

## 2.24.19 - Isaiah: Light to the Nations – Tim

### **Hezekiah & Babylon: Another King Is Needed**

#### Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a few questions from each section that are best suited to your group.
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

**Hook** - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
- The time change is coming - what do you most look forward to about Spring?

#### Background / Reading

**Read: Isaiah 39:1 – 8; 2 Kings 18:5**

- Does anyone have any questions about this passage? Or observations that stand out to you immediately? (Remind those who share that we'll likely return to their ideas in our discussion!)

**Book** - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- Who is Marduk-Baladan? What do we know about him?
- Why did Hezekiah to show the men from Babylon all of Judah's treasures? What does that reveal about his trust in God?
- In Isaiah 39:3-7, what prophetic warning does Isaiah give Hezekiah regarding the future relationship between Israel and Babylon?
- Why do you think Hezekiah responded the way he did in verse 8? How does this contrast with the account of Hezekiah's reign in 2 Kings 18:5? Up until chapter 39 Hezekiah was shaping up to be a great king who followed God. What do you think happened?
- Why do you think this is the last thing we are told about Hezekiah?
- How has Hezekiah compared to Ahaz as king? What might be people be hoping about Hezekiah?
- How does Hezekiah's failure relate to the promises of Isaiah in chapters 9 and 11?

**Look** - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- How would you summarize this final season of Hezekiah's life? What does it reveal to us about who we should put our trust in?
- What does putting all of our trust and hope in people/systems/ourselves ultimately lead to? How does it affect our relationships and our souls? In contrast, what does trusting in Jesus ultimately bring us?
- What are some practical tips you would suggest to someone who is wanting to lean more fully on Jesus in a certain area of their life?

**Took** - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- In the past, where have you noticed tendencies in your own life to put your trust in things other than Jesus? How has Jesus brought you freedom from that?
- Right now, where do you need to let Jesus be Jesus? Is there a place in your life where you have put the weight of trust on a person or group or yourself to meet needs that only Jesus can meet? How are you sensing Jesus inviting you into freedom to rely fully on Him?
- Spend some time praising and worshipping God together for how good He is to meet all of our needs. (Focus your prayer time on “worship prayer”, or praising God for who He is, and not “petition prayer”, or asking God for help)

**Pray**