

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Open your group with a prayer. Use this sheet as a guide; select the points you want to discuss.

### GETTING STARTED

1. What factors determine whether you will trust someone?

### DIGGING DEEPER

2. Read Isaiah 36:1-3 and 7:1-7. Do you think God expects us to learn from similar past events?
3. Why is who we trust important?
4. List how the Assyrian Field Commander attempted to degrade Hezekiah's trust in God (vv. 4-20)?
5. Read Genesis 3:1-6. How did the serpent degrade Eve's trust in God's word? Compare to the Assyrian Commander.
6. Read 36:11-12. Why did the Commander speak in Hebrew? How would he benefit from undermining Judah's trust in God?
7. Read 36:21. Discuss the merits of Hezekiah's command to remain silent.

8. Why did Hezekiah and his officials tear their clothes and put on sackcloth?
9. Isaiah encouraged Hezekiah to trust the Lord. Read Psalm 46. Why is God trustworthy?
10. What did Hezekiah's prayer signal to God (37:16-21)?
11. In 37:36, what did Israel do to win the battle? How does this impact our trust in the Lord?

### LIVING IT OUT

12. What are some of the world's messages that degrade your trust in the Lord? Why are these messages often effective?
13. Dissect Hezekiah's prayer. What elements should we adopt when we're doubting God's word?
14. Brainstorm practical ways to increase prayer.

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

"O Lord Almighty, God of Israel...you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth."  
- Isaiah 37:16