

*Ice Breaker* (in groups of 2 or 3 for larger groups)

Share about your favorite meal and what made it so special!

*Talk About it!*

1. Read **2 Kings 20:12-21** and **Proverbs 27:21**

a. How do you think you would respond if the Prince of Babylon and his envoys came to visit and honor you? What was wrong with Hezekiah's response to them?

2. Read **Deuteronomy 8:18**

a. Have you ever been able to testify about God giving you the ability to produce wealth? Please share with your group.

3. We've all been through seasons of adversity and seasons of prosperity. Pastor Ann said that there can be "advantage in adversity" and "peril in prosperity". Can you share any real-life experiences of each?

4. Read **2 Kings 20:16-19**

a. What is noticeably absent in King Hezekiah's response to Isaiah? What can we learn from King Hezekiah's mistake?

5. Read **2 Corinthians 9:8-10**

a. What are some of the purposes of provision and prosperity? Do you believe that you are prosperous? Why or why not?

6. Read **1 Timothy 6:17-19**

a. What are the commandments from this passage? What is challenging from this passage?

7. What is ONE thing you want to take away from this discussion? Pray for each other to live it out!

## Scripture Reference (Questions 1-2)

### **2 KINGS 20:12-21 NLT**

**12** Soon after this, Merodach-baladan son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent Hezekiah his best wishes and a gift, for he had heard that Hezekiah had been very sick. **13** Hezekiah received the Babylonian envoys and showed them everything in his treasure-houses—the silver, the gold, the spices, and the aromatic oils. He also took them to see his armory and showed them everything in his royal treasuries! There was nothing in his palace or kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them.

**14** Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah and asked him, “What did those men want? Where were they from?”

Hezekiah replied, “They came from the distant land of Babylon.”

**15** “What did they see in your palace?” Isaiah asked.

“They saw everything,” Hezekiah replied. “I showed them everything I own—all my royal treasures.”

**16** Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Listen to this message from the Lord: **17** The time is coming when everything in your palace—all the treasures stored up by your ancestors until now—will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says the Lord. **18** Some of your very own sons will be taken away into exile. They will become eunuchs who will serve in the palace of Babylon’s king.”

**19** Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “This message you have given me from the Lord is good.” For the king was thinking, “At least there will be peace and security during my lifetime.”

**20** The rest of the events in Hezekiah’s reign, including the extent of his power and how he built a pool and dug a tunnel to bring water into the city, are recorded in The Book of the History of the Kings of Judah. **21** Hezekiah died, and his son Manasseh became the next king.

### **PROVERBS 27:21 NLT**

**21** Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but a person is tested by being praised.

### **DEUTERONOMY 8:18 NLT**

**18** Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful, in order to fulfill the covenant he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath.

## Scripture Reference (Questions 4–6)

### **2 KINGS 20:16-19 NLT**

**16** Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Listen to this message from the Lord: **17** The time is coming when everything in your palace—all the treasures stored up by your ancestors until now—will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says the Lord. **18** Some of your very own sons will be taken away into exile. They will become eunuchs who will serve in the palace of Babylon’s king.”

**19** Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “This message you have given me from the Lord is good.” For the king was thinking, “At least there will be peace and security during my lifetime.”

### **2 CORINTHIANS 9:8-10 NLT**

**8** And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. **9** As the Scriptures say,

“They share freely and give generously to the poor.

    Their good deeds will be remembered forever.”

**10** For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

### **1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19 NLT**

**17** Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. **18** Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. **19** By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.