

Week 4 LOVE Dec. 26 - 31

- Day 1 - Isaiah 60** How does vs 6 and 9 point to the Wise men in Matt 2:11? What can we offer to worship Jesus today?
- Day 2 - Isaiah 61** How does Luke 4:17-21 bring the fulfillment of this chapter? How does this truth shape how we live?
- Day 3 - Isaiah 62-63** How do we see the Holy Spirit in 63:11-14 highlighted in the Exodus story? How do we see that same Holy Spirit recently at work in our lives?
- Day 4 - Isaiah 64** How do our attempts at making things right with God and others notably highlighted in Vs 6? What solution is offered in Vs 8?
- Day 5 - Isaiah 65** In verse 17 we see God create. What is the significance of the wolf and the lamb in vs 25? How can you make peace with someone we naturally oppose today?
- Day 6 - Isaiah 66** How does Vs 19-20 preview the great commission in Matt 28:19-20? How did this shape Paul's ministry? (Rom 15:16) How should it shape ours?

The 4 pillars of discipleship



Devotion to: **Bible Teaching**



Community Engagement



**Sharing Meals/
Communion**



Prayer & Practice

DECEMBER 2022

Isaiah Reading Plan (Part II)

Week 1 HOPE Dec. 5 - 10

- Day 1 - Isaiah 41** In this chapter Israel is encouraged. What is Israel encouraged to do? Isaiah 41:10
- Day 2 - Isaiah 42** Matthew 12:18 - 21 brings us back to this chapter. Who is Isaiah 42 speaking of?
- Day 3 - Isaiah 43-44** In verse 18 it says do not call to mind the former of things or Ponder things of the past. What are the former things and why are they being reminded not to dwell on them? In chapter 44, we read the blessings that God has given to Israel and also about the folly of idolatry. Note the question in verse 10. How do we answer this for ourselves - are there idols in your life that get in the way of God's blessings?
- Day 4 - Isaiah 45** Cyrus was a pagan emperor that God worked with to bring about God's plans. Why do you think God chose Cyrus to do this? See Isaiah 45:4-7
- Day 5 - Isaiah 46** We read here about Babylon's idols and the one true God. What is God reminding his people of? Isaiah 46:8-10
- Day 6 - Isaiah 47** Here God reveals Babylon's true nature. Can you see the Justice in God's judgment on Babylon?

Day 1 - Isaiah 48 Take a look at vv. 9-18. What is the implication of these verses for us today? Do you see both God's holiness and his grace in these verses?

Day 2 - Isaiah 49 Who is being spoken to in vv. 1-3? What about vv. 4-7? Is the same person being addressed or are these verses being spoken to someone else? Could it be that God is directing all these verses to Isaiah and to someone else as well?

Day 3 - Isaiah 50 Take a close look at vv. 5-8. These verses have a certain significance for his ministry. They can also be understood in light of Jesus' ministry which will not happen until about 700 years after Isaiah. As we continue reading Isaiah, look for this sort of double-entendre - a meaning for Isaiah and his contemporaries and a meaning for Jesus and those who will put their faith in Him.

Day 4 - Isaiah 51 Notice the message of restoration in this chapter. If nothing is lost or taken away then there is no need for restoration. This message is meant to be a comfort for those who are undergoing some painful experience(s). The key idea is to remember that suffering, while very painful and very real, is only temporary. Hang on through the good times and the bad. Be confident that God will deliver you in the end. See Mat. 10:19-22; Rev. 2:26.

Day 5 - Isaiah 52 In this chapter Isaiah again reminds Israel that they are His chosen people. Those who hope in the Lord will find shalom - enduring peace in every aspect of their lives. V. 7 here should be very familiar. Paul refers to this verse in Rom. 10:15. Did you know that God thinks you have beautiful feet?

Day 6 - Isaiah 53 This chapter is among the best known of all of Isaiah's prophecies. It is a description of the suffering that Jesus would endure on our behalf. Consider John 2:23-25. While He would hold back nothing to accomplish what the Father asked of Him, yet, apart from the Father, He would not completely entrust Himself to anyone. Imagine the depths of the loneliness that He had to endure throughout His earthly life for you and for me. Take a look at Heb. 12:2. The joy that was set before Jesus was to remain in heaven with the Father and the Spirit. He had the option to remain in heaven and allow us to suffer the fate of eternal death. But, for that, that is, in exchange for His eternal presence with the Father and the Spirit, He took on human form and died a horrible death to win salvation for all mankind.

Having completed His ministry, He now sits enthroned beside the Father, restored to His rightful place with the Father and the Son, not simply as the beloved Son of the Father but now as the beloved Son who has offered Himself completely for our salvation as the Father asked Him to do!

Day 1 - Isaiah 54 Take some time to contemplate "the heritage" of God's people, described here. Also note v. 10, and God's renewed commitment to His people.

Day 2 - Isaiah 55 What a powerful chapter full of promises! Compare a few of these promises to the words of Jesus and Paul: v.1-3 and Matthew 11:28-30, v. 6-7 and Luke 5:31-32, v. 8-9 and Galatians 5:16, v. 10-11 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Day 3 - Isaiah 56 Consider God's character revealed here: even those who consider themselves as disqualified and not good enough (v.3-4), God says otherwise! He sees things differently and we must see and agree with Him above all. See also 1 Samuel 16:7

Day 4 - Isaiah 57 What common misunderstanding do verses 1-2 clarify? Consider the work of preparation in v. 14 and our role in it. See Hebrews 12:12-13

Day 5 - Isaiah 58 This chapter addresses the genuineness of faith and practice and how they must go together. Compare with Matthew 23:23-26

Day 6 - Isaiah 59 Do you see the gospel message in this chapter? The message has never changed from the beginning till now! Look closely: v. 1-10 our sin, v.11-15 our helpless hopeless state, v. 16-17 Jesus intervention and salvation, v.18-20 the message of hope goes forth, v. 21 God's Spirit and word given to His people.