

healing & reconciliation | 1 May 2022

Read **2 Kings 20:1-6**

What immediately pops out at you through the text today?

One striking thing is the meaning of the name Hezekiah (The Lord Strengthens).

In what ways do you believe God strengthens you in your walk with Christ?

(Verse 1) What do you understand it to mean when God tells Hezekiah, “Put your house in order”?

What is King Hezekiah being told to do?

(Verse 2-3) How did King Hezekiah react to the news that he would soon die?

(Verse 3) What do you think about Hezekiah’s prayer?

Do you think you would say that if God told you that you were going to die?

Which prayers do you find most inconvenient or fearful to pray?

- In other words, which ones stretch your faith?
- How would you reconcile your fears with the words of Jesus in **Luke 11:13**, “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

(Verse 4) How long does it take God to hear prayers?

- Which view do you find yourself leaning more towards, that God CAN do the impossible in the world? Or that God WILL do the impossible in your life?
- Most followers of Christ have no problem believing God can do great things but wrestle immensely when believing God for personal things. If this is true for you, what barriers keep you from praying as you should?

(Verses 5-6) God at times answers by granting healing.

Consider what God tells Hezekiah. “I will add fifteen years to your life.”

If you or a loved one were given a terminal diagnosis, what would it mean to you to have the certainty of fifteen more years of life, and how would you react?

Hezekiah’s response to God’s healing is recorded in **Isaiah 38:19**, “It is the living who give thanks to You, as I do this day; a father explains to his sons about Your faithfulness.”

How are we to respond if God heals us (either through a ‘miracle’ or through the hospital) or answers our prayers in general?

In the message on Sunday, Sean suggested that Isaiah was used as an ‘agent’ of restoration and healing for Hezekiah with the news that God gave to Isaiah.

- In what ways are we called or can be used as agents of restoration and healing in the homes, our churches, and our community?