

When Commitment Turns to Conflict, Turn to Confession

Hezekiah 2 Kings 18-19

God calls us to a faithful commitment to Him.

4 Qualities of faithful commitment:

- **My commitment is based on an unconditional covenant with God.** 2 Chronicles 29:10-11 · 2 Kings 18:5-7
"Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel ... there was none like him among all the kings of Judah, for he clung to the LORD; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments..."
2 Chronicles 29:10, 2 Kings 18:5
- **My commitment grows as I remove the filth of sin in my life.** 2 Kings 18:3-4 · 2 Chronicles 29:5-6, 15-19
"He removed the high places and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the Asherah...and carry the uncleanness out from the holy place."
- **My commitment is reflected in joyful worship of my Lord.** 2 Chronicles 29:27-30; 30:6-9, 18-20, 25-27
"So they sang praises with joy, and bowed down and worshiped...May the good LORD pardon everyone who prepares his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though not according to the purification rules of the sanctuary." So the LORD heard Hezekiah and healed the people...So there was great joy in Jerusalem."
- **My commitment motivates me to sacrificial generosity.** 2 Chronicles 31:4-6
"The sons of Israel provided in abundance the first fruits of grain, new wine, oil, honey and of all the produce of the field; and they brought in abundantly the tithe of all."

Expect conflict and opposition in your faithful commitment to the Lord.

 2 Chronicles 31:20-32:1

"Every work which he began in the service of the house of God in law and in commandment, seeking his God, he did with all his heart and prospered. After these acts of faithfulness Sennacherib king of Assyria came and invaded Judah and besieged the fortified cities, and thought to break into them for himself" 2 Chronicles 31:21 - 32:1

- Conflict may cause feelings of weakness and inadequacy to serve the Lord. 2 Kings 18:19-21
- Conflict may cause you to lose confidence in the Lord's help for you. 2 Kings 18:22
- Conflict may cause you to think God is upset and angry with you. 2 Kings 18:23-25
- Conflict may tempt you to compromise your commitment and surrender to the values of this world. 2 Kings 18:28-33

Humbly confess your total trust in the Lord when conflict occurs.

Do not give up, God will help. 2 Kings 19:20 · 2 Chronicles 32:6-8 · 1 John 4:4

"Be strong and courageous, do not fear or be dismayed because of the king of Assyria nor because of all the horde that is with him; for the one with us is greater than the one with him. With him is only an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles..." 2 Chronicles 32:7-8

- **Confess your complete dependence on the Lord for conflict and healing.** 2 Kings 19:14-19; 20:1-6
"Then Hezekiah took the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it, and he went up to the house of the LORD and spread it out before the LORD, Hezekiah prayed before the LORD...Now, O LORD our God, I pray, deliver us from his hand that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You alone, O LORD, are God."
- **Confess any pride or self-sufficiency to the Lord.** 2 Chronicles 32:22-26
"In those days Hezekiah became mortally ill; and he prayed to the LORD, and the LORD spoke to him and gave him a sign. But Hezekiah gave no return for the benefit he received, because his heart was proud; therefore wrath came on him and on Judah and Jerusalem. However, Hezekiah humbled the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come on them in the days of Hezekiah."

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

I hope we all desire to have God say about us what He said about Hezekiah:

"There was none like him among all the kings of Judah, for he clung to the LORD; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments..." 2 Kings 18:5-6

In pursuit of that, review the 4 qualities of commitment by Hezekiah and reflect how you are doing in those areas:

- When did you make your covenant of commitment to Christ? Describe how that happened.
- Privately reflect on whether there are any unconfessed sins in your life. If you are willing, share how God has helped you overcome some of those challenges in your life.
- What excites you most about worship? What gives you great joy? How can you help prepare your heart and mind for worship on Sundays and in your private time with the Lord?
- On generosity, read 2 Chronicles 31:4-6. What impacts you about their generosity? How does that motivate you?

In the second section on the outline, Hezekiah endured conflict from that attack of the enemy. Read 2 Chronicles 31:20-32:1. This is an amazing contrast describing Hezekiah's faithfulness and then, oh by the way, your enemy is invading you.

- Do you ever think that because you live faithfully to the Lord you should escape conflicts and attacks?
- How should you respond when going through conflict?
- Which of the verbal attacks by the Assyrian king do you struggle with as listed on the outline? Do you ever feel as though you are inadequate, lose confidence in the Lord's help, that God is upset and angry with you or will not really help? Where are those "voices" really coming from?

Read about the amazing miracle in 2 Kings 20:1-11 and answer the questions below:

- How does that help you see the power of God? How can it help your prayer life?

NEXT STEPS:

1. **Join a LifeGroup to provide more opportunities to offer love to others.** LifeGroups are the primary place, beyond Sunday worship, where we actively engage in the life and purpose of our church: to connect, grow, and reach. Learn more at the Connection Point in the Lobby or visit calvarylife.org/lifegroups
2. **Attend the Discover Jesus class on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in room D-2** (children's program available). This class uses the 9-week "Following Jesus" curriculum to help you discover how to live and love like Jesus. Come grow in your faith by journeying through the foundational elements of discipleship. If you're a new follower of Jesus, or want to become more grounded in the basics of Christianity, this is perfect for you! Learn more at calvarylife.org/discoverjesus
3. **Grow through Counseling, Spiritual Direction, Prayer and Discipleship.** Our CARE ministry seeks to serve you by joining you in your journey of embracing God's hope and healing for your life. Our prayer is that God would free you to be the person He wants you to be so you can live the life He intends for you to live. To find out more, or to make an appointment, please call the counseling office at 714-550-2390. calvarylife.org/care

