that's why I trust Him. GENERAL PRAYER.