

Influenced

Sunday, January 15, 2017 2 Kings 18:17-37; 19:14-19

The Goodness of God

How can we have a whole hearted trust in the goodness of God when there is so much pain and suffering in the world?

Dangerous Freedom

People able to choose

This ability to choose ... Creates possibility to influence

A Story

Psychological Warfare 2 Kings 18:17-37

Doubt: Question past obedience (22)

Belittling: You are weak (24)

Confusion: God told me (25)

Suspicion: Mistrust Leaders (26)

Lure: Offer a deal (31)

Discouragement: Evidence of Failure (33-34)

Unbelief: Mistrust God (35)

Responding in Prayer 2 Kings 19:14-19

Lots of Influences

Parents and Children – First influencers

Friends

Teachers, Leaders – In every setting

Culture

Cosmic – Temptation – Adam and Jesus

Ponderings

The Goodness of God

How does God show himself to be good?

The Mission of the Church

How do we influence others toward God?

Small Group Guide

Kicking off your Time Together

Ice Breaker

If you really believed all the advertizing you see or hear, what impact would it have on your life?

Opening Prayer

Have one or two open in prayer asking God to be present and to direct your time.

What Did you Bring?

Did you bring anything to share to encourage the group? (consider 1 Cor 14:26 as the pattern for this part of the meeting)

Read Passage

Read this passage: 2 Kings 18:17-37; 19:14-19

Discuss a few of these questions:

What would a siege in a walled city in the ancient world be like?

Consider 2 Kings 18:17-37. This is an example of ancient psychological warfare. What techniques were used? What parallels can you see to our temptations (“the battle in the mind”)?

Consider 2 Kings 19:14-19. How did Hezekiah pray? What insights can this provide about how we should face temptation?

Pray for Each Other

In light of all that has been shared, pray for each other.

You may want to share specific requests.