

Lesson Aim: To grow in our ability to recognize times of testing and to turn to God in the midst of them.



connecting

Prayer: Start your time together by asking the Holy Spirit to lead your discussion.

Icebreaker: Who is someone you have greatly admired and then later came to realize they weren't as perfect as you thought?

1. Thinking back on the previous messages and discussions in the Hez series, what are some things that have really stood out to you and why?
2. **READ 2 Chronicles 32:24-31.** In his message, Scott made the point that periods of great blessing are often followed by periods of great testing. In what ways was Hezekiah blessed and tested (also cf. 2 Kings 20:1-19 for more details if necessary).
3. Two or three of you share: can you think of any times when you experienced blessing followed by testing in your own life? Tell your group about it.
4. Look over the list in your sermon notes in the section called "Divine Gifts (Blessings) Requiring Faithful Stewardship". Everyone who is comfortable, briefly share: what is one area where you most naturally recognize your need to be a good steward? What might be some reasons for that?
5. Everyone who is comfortable, briefly share: what is one area where it is difficult to recognize your need to be a good steward? What might be some reasons for that?
6. Hezekiah's life reminds us that we should never let blessings or pride lead us to coast spiritually lest we forget that we can still fall into temptation and sin. **READ Proverbs 16:18 and Romans 12:3.** Two or three of you (who did not answer Question 3 if possible) answer this question: Have you ever had a time when you became spiritually prideful or lazy and were humbled as a result? How did you grow from this experience?
7. Hezekiah's life also reminds us that God can use anyone in spite of their shortcomings or weaknesses. **READ 2 Chronicles 32:32-33.** Even the Apostle Paul struggled to fully obey the will of God. **READ Romans 7:14-25.** What jumps out to you about these verses?
8. Anyone who is comfortable, briefly share: what are some ways God has used you in spite of your weaknesses and struggles?



growing



sewing



reaching

Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

There's Just That One Little Thing

Scott Hansen, Lead Pastor

April 29, 2012



2 CHRONICLES 32:24-33

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Final report card (2 Kings 18:5-7; 2 Chronicles 29:2)
- ▶ But there's one little, final glitch with Hezekiah

THE SETTING – GREAT BLESSING (2 Chronicles 32:27-30)

PRINCIPLE A: Times of great blessing are often followed by times of great testing.

PRINCIPLE B: One of the most vulnerable times in life is right after a period of great blessing.

THE DOUBLE TESTING

- ▶ TEST #1: Near death experience (2 Chronicles 32:24; 2 Kings 20:1-11)

PRINCIPLE C: The pain & prayers of God's children move His heart.

DIVINE GIFTS (BLESSINGS) REQUIRING FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| ▶ Time | ▶ Health | ▶ Appearance | ▶ Citizenship |
| ▶ Education | ▶ Opportunities | ▶ Gospel | ▶ Holy Spirit |
| ▶ Church Family | ▶ Problems | ▶ Natural Abilities | ▶ Spiritual Gifts |
| ▶ Finances | ▶ Material Wealth | ▶ Relationships | ▶ Influence |

PRINCIPLE D: Whatever gifts God has given you, use them wisely because they're only on loan.

- ▶ TEST #2: Babylonian visitors (2 Chronicles 32:31; 2 Kings 20:12-19; cf. Isaiah 39)

PRINCIPLE E: Satan tempts; God tests. (James 1:13-15; Judges 2:22; 1 Chronicles 29:17; Psalm 26:2)

PRINCIPLE F: Pride is both sinful & expensive. (1 John 2:15-17; 2 Chronicles 7:14)

THERE'S JUST THAT ONE LITTLE THING (2 Kings 20:19)

PRINCIPLE G: Your faith contribution to this world needs to go beyond your lifetime.