

Meadowbrook Baptist Church

102 North Park Drive

June 28, 2026

Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 AM

Fellowship Time 10:00 AM

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In the story of Hezekiah used in this newsletter, his illness could have come from the stress of having 200,000 warriors coming to get Him. He must have had some fear and stress mixed in with his faith and courage, and it could have been enough to make him lose his health.

In the thick fighting of the Civil War, General Grant, in hot pursuit of General Lee's troops, was half blinded with a sick headache. He stopped at a farmhouse and wrote in his memoirs, "I spend the night in bathing my feet in hot water and mustard and putting mustard plasters on my wrist and the back part of my neck, hoping to be cured by morning."

When morning came, he was still sick. But suddenly an officer appeared with the message that General Lee had surrendered. And Grant wrote these words, "I was still suffering with the sick headache, *but the instant I saw the contents of the note, I was cured.*"

Learning to Pray - 3

When God May Be Saying "No"

TO KEEP US FROM HURTING OTHERS

[Isaiah 36 - 39]

Sometimes God says "no" and leaves us in painful situations because what we ask for might hurt others. One of the greatest Old Testament Kings was Hezekiah. Not only did he rid the land of idols but he gives us one of the greatest examples of prayer in the Bible.

Two hundred thousand 200,000 Assyrian soldiers surrounded Jerusalem and the captain of the army sent him a letter, compared him to a helpless bird in a cage, and warned him he and his people were about to die.

He did what you and I would do. He took that letter into the Temple and laid it before the Lord and prayed for help. God heard that prayer, and in one night, an angel spread a plague that killed all of the Assyrian soldiers. E Vance Hadner said the only problem Israel had with those Assyrians was *burying them*.

No matter how close we get to God and how much He does in and through us, we are still human beings, susceptible to temptations and can do bad things.

Not long after this victory Hezekiah got very sick and his pastor Isaiah came to see him. He did not come to cheer him up, but to tell him he was going to die and he needed to make preparations.

He was only 39 years old and nobody wants to die at 39, so he begged God and begged God and begged God to let him live. God gave in and did. We say, "How wonderful!" But this led to something bad. In the years God gave him He hurt himself and others. Pride got the best of him. Some visitors from Babylon (the rising super-power) came to Jerusalem to see him. Like a kid showing off his Christmas toys he showed them all the gold and other treasures in the temple.

That was dumb. It was like walking through a bad part of town, waving your billfold and yelling, "I have \$2,000 in my billfold." It wasn't long before Babylonian soldiers came and took all of their treasures. We do not know how many, but some of Israel's soldiers and some civilians were no doubt killed in the attack.

I preached on this in my first church and one of our ladies came up to me weeping. She said, "Pastor, I did this and hurt my mother. She was