Cartoon of men talking to each other

Description automatically generated

***Another Perspective***

**Session 8**

**22-23 April 2024**

**Feeling Frustrated with Humanity? –** On Day 5 Lysa expressed the frustration she was feeling with Hezekiah’s humanity, saying, “Just when I thought it was safe to throw a little party and tie Hezekiah’s story up in a nice bow, I’m reminded of his utter humanity. I sit down and feel frustrated by even this king who is one of the most faithful we will study. It’s complicated mixing the reality of humanity with the hope of divinity.” Maybe you share her frustration and are discouraged by what you see in the lives of all these kings. Maybe you wonder, “If they blew it so badly, what hope is there for me? How can I finish *my* life well?” So I wanted to end this session by focusing on our living hope.

**Reasons for Hope –** The biggest reason we can face our own futures with hope and assurance rather than fear and frustration is that we have something that NONE of these kings—not even David—had. We live on the other side of the cross, so we have **a living Savior** that we have come to know and put our trust in. We also have **the Holy Spirit** permanently residing within us, so we are never, ever, left on our own. And we have a number of **promises from God** to cling to whenever we grow frustrated with own humanity. What He said, He will do…for He is *trustworthy*.

**Blessed Assurance** – Here are a couple of verses to meditate on in times of discouragement when we need to remind ourselves of the trustworthiness of God. I am giving them in four versions, because sometimes fresh wording brings fresh insight. I am also leaving room on the back, so that if some of you have other verses to add to the list during class, we can write them down.

Philippians 1:6 🡒 “I am sure of this, that He who started a good work in you *will carry it on to completion* until the day of Christ Jesus.” (HCSB)

“And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you *will bring it to completion* at the day of Jesus Christ.” (ESV)

“…being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you *will carry it on to completion* until the day of Christ Jesus.” (NIV)

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, *will continue His work until it is finally finished* on the day when Christ Jesus returns.” (NLT)

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 🡒 “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely. And may your spirit, soul and body be kept sound and blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”* (HCSB)

“Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *He who calls you is faithful;* ***He*** *will surely do it*.” (ESV)

“May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  *The one who calls you is faithful, and* ***He*** *will do it.”* (NIV)

“Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. ***God*** *will make this happen, for He who calls you is faithful.”* (NLT)