

## How Faith Works in Your Darkest Hour

2 Kings 18-19

- **Reality #1: FAITH THAT TAKES YOU THROUGH YOUR DARKEST HOUR IS DEVELOPED BEFORE YOUR DARKEST HOUR.**

*In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign. <sup>2</sup>He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, . . . <sup>3</sup>And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done. <sup>4</sup>He removed the high places and broke the pillars and cut down the Asherah. . . . <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>For he held fast to the LORD. He did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments that the LORD commanded Moses. <sup>7</sup>And the LORD was with him; wherever he went out, he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and would not serve him. <sup>8</sup>He struck down the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city.*

2 Kings 18:1-8 (English Standard Version)

*“. . . blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him.”*  
Jeremiah 17:7 (New International Version)

*“If racing against mere men makes you tired, how will you race against horses? If you stumble and fall on open ground, what will you do in the thickets near the Jordan?”* Jeremiah 12:5 (New Living Translation)

- **Reality #2: FAITH DOESN'T SHIELD BELIEVERS FROM ALL DISASTERS.**

See 2 Kings 18:13-16.

- **Reality #3: DIFFICULT FAITH QUESTIONS ARE A PART OF YOUR DARK HOUR.**

See 2 Kings 18:17-19.

## Two Questions That Come to Mind in Our Darkest Hours

- “Are you placing your trust in something or someone that will fail you?”  
See 2 Kings 18: 20-21.

*For without consulting me, you have gone down to Egypt for help. You have put your trust in Pharaoh's protection. You have tried to hide in his shade. <sup>3</sup>But by trusting Pharaoh, you will be humiliated, and by depending on him, you will be disgraced.* Isaiah 30:2-3 (NLT)

- “Can God really deliver you?”  
See 2 Kings 18:32-33, 35.

- **Reality #4: IN OUR DARKEST HOUR, FAITH LAYS HOLD OF GOD IN PRAYER.**

See 2 Kings 19:1-4; 2 Kings 19:14-19.

### Three Elements of Prayer

- Hezekiah discloses his need.
- Hezekiah rehearses God's majesty.
- Hezekiah makes his request.

See 2 Kings 19:20.

- **Reality #5: GOD HEARS AND RESPONDS TO OUR PRAYER OF FAITH.**

See 2 Kings 19:20, 32-37.