

## Life Applications

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.  
For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer,  
he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.  
For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.  
But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres,  
being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts,  
he will be blessed in his doing.*

*James 1:22-25*

Life applications put Sunday school lessons into practice. With these as part of the lesson plan, teachers and students make a commitment to live God's word every day. In many respects this is what Sunday schooling is about. It is what life is about. And it is not as hard as it sounds.

Chose one thing that is related to the lesson.  
Talk about it. Pray about it together.  
Try to do it in the week ahead.  
Encourage each other in the doing.  
Be blessed in the doing.  
And share the outcome with everyone next week.

## Why Me?

### **Hezekiah – 2 Kings 18-20; 2 Chronicles 29-32; Isaiah 36-38**

King Hezekiah was devoted to God with all his heart. For a while things went well for him. Then everything fell apart. The Assyrians invaded Judah and he became deathly sick. Everything looked hopeless. Things like this still happen to faithful people. They love God, they serve Him, and disaster strikes! Things happen that are completely beyond their control.

- How do we account for this? What biblical principles are involved?
- Do we have a choice of how we deal with disaster? Talk about this. If there is someone in your ecclesia who has remained faithful through hard times, ask them to come to your class and talk with the students about it. Find out what keeps them faithful and keeps them going?
- How does the life of Hezekiah or the life of Christ show us how to think and act under adversity? Here are some passages to look at.

Hezekiah – 2 Kings 19:8-19; 2 Kings 20:1-6. Was his faith worth it?

Christ – Matthew 26:36-46. Was his faith worth it?

- What can Job teach us about living with adversity? See Job 1 and 2. Do you think Job struggled with his problems even though he knew that God was in control? How did it turn out for him in the end? See Job 42.
- Read Psalm 13. What is the Psalmist's complaint? Where is the turning point in his Psalm? Does it look like he will make it through the crisis? How do we know? What can we learn from Psalm 13 about facing adversity?

Hezekiah got help from the prophet Isaiah during his times of crisis. When the Assyrians surrounded the city of Jerusalem, he turned to Isaiah for guidance (2 Kings 19:1-7). When he became deathly sick, Isaiah came to be with him while he prayed (2 Kings 20:1-11).

- Talk about ways to support each other during times of crisis. If you have given thought to this before (e.g., The Rescue of Lot – Genesis 14), revisit the action plan that you developed then. Renew your commitment to helping others and do something for someone who is sick or struggling.