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# A Year in the Word

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## A Year in the Word: Part 32

### Small Group Questions: Gap Moments

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#### Read

Ezekiel 22:30; 2 Kings 18: 1–27 and 19:1–19; and 2 Chronicles 29:3

#### Reflect

At the age of twenty-five, Hezekiah becomes king of Judah. He is one of the few kings who does right in the eyes of the Lord, tearing down all the high places and idols to false gods. In fact, 2 Kings 18:5 says, “...There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him.” Yet Hezekiah soon faces the powerful king of Assyria, Sennacherib, who wants all of Judah, including Jerusalem. Severely outnumbered, Hezekiah goes to the Lord for help. It is a time—a gap moment—when what should be, and what is, are drastically different. Why do you think Hezekiah’s story is referenced numerous times in the Old Testament (2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, and Micah)?

Pastor Josh Surratt offers us three ways to face gap moments:

1. Do the next right thing.
  - a. He cleaned out his junk.
    - i. Hezekiah’s first recorded act is tearing down the high places and idols. What might be on its way to becoming an idol in your life? Career? Resources? Identity? Relationships? Kids?
      1. What idols need torn down, or put in their proper place?
      2. What generational mindsets...or ways of thinking may we need to purge?
    - ii. Are you in a gap moment? Do you feel trapped or unsure what to do? Explain.
    - iii. During a gap moment, who or what do you go to first?
    - iiii. When have you depended on yourself, and when have you put trust in God? How did the outcome differ?
    - iv. Do you trust God to bridge the gap between the present and what you hope for? Why or why not?
  - b. He put his trust in the Lord.
    - i. Are you in a gap moment? Do you feel trapped or unsure what to do? Explain.
    - ii. During a gap moment, who or what do you go to first?
    - iii. When have you depended on yourself, and when have you put trust in God? How did the outcome differ?
    - iv. Do you trust God to bridge the gap between the present and what you hope for? Why or why not?
  - c. He made worship a priority.
    - i. During his first month as king, Hezekiah opened and repaired the temple doors. What impact has worship had on you during gap moments?
    - ii. Do you see worship as one of God’s gifts to us?
2. Get a fresh word for your situation.
  - a. When faced with a formidable enemy, Hezekiah goes to God for advice. What is your default? Do you isolate? Binge watch TV? Have go-to ways to numb the pain? Seek people’s advice?
  - b. What could most help you overcome your default settings? Small group? Prayer? Worship?
  - c. Have you sought a fresh word from God about the specific things you’re facing right now?
3. Lay out your obstacles before the Lord.
  - a. What obstacles do you need to set before God? How hard is it to pour out your heart to him?
  - b. Consider writing out what you’re struggling with. What else could you do to show you’ve drawn a line in the sand, and are trusting God to bridge this gap moment?

**Respond:** Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?