



## What's Chapter 16 of "The Story" all About?

### Hezekiah and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

*"Today is a day of trouble, insults, and disgrace."*

—2 Kings 19:3 (NLT)

*"The Bible has a lot of pages. Help me get the big picture."* You got it. The Bible's main point is that God is putting the broken world back together, through his Great Back Together-er, Jesus the King. If you get that down, you'll never have a truly bad day.

Kids, try to unscramble this 14-letter word to discover an important Bible word for The Great Back Together:

TCNOIRIELNIACO **RECONCILIATION** [Hint: 2 Cor. 5:19]

When having a THNGVB Day, remember Hezekiah and...

#### 1. **LAY IT OUT** — in full detail.

*2Kings 19:14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD and spread it before the LORD.*

#### 2. **LIFT HIM UP** — for his closeness, wideness, highness and lowness.

*2Kings 19:15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said: "O LORD, the God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.*

#### 3. **LET IT FLY** — against all logic, against all odds.

*2Kings 19:16-19 Bend down, O LORD, and listen! Open your eyes, O LORD, and see! Listen to Sennacherib's words of defiance against the living God.<sup>17</sup> "It is true, LORD, that the kings of Assyria have destroyed all these nations.<sup>18</sup> And they have thrown the gods of these nations into the fire and burned them. But of course the Assyrians could destroy them! They were not gods at all—only idols of wood and stone shaped by human hands.<sup>19</sup> Now, O LORD our God, rescue us from his power; then all the kingdoms of the earth will know that you alone, O LORD, are God."*

## Conversation starters for your group, class, family and friends.

1. Darren said that the Bible's main theme is "The Great Back Together." How does this change your perspective on the world? (See Col. 1:20-22)
2. We've had a lot of messages about many characters like Abraham, Sarah, Hannah, David, Jeroboam and the like. But this message drew our attention to God himself who is the star of the whole Bible. Hezekiah's prayer shows that he knows a lot about God. What did Hezekiah's prayer teach you about God? Review Point #2 on the other side.
3. This was also a message about prayer, particularly when you're facing the likes of Sennacherib and the Rabshakeh. When your back's against the wall, put your face against God's face the way Hezekiah did. Review his prayer and talk about it.
4. Who gets to pray with Hezekiah-like boldness? Who should be warned, like Sennacherib?
5. What will you remember from this message? File it down to one big idea and share it.

## Totally extra, don't-need-to-bother-with-it stuff below — if you're interested! (Word Unscrambler)

**What is God bringing back together?** First, our Heavenly Father brought his Son Jesus back together after he gave up his spirit on the cross for our sins (Luke 23:42). Yes, God put the spirit of Jesus back into his maimed and crucified body of flesh and bones at the resurrection, making Jesus's body indestructible and powerful ("*his glorious body*" — Phil. 3:21). Second, God brings himself and his people back together in a peaceful relationship through his Son Jesus, the Great Back Together-er (2 Cor. 5:19). But that's just the start of the Great Back Together (Col. 1:19-21). What else is God bringing back together now and into the future? Unscramble these words. Some are tough.

1. God is bringing people from different TNIETCSHEII **ETHNICITIES** back together (Eph. 2:13-16).
2. God is bringing USDHNASB **HUSBANDS** and EWSIV **WIVES** back together (Eph. 5:22-30).
3. God is bringing humans and NILASMA **ANIMALS** back together (Isa. 11:6-9).
4. God is bringing you and me — with all our OPCNIYLNASH **NONPHYSICAL** parts (like our thoughts and feelings) — back together, so that we're in control and no longer driven by ideas (like a bad self-esteem) and impulses (bad habits) that ruin our lives and relationships. Yes, he came to bring you and me back together on the inside (Luke 8:26-39; Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 3:18).
5. Someday, God will bring the PITSSRI **SPIRITS** and the BDSOEI **BODIES** of his children back together (1 Thes. 4:13-18) because physical death is a "terrible, horrible, no good, very bad thing." Someday death will be all gone.
6. Last of all, God will bring his whole REOCITNA **CREATION** back together, his masterpiece mosaic of people, angels, animals, rivers, stars and trees. Because right now, it has come to pieces. One day it will be cleaned up and beautifully arranged again (Matt. 19:27-30; Rom. 8:18-21; 2 Pet. 3:13).