

THE STORY



THE BEGINNING OF THE END

Isaiah 36-38; II Kings 18-19

THE PROBLEM (Isaiah 36:4-15)

THE RESPONSE (Isaiah 37:1-17)

"When King Hezekiah heard their report, he tore his clothes and put on burlap and went into the Temple of the LORD... and spread it out before the LORD. And Hezekiah prayed..."
Isaiah 37:1, 14-15

THE RESULT (Isaiah 37:21-38)

"For my honor and for the sake of my servant David, I will defend this city and protect it."
Isaiah 37:35

THE EPILOGUE (Isaiah 38:1-6)

1. Never put in front of you what God does not want to go _____ .
2. When things seem to be falling apart, don't drop out, _____ to God.
3. If we never go through hard times, we'll never know God's power to _____ .

"We can rejoice when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love."
Romans 5:3-5, NLT

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Chapter 16: The Beginning of the End

Sermon on June 5, 2022

Introductory Video Link: <https://bit.ly/BeginningofEnd>

Getting to Know Me

1. What 3 comforts in your life would you fight (or work really hard) to keep?

Digging Deeper

2. What insight or observation from Sunday's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, or challenging? Why?
3. Read together Isaiah 46:4-7. How many times does the field commander ask who the nation is depending on, or has confidence in? Is the King of Assyria referring to the true God here or just the false gods the people of Israel have been following? He is mocking them for depending on the wrong things. What do you think the people around you believe you depend on in times of trouble? Why do they believe that? Are they correct?
4. Read together II Kings 18:23, 31-35. The King of Assyria promises to bathe the nation in comfort if they surrender to him. Would you be tempted? In our world today, what spiritual price do we pay for our comforts and wealth? How easy is it for you to focus on pursuing comfort over pursuing and serving God? What do you risk for depending on the wrong things?

5. Read II Kings 19:2, 14-19. What steps did Hezekiah take when faced with impending invasion from Assyria? What can you take from this when you face difficult situations?
6. After all the Israelites have seen of God's power, they continue to turn to idols, and God's judgement falls upon them. Read James 1:19-22. How does this passage apply to the history of Israel we've been studying? How does it apply to you?
7. Read together Isaiah 53. This was written 700 years before Jesus was born. What whispers of Jesus do you see in here? How do these prophecies affect your faith today?

Where Do I Go from Here?

8. Pastor Bill said to "Never put in front of you what God does not want in you." What does this mean in your life?
9. We have seen how easy it is to be drawn away from God. What habits, or spiritual disciplines, can we form to help us depend on God more, walk with Him daily, and act on His Word?

Prayer

Write down the things you fear, or the struggle you are facing. Together, lay your lists at the feet of God. Ask Him for wisdom in how to trust Him through this time. Lift each other up in prayer.

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1. Never put in front of you what God does not want to go into you.
2. When things seem to be falling apart, don't drop out, call out to God.
3. If we never go through hard times, we'll never know God's power to deliver.

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