

2nd week of August
A King Prays in the Face of Trouble

- **Text:** 2 Kings 19:14~19 (August 5)
- **Bottom line:** When I have a hard time, I come before Almighty God and tell Him everything.

1. Praise

(Worship and praise) 주의 보좌로 나아갈 때에

2. Prayer

Thank you, God, for allowing our family to live by your grace. May it be a worship service that remembers God's grace and glorifies God with thanksgiving .

3. The Word

Read 2 Kings 19:14~19 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Reading the Word over and over again in different translations will help you to deepen your understanding of the material.

<ESV>

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord and spread it before the Lord. 15 And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord and said: "O Lord, the God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth. 16 Incline your ear, O Lord, and hear; open your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God. 17 Truly, O Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands 18 and have cast their gods into the fire, for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone. Therefore they were destroyed. 19 So now, O Lord our God, save us, please, from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone."

<NASB>

14 Then Hezekiah took the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it, and he went up to the house of the Lord and spread it out before the Lord. 15 Hezekiah prayed before the Lord and said, "Lord, God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, You are the God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. 16 Incline Your ear, Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, Lord, and see; and listen to the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to taunt the living God. 17 It is true, Lord; the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, 18 and have hurled their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but only the work of human hands, wood and stone. So they have destroyed them. 19 But now, Lord our God, please, save us from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You alone, Lord, are God."

Understanding Text

Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, sent a letter declaring war to invade Jerusalem. Hezekiah was frightened and frustrated, but he trusted in God, who was stronger than the king of Assyria. He went up to the temple, opened Sennacherib's letter before God, and prayed.

Understanding the text for leaders

Hezekiah ruled Judah for 29 years (728~687 B.C.). At that time, Assyria was the dominant power in the ancient Near East. The northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed by the Assyrian king Shalmaneser V in 722 B.C. Assyria continued to threaten Judah through Shalmaneser V and Sargon II, even after Sennacherib became king. In the end, Hezekiah could not withstand Sennacherib's pressure and had to pay a huge tribute (18:13~16). But Sennacherib was not satisfied and wanted to take Jerusalem, the capital of Judah. Sennacherib sent Rabshakeh (the name of a high-ranking Assyrian official) to Jerusalem and demanded that he surrender. He ridiculed Hezekiah's faith and shook the faith of the people, saying that surrendering to the king of Assyria and being taken into captivity was the way to eat better and live well. He also said that no god could be delivered from the hands of the king of Assyria, and he despised God as an incompetent god. Hezekiah took the letter and opened it before God and prayed earnestly. First of all, he confessed and proclaimed that only God, whom he relied on, is the Lord and Creator of all nations of the world. He also spoke openly about her fears and the desperate situation she was in. I told them how strong and threatening Assyria was, how they were conquering the nations around them, and how they were blaspheming God without hesitation. I prayed earnestly that the living God would save Judah. Hezekiah's faith, which relies only on God in a situation where he is blocked on all sides, becomes the channel through which God's great work is accomplished.

4. Sharing

1) How did Hezekiah act when he received a letter from the king of Assyria? (Verses 14~15) What did he pray to God? (verses 15~19)

Upper Grades

What did Hezekiah pray to God about what the Assyrian king had done? (verses 16~18)

Lower Grades

What did Hezekiah pray to God about what the Assyrian king had done? (verses 16~18)

Question Guide

After receiving the letter from the king of Assyria, Hezekiah went up to the temple of God. He first confessed that God is the High Creator, and then he told him specifically what kind of situation he was in. Hezekiah knew that God is a person, so he was able to tell him to hear and see with his eyes.

Comments for Leaders

Hezekiah was a man of faith who relied on God in the face of great problems. He relied on God alone as he faced the powerful Assyrian attacks that surrounded and pressed him on all sides. The image of Hezekiah, who relied on the power and authority of the God who made heaven and earth, the only true God, rather than the Assyrian king who conquered the surrounding nations one after another, gives us a great challenge today.

2) What would you pray for, honestly pouring out your heart to God as it is? Share your prayer requests and take time to pray together.

■ **Upper Grades**

Tell God about the things you were upset about, frustrated, sad and lonely about, and pray openly.

■ **Lower Grades**

I want to tell God about the upsetting and sad things I want to talk about, and I pray with you.

□ **Question Guide**

When we are in trouble, when we are frustrated, frustrated, or upset, or when no one can help us, we can pray to God as Hezekiah did. If you tell God everything honestly, God will respond with the best of you, who sees, hears, and knows everything.

□ **Comments for Leaders**

Hezekiah was the first to come before God in a frustrating situation where he couldn't do anything. He opened the letter that frightened him before God and told Him everything in detail. It was because I trusted and relied on God as the only perfect help. The God we believe in is a caring Heavenly Father who listens to trivial and personal matters. The God who made us is the Almighty who knows our hearts best and can help us. We are beloved children who can boldly tell God everything without concealing anything.

≡ **5. Be Grateful**

When you are struggling and frustrated, thank God for listening to your prayers.

≡ **6. Prayer**

God, we want to be a person of faith who chooses prayer first when we encounter painful and frustrating things. Please let our family go to the place of prayer every day, trusting in You, our Creator who made the heavens and the earth and who can do all things.

- End the family worship service with the "Lord's Prayer"