

# Old Testament

## Hezekiah asks for help

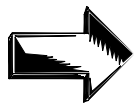
## 2 Kings 18-19

### Younger Verse

The Lord is near to all who call on Him. Psalm 145:18

### Older Verse

The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. Psalm 145:18



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember always to include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God’s ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

### Welcome Time

Have you ever had someone laugh at you? It hurts so much when someone is making fun of you. Let’s see what happens when someone makes fun of the king AND God!

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

We have been learning about different kings that God’s people had. Some loved God and others did not follow God. After Joash, there were 4 other kings who did not love God. Finally, a new king, named Hezekiah became the ruler. He loved God and followed Him with all his heart.

When Hezekiah became king, he saw that the church needed repair again. He had the doors fixed and the inside cleaned. He also told the people to make themselves clean on the inside. They told God they were sorry for all the things they had done wrong. God was very happy with the people and all that Hezekiah did.

Hezekiah also reminded the people about a special celebration that they had forgotten. The feast was a special way to thank God for taking care of His people from long ago. They ate special food to remember God’s help. Hezekiah invited people from all over the country to celebrate together. It was a very joyous time for all the people. They thanked God for all the ways He had been good to them.

Everything seemed to be going well for Hezekiah when suddenly he received a message from a king in another country. He was a mean king who did not love God. He wanted to take over Hezekiah’s kingdom and rule over God’s people.

### Lesson Goals

**Don’t let people laugh at you because you believe in God  
Trust God and pray for help; He will help you when you are afraid  
Instead of fighting back when someone says an unkind word, keep your mouth closed and listen to God.**

The mean king told Hezekiah lies about God. He even tried to get Hezekiah's people to listen and follow him instead of following God. He said bad things about God and tried to turn the people away from God.

Hezekiah told the people to ignore the mean king's words. They heard the king but did not say a word back to him.

The mean king told Hezekiah that God would not help him. He kept talking and insulting God. In our time we would call it "trash talk." That means they say lots of things to pump themselves up but the words aren't true. They brag about things that they can't necessarily do.

What did Hezekiah do? He prayed. He talked to God about the problem and asked for help! He knew that God could help with his problem. He knew that God was bigger than this king.

God gave Hezekiah wisdom and understanding to protect God's people. He had the men dig a tunnel from a spring of water to the city. It was a special tunnel that would let the water flow into the city so that the mean king could not cut off their water supply. (Believe it or not, that tunnel is still there today! If you go over to the country today, you can see the tunnel that Hezekiah built many, many years ago.)

God heard Hezekiah's prayer for help. God sent a messenger named Isaiah to tell him that He would rescue him. Sure enough, God sent an angel to destroy the mean king's army. Many, many people died that night. When the mean king woke up and saw what had happened, he ran away and never bothered king Hezekiah again.

God took care of Hezekiah and His people when they prayed and asked for help. God will help you when you talk to him about your problems and needs. He will listen to you.

The mean king did not believe in God. God showed him that He was real and could do amazing things. Sometimes, we meet people who do not believe in God. They may laugh at us or even insult God. We need to stand strong in what we believe and know that God is true. Instead of being scared or running away, we can ask God for help and know that He will be by our side. Remembering Bible verses also helps us to stand up for what is right and it also encourages us to know that God is real and true.

King Hezekiah knew that God was real. He believed in God and trusted Him. Do you believe in God? God did an amazing thing to show how much He loved us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to do something for us. All our sin has separated us from God. Jesus died for all our sin on the cross, so that if we believe in Him and trust Him with all our heart, He will come into our lives and clean out all the dirty sins. He will stay with us and help us through hard times. He will show us how to live for God and follow Him. Talk to us about how to trust in Jesus.

#### Learning Activities

There are several important lessons the kids can learn from this story. Talk about them and help them apply them to their lives.

#### Memory Verse Activities

Have the kids echo the verse as you say it. Talk about what it means that God is near to us.

#### Prayer Time

Thank God that He hears our prayers! Take time to ask for help for our needs.

#### Snack Time/CleanUp

Enjoy snacks together!

Planning for Lesson 70  
Hezekiah prays to God  
2 Kings 20

The tunnel is described in 2 Chronicles 32.

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Hezekiah asks for help

Hezekiah was a good king who loved God. When he became king, he saw that God's church needed cleaning and repairing. Hezekiah asked people to fix the church doors and repair the church so that it was beautiful.

Next, Hezekiah saw that the people had forgotten to celebrate a special dinner together. It was kind of like Thanksgiving. He asked the people to come together and celebrate. They thanked God for all the ways He had helped them for many years.

Hezekiah asked all the people to come together and celebrate this special time. Everyone was so happy and everyone thanked God for His help. They told God how good He was and praised Him. God was pleased with His people.

Soon after that, a mean king sent a message to Hezekiah. He said mean things about God and told Hezekiah that he was going to take over God's people.

Hezekiah went to the church and prayed to God. He told God his needs and worries. God heard Hezekiah's prayer and sent a messenger to Hezekiah. God told Hezekiah that He would take care of things.

To protect the people, Hezekiah built a secret tunnel from his city to a lake of water. The tunnel helped the water flow right into the city so that the people would have fresh water to drink.

Sure enough, God took care of everything and saved the people. They thanked God for taking care of them.

Sing, "God is so good" and thank God for taking care of us.

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Hands-On Activities  
For  
Hezekiah asks for help

Make a list of things you are afraid of. Now pray and ask God to help you take care of the worries and give you peace.

Make a tunnel out of cardboard and act out the story.

It is no fun to be laughed at. It is easy to hurt back with words. It is harder to be quiet and ignore what is being said. Talk about what it feels like when people brag about themselves and laugh at you. Make up several situations and ask the kids to share what they would do and what they SHOULD do!

We can see from today's story how God really listens to our prayers. He hears and will help us with our problems and worries. Remind the kids that He may not answer our prayers exactly as we would like. Sometimes we have to wait for an answer and sometimes God does things that we may not understand. We must trust God and know that He ALWAYS will do the best thing for us.

Help the kids that have trusted Jesus to learn what a testimony is. Talk about how they have a special experience of how they realized what Jesus had done for them. Help them see that they can share their experiences with others. If someone tries to tell them that God isn't real, they can share how God has made a difference in their life. They can help the person see that God is truly real and cares about us!

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