

Strong Faith to Stand
2 Kings 18:13-37, Pew Bible p. 325
April 14, 2024

I. The Danger of Following Jesus (V. 13-18)

- A. Strong faith in Christ will lead to trouble.
- B. Strong faith in Christ will some day stumble.

II. The Offense of Following Jesus (V. 19-37)

- A. We need strong faith because God is often misunderstood.
- B. We need strong faith because God is often impersonated.
- C. We need strong faith because the world sees weak faith the same as dead faith.
- D. We need strong faith because the world is at war with God.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Kings 18:13-37.
2. Have you ever had a bad thing happen to you shortly after obeying God in something, just like King Hezekiah did in verse 13? Why do things like this happen to people who are doing the right thing?
3. Have you ever stumbled in your faith in Christ because you didn't see another way out, as Hezekiah did in verse 14? Why did you do that? What does the absence of a rebuke from God to Hezekiah tell us about God's grace for imperfect disciples?
4. Have you ever been misunderstood because of your faith in Christ, as King Hezekiah was in verses 21-22? What do these verses tell you about how important it is that other people approve of what you do for God?
5. What role does trust in the Lord have in being in right relationship with Him, according to verse 5? What sort of things does it look like Hezekiah had to trust God with? What sort of things do you need to trust God with now?
6. Have you ever witnessed someone challenge the ability of God to help you in a certain way, as the King of Assyria did in verses 32-35?
7. Pray for our church members to have a strong faith to stand against evil and tribulations. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00–6:30 pm in Worship Center Room 103.

Acts 13:46-48 (ESV)

⁴⁶ And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.” ⁴⁸ And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting

- Praying for recent visitors that they find ministries and community that help disciple them.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona.
- PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- PRAY for family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:
Sharon L. (children & grandchildren); Marge D. (son, Matthew); Rezwana D. (parents); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Sophia W. (husband); Ida S. (granddaughter & her husband); Charity M. (daughter); Kayla P. (nephew, Jordan); Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings); and V. family (Ashley & Jesse); and Michelle LaM. (son)
- PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Gary & Betty B. (her sister); Dick & Peggy T. (nephew); and Stan & Lori F. (his mother)
- PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:
Leon V. (chemo); Jan B. (health); Debbie P. (health); Debbie B. (health); Marge D. (health); Rita H. (health); Mimi M. (health); Dick T. (health); Matthew M. (job loss); Kathy W. (health); Ann C.-W. (health); April H.-F. (medication); Laura M. (health issues); Ray & Sue J. (health & other issues); Sherri O. (surgery recovery); Susan K. (heart surgery); Kelly J. (health); Jeff S. (upcoming surgery); Ken R. (ongoing health issues); Jacque B. (recovery from fall); Helene D. (theft); and Michelle LaM. (medical procedures)
- PRAY for others that you are aware of.