1. **Intro:**
   1.1. **Announcements:**
   - Girls Varsity Basketball 1st playoff game right now in our Gym – They finished 2nd in the Big Sky League playing Fairmont Prep.
   - Girls Varsity Soccer won the Big Sky league (8-0) - play Pomona Catholic @ 3:00 Fri @ MSJC-Menifee campus.
   - Boys Varsity Soccer won the Big Sky league (6-1-1) - play Aquinas @ 3:00 Sat @ MSJC-Menifee campus.
   - Kathy Mossa - home next weekend!
   - Men’s trip - to Belize.

   1.2. **We all face an enemy!** – It may be one bad thought (Anger); It may be one bad giant (Goliath); or one bad army (Assyria).
   1.2.1. The spiritual fight is exactly the same.
   - They stem from the same foe behind it (Satan).
   - He has the same purpose in mind (to make us fear & falter & ultimately fall)
   1.2.2. In these 2 chapters we can learn much about warfare against our own spiritual enemy the devil.

   1.3. A. W. Tozer, “What we need very badly these days is a company of Christians who are prepared to trust God as completely now as they know they must do at the last day. For each of us the time is coming when we shall have nothing but God. Health and wealth and friends and hiding places will be swept away, and we shall have only God. To the man of pseudo faith that is a terrifying thought, but to real faith it is one of the most comforting thoughts the heart can entertain.”

2. **FACING OUR ENEMY! (ch.36)**

   2.1. Assyria wasn’t content with just taking Israel, they wanted Judah also.
   2.1.1. There are 2 top tricks of the enemy to try to shake our confidence in God. They come by way of…Taunting us & Intimidating us!

   2.2. **Taunts!** (1-10)
   2.3. (2) Rabshakeh – a title not his name. A field commander.
   2.4. (3) Hezekiah’s 3 negotiators.
   2.5. (4-7) **Q:** In whom do you trust?
      2.5.1. Yourself? The world? The Lord?
      2.5.2. He knows the most important thing is where you put your faith (4).
      2.5.2.1. Satan knows that…do you?
      2.5.3. **Q:** How do you respond when you are being taunted?
      2.5.3.1. **Q:** In sports? On the frwy? Kids on the playground? Young adults in the College classroom?
2.6. (7) Rabshakeh misunderstood this warning.
   2.6.1. There is a sign on a convent here in southern California that reads: Absolutely No Trespassing--Violators Will Be Prosecuted to the Full Extent of the Law. Signed, "The Sisters of Mercy."

2.7. Intimidation! (11-20)

2.8. (11-5) Aramaic(Syrian Language) was the language of diplomacy.
   2.8.1. It is similar to Hebrew but the common people would not have understood it.

2.9. (16,17) The enemy offers to give you something in return for your obedience to him!
   2.9.1. i.e. 2000 horses(vs.8) & your own vine, fig tree, cistern(vs.16).
   2.9.2. But there is always an “until” involved(17).
   2.9.3. Q: What’s he offering you right now? What color is your carrot?
   2.9.3.1. Oh, his carrots come in all shapes & sizes!
   2.9.4. Rabshakeh is like a stranger that is offering candy to the child on the road to get into his car.
   2.9.4.1. Or like the snake on Jungle Book(Kaa)..."Look into my eyes" as he hypnotizes Mowgli the man-cub.

2.10. (20) He destroyed 46 towns & villages...according to his own record.
   2.10.1. He destroyed the Syrian & Mesopotamian gods, which couldn't deliver them...Why should the Judeans think the Lord would deliver them?

2.11. Response! (21,22)
   2.12. They refused to answer!
   2.13. Never negotiate with Satan. (e.g. Jesus during temptation)
   2.13.1. James 4:7 "Resist the devil and he will flee from you."
   2.13.2. Eph.4:27 "do not give the devil a foothold."
   2.13.3. 1 Pet.5:8,9 "...your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him,..."

2.14. Q: What/Who is taunting or intimidating you right now?
   2.14.1. Q: What will be your biblical response?
   2.14.2. Q: What is your normal reaction?

2.15. There is never panic in trust!

3. FIGHTING OUR ENEMY! (ch.37:1-20)
3.1. Not all victories are as dramatic as this one, but this does show you what to do when you are attacked by the enemy!
3.2. [1st Step] Get Alone with God! (1)

3.3. Only the Lord can work in your heart & turn your fears into faith!
   3.3.1. Kierkegaard, "Prayer does not change God, but it changes him who prays."
   3.3.2. By faith take everything to him in prayer!
   3.3.3. Story: Joseph Scriven in the early 1800’s was to be married in the morning, when his fiancé accidentally drowned the night before their scheduled wedding.
      3.3.3.1. Later…upon learning of his mother’s serious illness & unable to be with her far-off Dublin, he wrote her a letter of comfort enclosing the words…
   3.3.4. What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins & grief’s to bear! What a privilege to carry, Everything to God in prayer!
   3.3.5. O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry, Everything to God in prayer!
   3.3.6. This was never intended to be a hymn.

3.4. [2nd Step] Call on Prayer Support! (2-4)

3.5. Calling in backup doesn’t mean you leave!
   3.5.1. No they back you up.

3.6. Hezekiah considered God’s glorious name to have been insulted & profaned by the pagan nation.¹

3.7. (4) He asks simply for Isaiah the prophet to pray for the remnant in Judah.

3.8. [3rd Step] Do not be Afraid! (5-13)

3.9. (5-7) In every battle, His word to you is, "Do not be afraid of"!
   3.9.1. Why? He has everything under control! – Do you believe that saint?
   3.9.2. What an encouragement when your prayer partner reminds you, "God will answer!"

3.10. (8,9) Side tracked just for a little while.

3.11. (10-13) Sennacherib send sword to Hezekiah.


3.13. I love how he shows God what he wrote about Him!
   3.13.1. Q: Can we do the same today? – I think we should!
      3.13.1.1. Nasty letter…show it to God! – Unjust Lawsuit against you/your company…Lord?

3.14. [William Cowper] “Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.”

¹ Shepherd’s Notes; pg.52
3.15.  **[5th Step] Be Concerned w/God’s Glory & Reputation! (16-20)**

3.16.  More than anything else Hezekiah was concerned for the **Glory & Reputation** of God!

3.16.1.  Q: How is God’s reputation in your life?
3.16.2.  Q: Is our 1st prayer... “Hallowed be thy name!”
             3.16.2.1. “Glory in His holy name!” 1 Chron. 16:10

3.17.  Q: What fact did Rabshakeh’s ignore which invalidated the basic assumption of his argument?
3.17.1.  He didn’t realize the difference between “god” & “God”!

4.  **DEFEATING OUR ENEMY! (ch.37:21-38)**

4.1.  **Answered Prayer! (21-29)**
4.2.  (21) The words of the enemy will discourage you, but Gods Word will encourage you.

4.3.  Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, & the Lord immediately answered through Isaiah!
4.3.1.  Q: Have you ever had God answer your prayer via a friend giving you counsel?

4.4.  (22) Now the Assyrian’s will be mocked!

4.5.  **Judah’s Blessings! (30-32)**
4.6.  The Assyrian’s devastated the countryside.
4.6.1.  The next 2 years would be difficult; but in the 3rd year, they would sow & reap crops as in normal times.

4.7.  (31) I’ve always loved the spiritual principle/application here!
4.7.1.  Spiritually if we take root downward (digging deep into God’s word), we will then bear fruit upward!

4.8.  **Jerusalem Remains! (33-35)**
4.9.  You will continue as a people, as a city, as a nation... for my sake!

4.10.  **Sennacherib’s Defeat! (36-37)**
4.11.  1 angel 185,000 dead. And he probably didn’t break an angelic sweat!

4.11.1.  Jesus said in Gethsemane, “Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?” (about 78,000)
4.11.1.1. What could they have done??? [that’s 14,430,000,000]
4.12. **Sennacherib’s Death!** (38)

4.13. **Irony:** Sennacherib defied the God of Israel, & yet he died in the house of his god *who could not protect him!*

4.14. Oswald Chambers, “Trustfulness is based on confidence in God, whose ways I do not understand. If I did, there would be no need for trust.”

4.15. William Carey, “The future is as bright as the promises of God!”