



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four components to a healthy group: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, we will study Isaiah 36-37 using inductive Bible study, which has three components: observation, interpretation, and application.

As the leader of your group, feel free to use whatever parts of this guide most help you do this!

CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- Describe how you talk to God. What is the tone of your voice? What kind of words do you use? Where do you talk to him? When do you talk to him?
- How has the way you speak been shaped by the people around you?
- Discipleship check-in:
 - Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
 - Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?

INTRODUCTION

The book of Isaiah up until this point has been filled with different problems and tensions, but the main plot and undercurrent of the book has been the looming threat of Assyria. Todays passage is the second narrative section in the book so far and it recounts the conversations that took place between King Hezekiah of Judah and the King Sennacherib of Assyria.

In this war of words, we will find that God's word reigns supreme.

OBSERVATIONS WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<u>READ:</u> Isaiah 36-37

DISCUSS:

• Verses 36:13-21 and 37:9-13. Describe the tone of King Sennacherib's voice. Make observations about how he speaks and what words he uses.

- Verses 37: 3-4, 15-20. Describe the tone of King Hezekiah's voice. Make observations about how he speaks and what words he uses.
- Verses 37:21-35. Describe the tone of God's voice. Make observations about how he speaks and what words he uses.

INTERPRETATION WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?

DISCUSS:

- Talk through each of the three characters', King Sennacherib, King Hezekiah, and God, words in this passage and what they reveal about their heart and character.
- What differences do you see in Hezekiah's response to the threat of Assyria in verses 37:1-4 and verses 37:14-20. Do you see any growth in Hezekiah? If yes, why?

APPLICATION what do we do next?

DISCUSS:

- **Prayer:** What do you learn about prayer from King Hezekiah? What would your prayer life look like if you prayed more like him?
- Faithfulness: In many ways the reason Judah is put in this difficult situation is because of Hezekiah's faithfulness to God. He is unwilling to let the people of Judah trust in any one other than Yahweh. Faithfulness isn't always easy and sometimes can even lead to hardship. Where in your life is faithfulness to God being tested? How will you remain faithful to him even if the outcome, at least in our eyes, doesn't look favorable?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

As a group leader studying the book of Isaiah could feel daunting and intimidating. Please know that as your staff we are ready and available to help you in any way possible. Two resources that will helpful are the Bible Project and the Gospel Coalitions course on Isaiah. Links to each of them are below and use them as you see fit.

Bible Project resources on the Book of Isaiah

The Gospel Coalitions course on the Book of Isaiah

PRAYER

Praise Jesus who intercedes for us and faithful to us even when we are faithless. Pray that you would take intentional steps to grow in prayer and faithfulness this week.