GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Hezekiah Brings a Letter to God

2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37



YOUR BIBLE READING

We can bring frightening news honestly before God.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Threatening Letter

2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37



Hezekiah, king of Judah, received frightening news about Assyria. The Assyrian king's representatives had spoken against Jerusalem and against the God its people trusted. Their armies had already conquered many places. Hezekiah tore his clothes, put on rough clothing used in mourning, and went to God's house. The danger was real. The account does not ask us to imagine a ruler who had no reason to be afraid.

Hezekiah sent officials and leading priests to the prophet Isaiah. They carried his request for prayer on behalf of the people who remained. Isaiah returned a message telling the king not to be ruled by the insulting words he had heard. God would send the Assyrian ruler back to his own country. Even before the letter arrived, Hezekiah had sought help rather than trying to hold all the fear alone.

The Assyrian king then sent another message. It warned Hezekiah not to believe that his God could keep Jerusalem safe. The letter pointed to nations Assyria had destroyed and asked whether their gods had rescued them. Its words were intended to make trust seem foolish. The sender wanted Jerusalem's king to look at Assyria's victories and believe that no different outcome could ever be possible for his own threatened city.

Hezekiah took the letter from the messengers and read it. Then he carried it to God's house and spread it out before God. This did not mean God needed to read paper to understand the danger. It was a concrete way for Hezekiah to bring the threatening words into prayer. The thing he had received from his enemies became the thing he laid openly before the God he was asking to help.

Remember: I can tell God what is frightening me.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The Danger Brought into Prayer

2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37



Hezekiah began his prayer by naming who God was: the God of Israel, ruler over all the kingdoms of the earth, and maker of heaven and earth. Assyria's king was powerful, but his power did not make him the creator of the world. Remembering this larger truth gave the prayer its starting point. Hezekiah did not begin by pretending that the threatening army was small or that other nations had never suffered.

He spoke honestly about those losses. Assyria had laid waste to lands and burned the things those peoples worshiped. But those objects had been made by human hands from wood and stone. Hezekiah distinguished them from the living God. He asked God to hear the Assyrian king's insults and save Jerusalem, so that the kingdoms would know who God was. His request joined the city's need with honor for God's name.

Isaiah sent Hezekiah God's answer. His prayer had been heard. The Assyrian king would not enter Jerusalem, fire an arrow there, or build a siege mound against it. God would defend the city. During the night, God's angel struck the Assyrian camp, and many soldiers died. This was a solemn act of judgment within a war, not a cheerful game in which the suffering of enemies was something to enjoy.

The Assyrian king withdrew, returned home, and stayed in Nineveh. The passage also records his later death and the reign of his son. Jerusalem had been spared according to the promise God sent through Isaiah. The letter's prediction of certain defeat had not become the final word. Hezekiah had brought the threat before God, and a particular answer had come for this city in this moment of its history.

Pause and think: How could putting a worry into words help you share it with God and a trusted adult?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Naming What Frightens Us



Sometimes a worry feels larger when it stays hidden. Hezekiah brought an actual letter into his prayer. In your life, you might tell God about a frightening message, a difficult conversation, or a concern at school. You can put the worry into words, draw it, or speak about it with a trusted adult. These are ways of naming a concern rather than keeping it locked inside.

The rescue of Jerusalem followed a particular promise through Isaiah. It does not mean that praying people never suffer or that every threat disappears. If someone sends you frightening messages or tells you to keep a threat secret, ask a safe adult for help. Prayer and practical protection can go together. You do not have to choose between telling God and telling someone who can act.

Hezekiah's prayer also remembers something bigger than the threatening king. Taking a wider view does not make danger imaginary. It helps us avoid giving fear every word in the story. We can describe a problem truthfully, seek wise support, and ask God for courage and care while adults help us take the steps that are needed.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

We can bring frightening news honestly to God while seeking the help and protection we need.

How could putting a worry into words help you share it with God and a trusted adult?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did Hezekiah do with the letter?

2. Who sent God's answer to the king?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ God defended the city, and the Assyrian king withdrew.
- ☐ Hezekiah spread the letter before God and prayed.
- ☐ An Assyrian letter threatened Hezekiah and Jerusalem.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the letter spread open as Hezekiah prays.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can tell God what is frightening me.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Kings 19:14-19

A thoughtful conversation

This rescue follows a specific prophetic promise and does not mean prayer prevents every harm. If a child receives threats, involve a safe adult and appropriate practical help.

Activity answers

1. He spread it before God and prayed about it.
2. The prophet Isaiah.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us bring our fears to you and seek wise help. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on 2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 12_2Ki_19_01_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
This adapted story pack is shared under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0. Credit the creators, identify changes and use the same license for adaptations. Genesis to Revelation edition 3.0.