

CHAPTER 16  
The Beginning of the End

*Journal your answers to these questions as you read through the chapter this week. You may wish to read one day and journal the next, or spread the questions over the whole week.*

1. The reigns of kings Hoshea and Hezekiah overlapped for about six years. Which king seemed to have God's Lower Story in view and which seemed to have His Upper Story in view? How do you know?
2. God used the Assyrians to discipline his people. Look up Hebrews 12:4-11. According to Hebrews, what should be the outcome of God's discipline? Has this been your reaction?
3. What do these stories of kings and their people teach you about leadership?
4. The Assyrians tried to convince the people of Judah not to trust God. Whose "voice" is most likely to cause you to doubt God? To whom do you listen when you feel surrounded by your enemies?
5. Isaiah lists several analogies that show God's love for His people (p. 227-228). Which ones are most reassuring to you?
6. Consider Isaiah's vision of the LORD in the temple. What made Isaiah so aware of his own sinful condition?
7. Isaiah realized that his whole nation needed cleansing. Write out a prayer for our nation and for its cleansing.
8. God used Isaiah to warn Judah of an imminent judgment. God also provided the promise of restoration through Isaiah. What specific promises (p. 227-228) might bring you comfort in those times that you feel forsaken or forgotten by God?