

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's the closest you've ever come to death?
2. How did it impact your life afterwards?

DIGGING DEEPER

3. Read Isaiah 38:1-3. Do you think Hezekiah shows a lack of faith here?
4. Do you think it wrong for Hezekiah to use his past accomplishments as leverage for longer life?
5. How do you harmonize v.1 "you won't recover" with v.5 "I'll add 15 years to your life?" Compare Ps 139:16b with James 5:16b.
6. Read 38:9-14. Why do you think Hezekiah was angry and depressed about death?
7. Read 38:15-19. How did Hezekiah fail to follow his own wisdom?
8. Explain the significance of 2 Chronicles 32:31.

9. Read 39:1-2. How were the Babylonian envoys a test for Hezekiah? How could Hezekiah have responded better?
10. Isaiah rebuked Hezekiah in 39:5-7. What does this teach about the need to rebuke? Read 2Tim 4:2.
11. Discuss Hezekiah's response in 39:8. What does it reveal about him?

LIVING IT OUT

12. What does our view of death reveal about our faith?
13. How does this passage warn us about the danger of pride?
14. What blessing of yours could be an opportunity to give glory to God?
15. Why should we care about the long-term impact of our decisions and actions?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"I will walk humbly all my years because of this anguish of my soul...Surely it was for my benefit..."

- Isaiah 38:15b,17a

