

THE STORY OF HEZEKIAH, KING OF JUDAH

Hezekiah was the son of wicked King Ahaz. But Hezekiah wasn't like his father. Hezekiah did his best to follow God and was a good leader and a good example for his people.

While Hezekiah was king of Judah, the king of Assyria came to fight them. The Assyrians said lots of bad things about God. They told the people that God wasn't going to protect them because God wanted the Assyrians to win the war. Hezekiah told the people not to be afraid. He prayed to God and when they woke up the next morning the Assyrian army was dead. It was a miracle.

Later, Hezekiah became very ill and was going to die. He asked God to take away his sickness because he had been such a good king. God promised that Hezekiah would live 15 more years. God even did another miracle so that Hezekiah would know for sure how much God cared for him. The sun's shadow went backwards on the steps.

Hezekiah began to think he must be REALLY special. When he had visitors he bragged about all the things God had given him: all the gold, silver, food, animals, clothes, weapons, & jewels.

After Hezekiah had shown some of his visitors all his treasures, Isaiah, the prophet, asked Hezekiah, "Where did they come from?"

Hezekiah said, "They were from Babylon. The King of Babylon sent them to tell me how glad he was that I got over my sickness."

Then Isaiah told Hezekiah the bad news. "The King of Babylon wants to take away all that you have, and he will do it."

Hezekiah told himself, "OK. At least it won't happen while I'm alive."

When Hezekiah died, the people were sad because he had helped them to follow God and because he had done many things that had made their lives better.

FAMILY RESOURCE

BIG IDEA: God wants us to trust Him and obey Him

READ 2 CHRONICLES 29:1-2

What does a king do?
Play "simon says".
Who follows you?

READ 2 KINGS 18:5-7

Chose one thing that God would like you to do this week.
Help each other with your choices.

READ 2 KINGS 18:17 & 28-30

Is it easier to trust and obey when life is easy
or when life is hard?
Play "follow the leader".

READ ISAIAH 37:26-38

How did God take care of Hezekiah?
Make a picture of ways God takes care of you.

READ ISAIAH 38:1-8

& 2 CHRONICLES 32:24-26

How did Hezekiah bargain with God?
What bargain would you like to make with God?

READ 2 KINGS 20:12-19

How did pride get Hezekiah in trouble?
Tell about a time when you only thought about yourself.

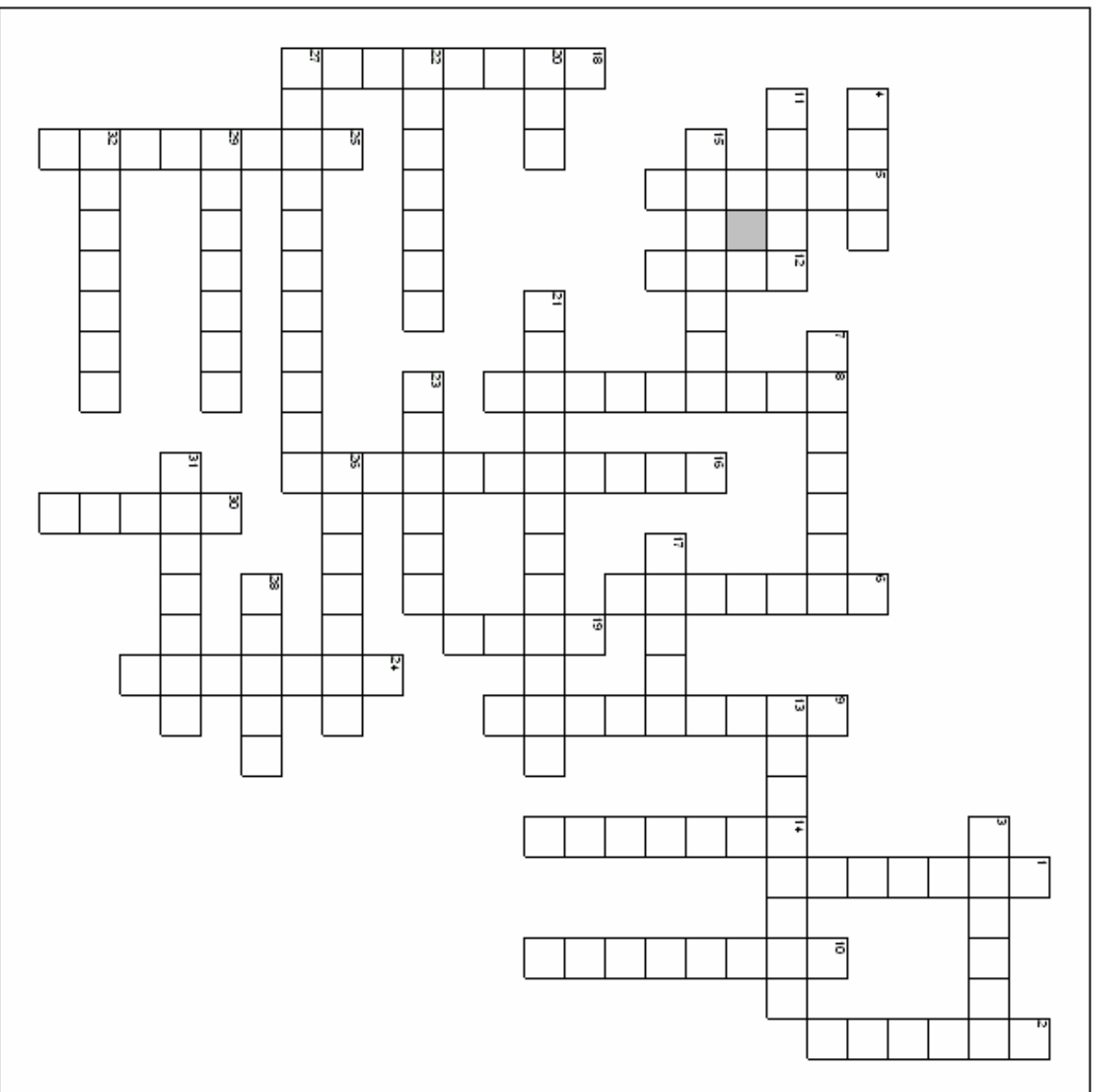
How are you like Hezekiah?

MEMORY VERSE:

Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God; trust also in me.
John 14:1 (NIV)

HEZEKIAH

All clues are from the NIV version of the Bible.



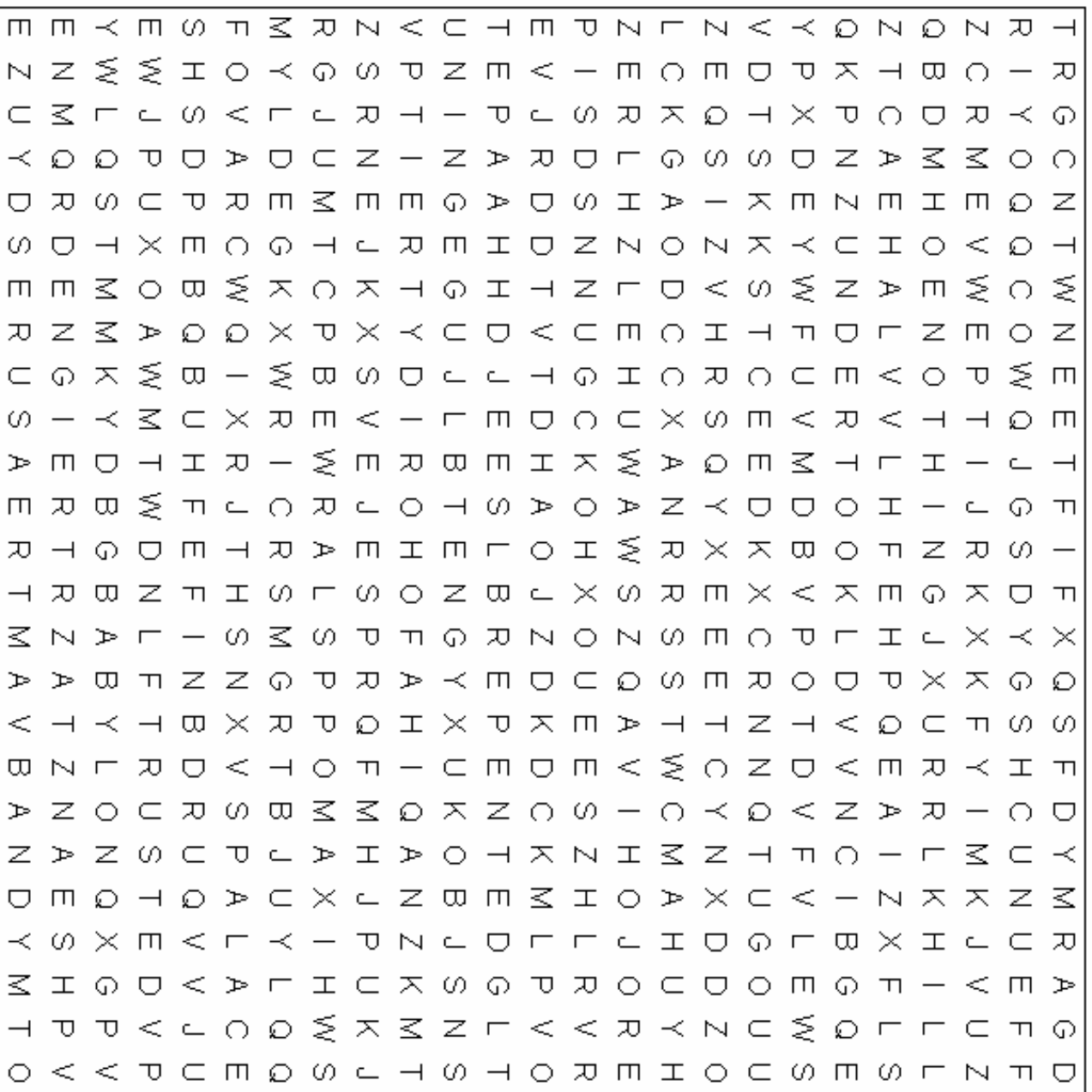
Across

3. where the king lives (2 Kings 20:13)
4. cried (Isaiah 38:3)
7. highest (2 Kings 18:17)
11. stop (2 Kings 18:6)
13. turned around (2 Chronicles 32:26)
15. lie to (2 Kings 18:29)
17. water from the eyes (Isaiah 38:5)
20. sick (Isaiah 38:1)
21. with all you are (Isaiah 38:3)
22. not anything (2 Kings 20:15)
23. area without sunshine (Isaiah 38:8)
26. depended on (2 Kings 18:5)
27. places to keep things (2 Kings 20:13)
28. full of what you have done (2 Chronicles 32:25)
29. start of the day (Isaiah 37:36)
31. Hezekiah's life would be this much longer (Isaiah 38:5)
32. save (2 Kings 18:29)

Down

1. visitors came from here to Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:14)
2. the language of the Jewish people (2 Kings 18:28)
5. talked to God (Isaiah 38:2)
6. ruled (2 Chronicles 29:1)
8. tried (2 Kings 18:7)
9. precious things (2 Kings 20:13)
10. became a king at 25 (2 Chronicles 29:1)
12. what you use to see (2 Chronicles 29:2)
14. male slaves (2 Kings 20:18)
16. children (2 Kings 20:18)
18. loving care (2 Chronicles 32:25)
19. group of fighters (2 Kings 18:17)
24. get well (Isaiah 38:1)
25. laws (2 Kings 18:5)
30. correct (2 Chronicles 29:2)

HEZEKIAH



HEZEKIAH
EYES
COMMANDS
ARMY
DELIVER
RECOVER
WEPT
SHADOW
REPENTED
TREASURES
DESCENDANTS

REIGNED
TRUSTED
UNDERTOOK
HEBREW
MORNING
PRAYED
TEARS
PROUD
BABYLON
PALACE
EUNUCHS

RIGHT
CEASE
SUPREME
DECEIVE
ILL
WHOLEHEARTED
FIFTEEN
KINDNESS
STOREHOUSES
NOTHING