

# Old Testament

## Hezekiah prays to God

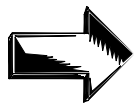
## 2 Kings 20:1-11

### Younger Verse

The Lord is near to all who call on Him. Psalm 145:18

### Older Verse

The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. Psalm 145:18



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember always to include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

### Welcome Time

Have you ever known someone that was very, very sick? Most people go to the hospital and receive care. Let's see what happens when King Hezekiah gets sick.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

We have been learning about many kings in the Old Testament. Last week we learned about king Hezekiah. He was a good king who loved God and obeyed God.

Hezekiah followed God and helped the people worship God. God protected Hezekiah and the people from enemies who wanted to rule over them.

One day when Hezekiah was much older, he got sick. The Bible does not tell us what kind of sickness he had. We know it was very serious.

Isaiah was one of God's messengers. He would share special words from God. He came to visit Hezekiah in his palace. Isaiah told Hezekiah some sad news. He told him that he would die because of his sickness.

King Hezekiah was very upset. Do you know what he did? He stopped and prayed to God immediately. He reminded God how he had followed Him and obeyed Him. Then, he cried hard tears. He was sad that he would leave his family and friends.

Isaiah turned and began to walk out of the palace. As he was walking, God spoke to him. God told him to go back to Hezekiah.

Isaiah told Hezekiah good news! He told Hezekiah that God had heard his prayers and had seen his tears. He told Hezekiah that in 3 days he would be well! He told Hezekiah to go to the temple church on that day and he would have 15 more years that he would live.

### Lesson Goals

**Pray to God when you are upset and have a problem**  
**Follow God with all your heart**  
**Be ready to listen to God**

Isaiah made a special cream out of figs (a fruit) and put it on one of Hezekiah's sores.

Hezekiah asked Isaiah for a special sign to know that God really would heal him and give him 15 more years.

Isaiah looked over at a device to tell time. Back then, they did not have clocks or watches. They used things like sundials to tell time. King Hezekiah must have had a special invention in his palace to tell time. It could have been like a sundial or stairs to tell time. As the shadow moved down the stairs or around the dial, they could tell what time it was.

Isaiah asked the king if he wanted the shadow to go backwards or forwards. Backwards would be much harder since the shadow normally when forwards. Hezekiah told Isaiah to move the shadow BACK 10 steps.

Isaiah prayed to God and God did it! He made the shadow go backwards 10 steps! Hezekiah was so excited and happy. He thanked God for giving him 15 more years to live and rule over God's people. He followed God's instructions and went to the temple church 3 days later, when he was well.

God did 2 miracles that day. He healed Hezekiah and he made the shadow go backwards. Both miracles happened because people prayed to God. When we pray, God does not always say "yes" to our prayers. In today's story, God said "yes" because He knew what was best. Remember that when you pray for something, instead of asking God to do exactly what you want, ask Him to do what is best. God loves us and will always do what is best.

We may have a special prayer request that we want God to answer. Trust God to do the best thing for us. It may not be exactly what you prayed. Sometimes we know people who are sick that pray to be well. God does not always make them well. We must trust God and know that He heard our prayers and is doing what is the very best.

Isaiah was an important person to God. He wrote down words that God said and they are in the Bible. The book of Isaiah shares many things including part of this story in chapter 38. Isaiah told God's people many things from God. There was ONE thing that he told them that was a promise that took over 400 years to happen. Isaiah told the people that God would send His Son as a baby to do a very special thing to help us. God knew that there was no way that we could get to Heaven by ourselves. We can never be good enough. God's Son, Jesus, made a way for us to go to Heaven. Jesus lived a perfect life and then died on a cross. He did this not for anything He had done wrong. He did this for all the wrongs WE have done. Then, 3 days later, Jesus came back to life. If we believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our wrongs and come into our lives, Jesus will come into our heart and stay with us forever. He will help us do things God's way and take us to Heaven one day. Would you like to know more? Talk to us about it.

**Learning Activities**

Ask the kids what they can learn from today's lesson. Help them apply it to their lives.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Write the verse on paper and make the letters look like they have shadows to remind the kids of the lesson. Share how God was near in today's story.

**Prayer Time**

Thank God that He hears our prayers. Ask Him to help with the needs of the kids and parents.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Share snacks like "fig" newtons or bars. Most kids probably haven't ever tasted figs.

Planning for Lesson 71  
Josiah finds part of the Bible  
2 Kings 22-23:25

Preschool Lesson  
For  
Hezekiah prays for help

Long ago, there was a king named Hezekiah. He loved God very much and always obeyed God. He helped the people follow God and go to the temple church to worship God.

One day, Hezekiah got very sick. He was in bed and he felt awful. (Make moaning and groaning sounds)

One of God's people came to visit Hezekiah. His name was Isaiah. He was a special man who told people messages from God. Isaiah had a message for Hezekiah from God. Isaiah told Hezekiah that he was going to die.

Hezekiah was very, very sad. Do you know what Hezekiah did first? He prayed to God for help. He reminded God of how he had followed Him and obeyed Him. Then, he cried very big tears of sadness. (Make noises like you are crying)

As Isaiah was leaving the king's palace, God spoke to him again. He told Isaiah to go back to Hezekiah's room.

Isaiah returned and told Hezekiah great news! He shared that God had heard his prayer and he would live 15 more years! (Take time to count to 15. Many young children need practice in learning to count.)

Sure enough, it happened! Hezekiah got well! God made Hezekiah well again. Hezekiah went to the temple church and thanked God for making him well and giving him 15 more years to be the king.

Sing a song to the tune of "Are you sleeping?"

Hezekiah, Hezekiah where are you, where are you?  
He is in bed. He is very sick. We are sad. We are sad.  
I-I saiah, I-I saiah, here he comes. Here he comes.  
First he had bad news, then he had good news.  
The king gets well. The king gets well.

God hears our prayers, God hears our prayers.  
Yes, He does. Yes, He does.  
He will do the best thing, to-o-o help us.  
God is good. God is good.

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Hands-On Activities  
For  
Hezekiah prays to God

Talk about prayer today. Share how God may not answer exactly as we wish for Him to answer. Share some examples from your own life. Explain the importance of trusting God and knowing that God wants to do the very best for us.

Make a sundial to remember the lesson today. The instructions are included.

Take time to write notes to someone who is sick. Make a little care basket with little goodies in it. If possible, take the kids to visit the person who is ill. Say a prayer for them while you are there.

Make shadow pictures. Bring a lamp to cast a shadow on the wall. Have fun making animal figures. (Be sure to instruct the kids that certain gestures are not appropriate.)

This story is told in several places in the Bible. Try improving Bible skills and look it up in 2 Chronicles 32:24 and Isaiah 38.

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## Make a Sundial

### Supplies:

2 paper plates for each person

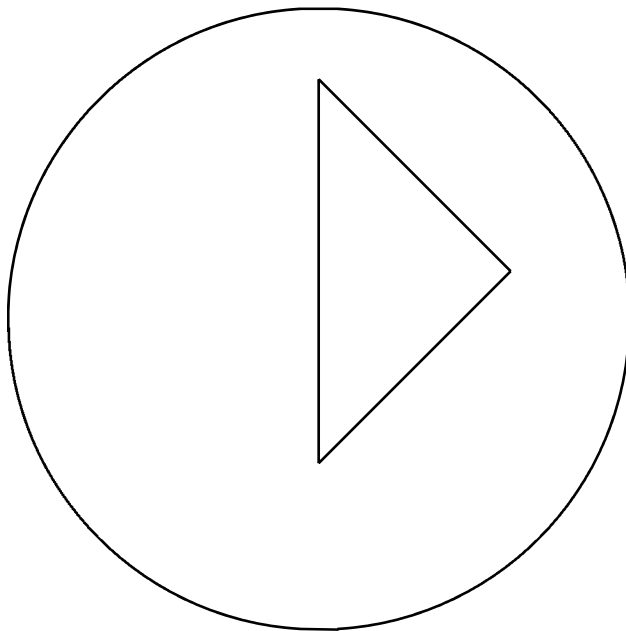
Scissors

Marker

Tape or glue

### Instructions:

Write the clock dial around the sides of one plate. Cut a triangle out of the other plate and tape or glue it to the inside of the plate to resemble a sundial. (The triangle piece is actually called a gnomon!)



Remember: this is just a “play” sundial. It will not tell real time. You can go to a web site and have a computer calculate the correct sundial for where you live. It requires knowing your longitude (the site will help you do that) to help in calculating the time when the sun is at a certain place in the sky where you live.

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