

1. How to respond in a time of crisis

- a) What crisis did King Ahaz, grandson of King Uzziah, face early in his reign? Isaiah 7:1
- b) How do you understand the explanation given in 2 Kings 15:37 (see also 2 Chronicles 28:19)
- c) What foolish choice did King Ahaz make in response to this military threat from Israel and Syria? 2 Kings 16:7-9
- d) What other conduct of King Ahaz predisposed him to make this inappropriate alliance? 2 Kings 16:2-4
- e) How would you respond to someone who said, “The alliance with Assyria was effective—Judah was saved”?
- f) What lesson can we learn from this story as we face challenges and trials in our own lives? (Psalm 50:15)

2. Attempted interception

- a) Isaiah 7:3 Why do you think the LORD asked Isaiah to take his son with him in an attempt to change King Ahaz’s course of action? (Shear-Jashub means “A remnant shall return”)
- b) What two choices were given to King Ahaz? Isaiah 7:4-9
- c) How did King Ahaz respond, even after the LORD gave a second message to him? Isaiah 7:10-12
- d) Where else in Scripture does the LORD invite us to make requests to Him or put Him to the test? Matthew 7:7,11; Malachi 3:10-12, etc.
- e) What hinders us from taking God at His Word?

3. God’s sign of deliverance

- a) Though King Ahaz refused to ask for a sign from the LORD, what sign was promised? Isaiah 7:14
- b) How can we be certain this sign is a reference to Jesus, the Messiah? Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 11:1-5, Matthew 1:21-23, Matthew 3:17
- c) What important message did the LORD send through His sign of deliverance? John 3:16-17

4. Embracing the truth that God is with us

- a) 1 John 1:1-3, John 1:14 What can we learn from the apostle John’s testimony about Immanuel?
- b) Jesus walked on the earth, revealed the immeasurable, unfailing love of God, laid down His life for us, rose again from the grave, and ascended to the right hand of the Father almost 2,000 years ago. How is He Immanuel, God is with us, today? John 14:16-18
- c) We live in a world that is falling apart. Share some Bible promises that remind you God is with you today. Psalm 23:4, Isaiah 41:1, 43:2, etc

