**IMPACT BIBLE STUDY**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**ISAIAH – LESSON 15/16**

Day 1 – Read Isaiah 36:1 – 39:8

1. What application to your life did you find in last week’s lesson?

2. a. Write the memory verse (Isaiah 37:14).

 b. What do you think that means spiritually?

NOTE: Chapters 36-39 form a narrative prose “bridge” between the poetry chapters 1-35 dealing with the era of the Assyrians and the poetry chapters 40-66 introducing the Babylonian era. These chapters (lessons 15 and 16) contain references to events that fulfill many of Isaiah’s prophecies in chapters 1-35, make reference to the final Assyrian effort in Judah, and give a description of the first Babylonian contact with Isaiah’s prediction of the coming exile.

3. a. Review: What was the brief background of Hezekiah from 2 Kings 18:1-8?

 b. From 2 Kings 18:13-16, how did Hezekiah try to placate invading Sennacherib?

 c. How did Hezekiah prepare for the inevitable attack by Sennacherib in 2 Chronicles 32:1-8?

4. From Isaiah 36:1-3, who went out to meet Sennacherib’s field commander (also called Rabshekeh, which is a military title in some versions)?

5. a. What did the commander say about reliance on Egypt?

 . . . Assyria’s proposed bargain?

 b. How did he lie in vs. 7 and 10?

6. a. “You’re alone in this,” . . . “I can give you what you need,” . . . “This is okay with God” . . . What parallels do you see in this threat and the temptations Satan puts in your life?

 b. What strength is found in Proverbs 3:5-7?

Day 2 – Read Isaiah 36:11-22 – 37:1-20

7. What request did the representatives make of the field commander?

8. Instead he only spoke louder to the crowd. How did he . . .

 a. scoff at Hezekiah?

 b. size up Assyria’s offer?

 c. shame the Lord?

9. When do you think people most often try intimidation?

10. What did the responses indicate about Judah’s attitude toward the situation?

 a. people on the wall (vs. 21)?

 b. Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah (vs. 22)?

11. What do you think is the value of silence in confrontation?

12. Threatened with destruction, what did Hezekiah do (vs. 1-2)?

13. How did Isaiah respond with God’s assurance?

14. a. Receiving the report from his field commander and news that Egypt was advancing, Sennacherib sent a letter to Hezekiah. What was his main point?

 b. Does God “fail” . . . is He dependable? Please explain your answer.

15. a. Briefly explain what Hezekiah did in the temple.

 b. How do you think you can lay out your troubles before the Lord as clearly as Hezekiah did?

 c. What do you learn from Hezekiah’s prayer about how you should pray about difficulties facing you?

 d. Write Hebrews 4:16.

Day 3 – Read Isaiah 37:21–38

16. In Isaiah’s message to Hezekiah, briefly what did God say about . . .

 a. Judah’s attitude (vs. 22)?

 b. Assyria’s blasphemy (vs. 23-25)?

 c. God’s sovereign control (vs. 26-27)?

 d. Assyria’s destiny (vs. 28-29)?

 e. Judah’s recovery from invasion (vs. 30-32)?

 f. Assyria at Jerusalem (vs. 33-35)?

17. a. How was Assyria driven away?

 b. How do you think Sennacherib felt?

 c. . . . Jerusalem felt?

18. What was the doom of Sennacherib in vs. 38?

19. Write the next memory verse (Isaiah 38:17).

20. How do you think suffering can be a benefit to us?

Day 4 – Read Isaiah 38:1-14

21. a. How ill was Hezekiah and what did the Lord tell him to do?

 b. What steps have you taken to do that?

22. a. God relented at Hezekiah’s prayer and said He would add \_\_\_\_ years to his life.

 b. Turn to 2 Kings 20:1-11. What remedy was applied to the boil?

 c. . . . what did Isaiah ask Hezekiah in vs. 9?

 d. . . . what did the Lord do?

23. a. From 2 Kings 21:1-6, what apparently took place during the extended life given Hezekiah?

 b. Share a thought that Scripture brings to mind.

24. What other promise did God give Hezekiah in Isaiah 38:6?

25. a. In today’s reading, Hezekiah is 39 years old. What was his plea in vs. 10?

 b. What expectations do you think we have in “the prime of life?”

26. Hezekiah feared separation from the world he knew. What do these verses tell us about “this world?”

 a. Matthew 16:26

 b. Colossians 3:2

 c. James 4:4

 d. 1 John 2:15

27. To what did Hezekiah compare death in vs. 12?

28. How did Hezekiah describe his despair in vs. 13-14?

29. a. Hezekiah prayed, “I am troubled; O Lord, come to my aid!” When do we most often pray “Help!” prayers?

 b. Meanwhile, what should we do from Psalm 27:14?

Day 5 – Read Isaiah 38:15 – 39:8

30. From petition in prayer to praise. What was Hezekiah’s

 . . . attitude?

 . . . reason for praise?

31. a. “Your love kept me from the pit of destruction.” (vs. 17) Write John 3:16.

 b. “You have put all my sins behind your back.” (vs. 17) Write what Ephesians 1:7 says about the Lord Jesus Christ.

 c. Why do you think anguish causes us to examine our relationship with God?

32. What is the celebration of life in Isaiah 38:18-19?

33. a. How would Hezekiah praise the Lord?

 b. What is your favorite way to praise Him?

34. a. Why did representatives of Babylon come to visit Hezekiah?

 b. How did he try to impress them?

 c. What additional information about Hezekiah’s achievements is found in 2 Chronicles 32:27-30?

35. Read 2 Chronicles 32:24-26 and 32:31.

 a. Hezekiah had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in his heart.

 b. How did God test his repentance?

 c. What is the warning in Proverbs 16:18?

 . . . Proverbs 29:23?

36. Learning of Hezekiah’s foolish action, what prophecy did Isaiah make in Isaiah 39:5-7 that would be fulfilled 100 years later?

37. a. What was Hezekiah’s attitude in 39:8?

 b. Do you think that reflects true submission to God’s will or some other motive?

38. Summarize this lesson:

 a. Who or what was . . .

 . . . challenged?

 . . . courageous?

 . . . crying out?

 . . . committed?

 b. From Hezekiah’s experience, I learn this about . . .

 . . . death.

 . . . deliverance.

 . . . displaying wealth.