

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Under Siege

Week 1: Brace Yourself

2 Chronicles 32:2-4

January 10, 2026

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This week we kicked off a new series studying the Assyrian siege of Jerusalem. This attack on the capital city was one of the most horrific trials God's people ever endured. Their godly king, Hezekiah, models for us how we too can survive seasons of great difficulty. This first week was a look at how to prepare for seasons of trouble.

Kicking it off:

Jeff began his sermon by sharing of his delight in walking through Hezekiah's tunnel. How would you feel about the opportunity to walk through 10 inches of water in a very tight 600-yard tunnel?

Discussion:

1. Reread 2 Chronicles 32:2-4: *When Hezekiah realized that the King of Assyria intended to attack Jerusalem, he consulted with his advisers. They decided to stop the flow of the spring outside the city. They said, "Why should the king of Assyria come and find water?"*

How would you have advised Hezekiah if one of the other advisers had made the case that God's people enjoy divine protection and will never have to endure an Assyrian siege?

2. Reread Jesus' words found in John 16:33: *"In this world you will have trouble."*

How is this bad news helpful?

3. Why do many Christians feel confusion and doubt God when terrible trials come their way?

4. Reread 2 Peter 3:9 (TLB): *The Lord is waiting to return in order to give more time for sinners to repent.*

If God is able to remove all suffering from this world, why doesn't he? How does this verse from 2 Peter help us with that question?

5. C.S. Lewis once wrote: "Pain is God's megaphone to rouse a deaf world." What do you think about this quote?

6. Reread Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NLT): *"Those who have made the Lord their hope and confidence are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit."*

Hezekiah built the tunnel to ensure his people would have the water necessary to endure a siege. These verses speak of enduring a season of drought through connection to water. What does this water symbolize? What do you like about these verses?

7. Have you even seen someone exhibit joy in Christ while enduring a difficult season? If so, tell the group about them.

Wrapping It Up:

Through a time of prayer, ask God for help in establishing deep roots of relational connection to the "water" of His grace, power, and love.