



Living in Hopeful Expectation: Lessons from Isaiah

October 16, 2025

Teacher: Shirley Hayes

Hezekiah's Prayer

INTRODUCTION:

READING: Isaiah 37:14-17, 20 (NLT)

14 After Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it, he went up to the LORD's Temple and spread it out before the LORD. **15** And Hezekiah prayed this prayer before the LORD: **16** "O LORD of Heaven's Armies, God of Israel, you are enthroned between the mighty cherubim! You alone are God of all the kingdoms of the earth. You alone created the heavens and the earth. **17** Bend down, O LORD, and listen! Open your eyes, O LORD, and see! Listen to Sennacherib's words of defiance against the living God**20** Now, O LORD our God, rescue us from his power; then all the kingdoms of the earth will know that you alone, O LORD, are God.

TABLE STUDY:

1. Where did Hezekiah go when he heard the threat from the Assyrians? Where do you tend to go when you get fearful?
2. Hezekiah refers to God as "Lord of Heaven's Armies." What does that tell us about who God is?
3. Find 5 claims Hezekiah makes about God in verse 16. Which one of these things do you need to be reminded of today?

TEACHING NOTES:

TABLE DISCUSSION:

1. Like Hezekiah, we all need to be reminded of who God is and what is true. What are some of the false narratives that you believe? What is the true narrative that Jesus would respond with?
2. Think of Shirley's examples of how friends help point us to the truth. Can you share a time when someone pointed you to the truth and is there a time when you helped someone else?
3. The final observation in the lesson is our prayers are ultimately answered best in the way that brings God glory. Can you think of a time when you saw this in your own life?

“When your personal fate is no longer what you’re living for, when your own ideal life scenario of perfect health and perfect marriage and perfect children and perfect job and perfect church and perfect control — when that’s no longer what you’re clinging to and demanding of life, when all you want is the glory of God to be put on display through your existence, that’s when God fills you with overcoming courage.

The crucible you find yourself in right now is where God is deepening your faith. What he is accomplishing in you is more significant than any passing mood of your own. So look beyond yourself.” Ray Ortlund, Jr.

UNISON READING: Isaiah 43:1 [NLT]

But now, O Jacob, listen to the LORD who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, “Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.”