

# *Study Guide*

## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ISAIAH



**Huron River**  
Methodist Church

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# ISAIAH READING PLAN

This reading plan/study guide is designed to journey through the book of Isaiah, reading six chapters each week. Each day provides a short overview to help you understand the chapter along with an application question or two for reflection. As you read, look for the famous prophecies, memorable phrases and deep promises of God that point us to Christ and His Kingdom.

## SEPTEMBER

### WEEK 1

#### God's Holiness and Judah's Sin

- ☐ Sept. 8 - Isaiah 1
- ☐ Sept. 9 - Isaiah 2
- ☐ Sept. 10 - Isaiah 3
- ☐ Sept. 11 - Isaiah 4
- ☐ Sept. 12 - Isaiah 5
- ☐ Sept. 13 - Isaiah 6

### WEEK 2

#### God's Promises and Signs

- ☐ Sept. 15 - Isaiah 7
- ☐ Sept. 16 - Isaiah 8
- ☐ Sept. 17 - Isaiah 9
- ☐ Sept. 18 - Isaiah 10
- ☐ Sept. 19 - Isaiah 11
- ☐ Sept. 20 - Isaiah 12

### WEEK 3

#### Oracles of Judgment and Hope

- ☐ Sept. 22 - Isaiah 13
- ☐ Sept. 23 - Isaiah 14
- ☐ Sept. 24 - Isaiah 15
- ☐ Sept. 25 - Isaiah 16
- ☐ Sept. 26 - Isaiah 17
- ☐ Sept. 27 - Isaiah 18

### WEEK 4

#### God's Sovereignty Over Nations

- ☐ Sept. 29 - Isaiah 19
- ☐ Sept. 30 - Isaiah 20
- ☐ Oct. 1 - Isaiah 21
- ☐ Oct. 2 - Isaiah 22
- ☐ Oct. 3 - Isaiah 23
- ☐ Oct. 4 - Isaiah 24

## OCTOBER

### WEEK 5

#### Songs of Salvation and Woes

- ☐ Oct. 6 - Isaiah 25
- ☐ Oct. 7 - Isaiah 26
- ☐ Oct. 8 - Isaiah 27
- ☐ Oct. 9 - Isaiah 28
- ☐ Oct. 10 - Isaiah 29
- ☐ Oct. 11 - Isaiah 30

### WEEK 6

#### God the King and Deliverer

- ☐ Oct. 13 - Isaiah 31
- ☐ Oct. 14 - Isaiah 32
- ☐ Oct. 15 - Isaiah 33
- ☐ Oct. 16 - Isaiah 34
- ☐ Oct. 17 - Isaiah 35
- ☐ Oct. 18 - Isaiah 36

### WEEK 7

#### God's Deliverance and Promises

- ☐ Oct. 20 - Isaiah 37
- ☐ Oct. 21 - Isaiah 38
- ☐ Oct. 22 - Isaiah 39
- ☐ Oct. 23 - Isaiah 40
- ☐ Oct. 24 - Isaiah 41
- ☐ Oct. 25 - Isaiah 42

### WEEK 8

#### The Servant and the Only God

- ☐ Oct. 27 - Isaiah 43
- ☐ Oct. 28 - Isaiah 44
- ☐ Oct. 29 - Isaiah 45
- ☐ Oct. 30 - Isaiah 46
- ☐ Oct. 31 - Isaiah 47
- ☐ Nov. 1 - Isaiah 48

## NOVEMBER

### WEEK 9

#### The Servant's Mission

- ☐ Nov. 3 - Isaiah 49
- ☐ Nov. 4 - Isaiah 50
- ☐ Nov. 5 - Isaiah 51
- ☐ Nov. 6 - Isaiah 52
- ☐ Nov. 7 - Isaiah 53
- ☐ Nov. 8 - Isaiah 54

### WEEK 10

#### The Coming Glory

- ☐ Nov. 10 - Isaiah 55
- ☐ Nov. 11 - Isaiah 56
- ☐ Nov. 12 - Isaiah 57
- ☐ Nov. 13 - Isaiah 58
- ☐ Nov. 14 - Isaiah 59
- ☐ Nov. 15 - Isaiah 60

### WEEK 11

#### God's Redeemed People

- ☐ Nov. 17 - Isaiah 61
- ☐ Nov. 18 - Isaiah 62
- ☐ Nov. 19 - Isaiah 63
- ☐ Nov. 20 - Isaiah 64
- ☐ Nov. 21 - Isaiah 65
- ☐ Nov. 22 - Isaiah 66



This QR code will connect you to the Isaiah Study Resources on our website.

# 11 Week Study Guide through the Prophet Isaiah's Message

Compiled by Dr. Matt Hook

## Timeline and Maps (740 – 686 B.C.)

- **The Exodus (1445 or c.1275)**
  - Israelite tribes came out of Egypt to a time of conquest and Judges.
- **Israel was united in 1050 B.C.** under Kings Saul, David, Solomon
- **Israel divided in 931 B.C.** into two kingdoms North and South
- **Isaiah prophesied and preached from 740 – 686 B.C.**
- **“Israel” is the northern kingdom – 10 tribes**
  - Israel was led by faithless kings.
  - Conquered in 722 B.C. by Assyria and disappeared
  - Replaced by Samaria, people of many religions
- **“Judah” is the southern kingdom – 2 tribes**
  - Judah was led by some faithful kings and many faithless ones.
  - Jerusalem (with the Temple) is in Judah.
  - Conquered in 587 B.C. by Babylon.
  - In 538 B.C. Persian King Cyrus' Edict allows returns.
  - A remnant returned to Judah beginning in 528 B.C.



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**Welcome and Introduction:** Isaiah is one of the most powerful and far-reaching books in the Bible. Written over 700 years before Christ, Isaiah speaks to God's holiness, judgment, salvation, and ultimate plan for His people and the world. The book is full of famous passages—prophecies of the Messiah, visions of God's throne, promises of a new heavens and earth, and calls to justice and repentance. It is both sobering and hope-filled.

**This study guide is designed to walk through Isaiah in 11 weeks, reading 6 chapters per week.** Each day you'll read one chapter, find a short description to get your bearings, and then reflect on one or two application questions. As you read, watch for phrases and prophecies you may recognize, and notice how Isaiah points again and again to Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of God's promises.

**Some things to remember!** Isaiah is not a biography, it's an anthology of sermons (sometimes called oracles) over 45 years. They are not necessarily chronological. The order is thematic and theological. Isaiah told us how he put these together:

- **Isaiah 1-39** = Former Things: Israel's sin and impending judgment
- **Isaiah 40-66** = Latter Things: Israel's hope of restoration leading to new things.

## **The Book Addresses 3 Historical Eras**

**Isaiah's lifetime (1-39)** 742-700BC. Isaiah's lifetime is prosperous. Israel doesn't think judgment is coming. Needs are met. Yahweh's covenant lawsuit against Israel (and the nations). **The Exile (40-55)** 605-539BC. Time of huge anxiety and loss. (605BC Is losing ground to enemy). Privileged and blessed are now the prey. Old money Israelites dragged out. Lose everything, living in the refugee camps of the squalors of Babylon. Yahweh's restoration of Israel (and judgment of the nations). **The Return (56-66)**. 539-400BC. Arise, shine. This includes Yahweh's future plan for Israel and the world! This Surprises the prophet and the audience – this plan is way bigger than everyone thought it would be – not just for exiles of Israel but exiles of the Garden of Eden.

**Historical Political Background:** Assyria, the invincible superpower of the day, was threatening Jerusalem with conquest. (Also recorded in 2 Kings 15-20 and 2 Chronicles 26-32). Isaiah saw the culmination of God's judgment against the widespread abandonment and unfaithfulness to God's ways under King Ahaz. He predicts the fall of Jerusalem (which happened in 586BC). The only hope for the people was God's intervention—not political alliances, wealth, or religious pretense. Chapters 40-66 focus on events 150-200 years after Isaiah's day, foretelling God's deliverance of His people from their Babylonian captors (This happened in 538BC – see also Ezra and Nehemiah) and heralding the greater deliverance of Jesus for all people from sin.

*Let's begin...*

## 6 Days per Week Study Guide

### Week 1

#### True and False Faith: God's Holiness & Israel's Need

**Day 1 – Isaiah 1. A Rebellious Nation.** Isaiah opens with a courtroom scene where God lays out His case against Judah. The people were going through the motions of worship, but their hearts were far from Him. Instead of justice and mercy, their lives were marked by corruption, bloodshed, and hypocrisy. God, however, does not leave them without hope—He calls them to reason together with Him and promises cleansing if they repent. There's a tension here between God's judgment and His mercy. He is not indifferent to sin, yet He longs to restore His people. The chapter ends with both warning and promise: rebels will be consumed, but the repentant will be redeemed. **Application:** Where do you see areas of “empty ritual” in your own life? How can you pursue justice, mercy, and faithfulness this week?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 2. The Mountain of the Lord.** This chapter contrasts God's ultimate plan with Israel's present reality. Isaiah envisions a future where nations stream to God's mountain to learn His ways and live in peace. The Day of the Lord (6-22) But right now, Judah is filled with idolatry, pride, and alliances with other nations instead of trust in God. The “Day of the Lord” is coming, when human arrogance will be humbled and only God will be exalted. Isaiah calls the people to stop trusting in man, who is just breath, and instead look to the Lord. The message is clear: human pride will not stand before the holiness of God. **Application:** In what ways are you tempted to trust human strength, systems, or wisdom more than God's? How can you shift your confidence back to Him today?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 3 – Judgment on Jerusalem and Judah with the Collapse of Leadership** Isaiah describes the breakdown of society when God removes wise and godly leaders. Without righteous leadership, injustice, oppression, and chaos spread. The people’s arrogance brings ruin, yet God still promises to vindicate the righteous. Read to see what God is going to take away from them. *I will make boys their officials; mere children will govern them. People will oppress each other* and on it goes. Isaiah names things in Israel that should have never existed there (soothsayers, enchanters). **Application:** How does this chapter shape the way you pray for leaders in your community, church, and nation? What do you rely on in your life that should never have existed in your life of faith? Pray a prayer of confession as you wrap up today’s time.

**Day 4 – Isaiah 4 – The Branch of the Lord** This short chapter (written in prose not poetry) talks about hope in the midst of all that’s wrong in Judah. A day is coming when the *Branch of the Lord* will bring cleansing, beauty, and protection to His people. This points forward to the Messiah, who renews and restores. And note Jesus talks about the branch theme in John 15 (as well as other prophets – Jeremiah 23:5; 33:9 and Zechariah 3:8). How does Jesus use differ from the way Isaiah uses it here? Who is the true Branch of the Lord and how do we become part of it? **Application:** Do you ever feel a bright spot in the midst of anxiety brought on by all that’s wrong? Where do you long for God’s renewal—in your life, your family, or your world? How does the promise of Christ as the “Branch” encourage you to trust Him more deeply?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 5. The Song of the Vineyard.** Isaiah sings a song about God’s vineyard, a poetic picture of Israel. God cared for His vineyard, expecting it to bear good fruit, but instead it produced only bad fruit. This image highlights the people’s unfaithfulness and injustice. God warns of coming judgment, describing “woes” on greed, drunkenness, arrogance, and corruption. Yet all of this points to His desire for righteousness

and justice to flourish. The passage reminds us that God expects fruit from His people, not just outward religious acts.

**Application:** If your life is like God’s vineyard, what kind of fruit is being produced? What steps can you take to cultivate righteousness and justice in your daily walk?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 6. The Call and Commission of Isaiah.** This chapter is Isaiah’s vision of the Lord on His throne, one of the most powerful scenes in all of Scripture. The seraphim cry out, “Holy, holy, holy,” declaring God’s perfect holiness. Isaiah becomes painfully aware of his sinfulness, but God graciously cleanses him with a coal from the altar. Then God asks, “Whom shall I send?” and Isaiah responds, “Here am I; send me.” God’s call is both humbling and costly, as Isaiah is sent to a people who will resist His message. Yet the passage shows that God’s mission flows from His holiness and grace. **Application:** How have you experienced God’s holiness and forgiveness in your own life? Where might God be calling you to say, “Here am I, send me”?

## Week 2

### Judgment and Hope (Isaiah 7–12)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 7 – “*The Virgin Will Conceive and Bear a Son*”.** King Ahaz faces a crisis as enemy nations threaten Jerusalem. Instead of trusting God, Ahaz looks to political solutions. In this setting, God gives one of the most famous promises in Scripture: “The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and will call him Immanuel” (God with us). The prophecy had an immediate meaning for Ahaz’s time, but also a far greater fulfillment in the coming of Christ. Even when fear grips God’s people, He assures them of His presence. The chapter warns us about misplaced trust but also reminds us of God’s plan to bring salvation through a child. The message is clear—security is not found in alliances but in God’s faithfulness. **Application:** Where are you tempted to place your trust—in human plans or

in God's promises? How does the reality of "God with us" reshape the way you face challenges?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 8 – Assyria, the Lord's Instrument.** *"God Is With Us (Immanuel)"*. Isaiah warns that Assyria will sweep through the land like a flood, overwhelming those who refuse to trust God. Yet in the midst of judgment, the promise of Immanuel—"God is with us"—is repeated. Fear God (11-22) God calls His people not to fear what the world fears but to fear and trust Him alone. The prophet's own children are living signs of God's messages to Judah, showing that His word is certain. The chapter closes with a sobering picture of people who reject God's word—stumbling in darkness and distress. Still, even here, hope rests in God's presence with His people. **Application:** What fears or pressures tempt you to compromise your trust in God? How can you remember that "Immanuel" is with you in both peace and storm?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 9 – *"For Unto Us a Child Is Born"*** Isaiah looks beyond the present gloom to a glorious light breaking into darkness. Those walking in despair will see a great light—a promise fulfilled in the coming of Christ. This is where we read the famous prophecy: *"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given... and his name shall be Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."* God promises a King from David's line who will rule with justice and righteousness forever. The hope of the Messiah is set against the backdrop of human pride and oppression. This chapter reminds us that God's ultimate answer to the world's darkness is not military power but the gift of His Son. The Lord's Anger Against Israel (8-21). God is cleaning house. This is a poem or song, and God is concerned with wickedness, neglect of the poor, and peace with justice. **Application:** Where do you most need the light of Christ to shine in your life right now? Which name of Jesus in this prophecy speaks most to your current season? What has God brought into your life recently as a warning of where you were heading?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 10 – God’s Judgment on Assyria.** God moves from judgment on Israel (1-4) to judgment on Assyria. What attitudes in Assyria is God going to “remove?” ***“A Remnant Will Return”*** (20-34) Isaiah describes Assyria as the “rod of God’s anger,” used to discipline His people—but Assyria’s own arrogance will bring its downfall. God is sovereign even over the nations that seem unstoppable. In the middle of judgment, there is a promise: “A remnant will return, a remnant of Jacob to the mighty God.” This shows God’s mercy—He will not utterly destroy His people but preserve a faithful group. The chapter ends with God bringing down the proud and lifting up His people. This balance of justice and mercy runs throughout Isaiah. **Application:** How does it encourage you to know that God is sovereign even over powerful nations and leaders today? Where do you need to trust that God is preserving a “remnant work” in your life or community?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 11 – “The Shoot from the Stump of Jesse”.** Isaiah paints a breathtaking picture of the coming Messiah. From the “*stump of Jesse*” (David’s father) a new shoot will grow—a King filled with the Spirit of the Lord. He will bring justice for the poor and peace to creation itself: “*The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and a little child shall lead them.*” The nations will rally to Him, and God’s people will be gathered from every corner of the earth. This chapter lifts our eyes to the perfect reign of Christ, where righteousness and peace prevail. It’s a vision of the kingdom of God that both comforts us now and points us to the future. **Application:** How does Isaiah’s vision of Christ’s reign strengthen your hope? What would it look like for you to live today as a citizen of that coming kingdom? What stories, teachings, or sayings of Jesus come to mind as you consider those described in v.2-5?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 12 – Song of Praise. “God Is My Salvation”.** This short chapter is a song of praise, celebrating God’s salvation. After judgment and warning, Isaiah turns to worship: “*Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.*” The chapter echoes with joy, thanksgiving, and a call to make God’s

greatness known among the nations. It is a reminder that God's ultimate purpose is not just judgment, but salvation that leads to joyful worship. The presence of the Holy One among His people is the reason for gladness. This chapter invites us to respond to God's grace with gratitude and mission.

**Application:** How can you express thanksgiving to God today for His salvation? Who in your life needs to hear about the joy of trusting in the Lord? How well does your joy match your walk and your talk for God?

## Week 3

### Oracles Against the Nations (Isaiah 13–18)

#### **Day 1 – Isaiah 13 – “*The Day of the Lord Against Babylon*”.**

Isaiah begins with a prophecy against Babylon, the empire that would one day oppress God's people. He describes the coming “day of the Lord” as terrifying—a time when God will punish the arrogant and shake heaven and earth. Babylon, which seemed unshakable, would be left desolate. This chapter shows us that God's justice is sure, and no nation or power can stand against Him forever. Babylon becomes a symbol of human pride and rebellion that will one day be judged. This reminds us that history is not random—it is under God's direction.

**Application:** Where do you see “Babylon-like” pride in the world around you? How does the promise of God's justice help you to live faithfully and without fear?

#### **Day 2 – Isaiah 14 – “*How You Are Fallen, O Morning Star*”.**

This is a taunt song! Isaiah taunts the king of Babylon, describing how the oppressor will one day be humbled. The famous line “*How you are fallen, O morning star, son of dawn!*” points to the prideful exaltation of one who thought himself like God but is cast down to the grave. This imagery has also been linked to Satan's prideful fall, reminding us that all arrogance will be judged. In contrast, God gives rest and compassion to His people. Earthly kingdoms rise and fall, but God's rule is eternal. His kingdom of righteousness will never

be toppled. A Prophecy Against Assyria (24-27). Another taunt song against their immediate enemy. What qualities of God are stressed here? A Prophecy Against the Philistines (28-32). A final taunt song against their old enemy. **Application:** “What alliances” in your life might keep you from fully trusting God? How does this taunt song taunt you? In what ways are you tempted to live for your own glory instead of God’s? How can you practice humility before the Lord this week?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 15 – A Prophecy Against Moab (southern Jordan, east of the Dead Sea) “*Moab Weeps*”** This chapter describes Moab’s devastation in vivid detail. Cities are laid waste, and the people are overcome with grief and wailing. The language is poetic but tragic, showing how quickly human strength and security can vanish. Even neighboring nations would be moved to compassion by Moab’s suffering. The fall of Moab reminds God’s people not to put their trust in alliances or neighbors for deliverance, but in the Lord alone. God alone is the source of lasting security. **Application:** What part of your world suffers most because of political chaos and war? When you hear about true oppression, what do you feel? What false securities are you tempted to lean on when life feels uncertain? How can you turn those fears into deeper trust in God’s care?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 16 – “*In Love a Throne Will Be Established*”** Isaiah continues his word about Moab (Jordan, east of the Dead Sea), pointing them toward Zion (primarily Jerusalem, both as a city and as the symbol of God’s chosen people and their relationship with Him) as the place of refuge. But Moab’s pride keeps them from submitting to the Lord. In the middle of this judgment comes a hopeful promise: “In love a throne will be established; in faithfulness a man will sit on it—one from the house of David.” This points forward to the Messiah, whose reign will bring justice and mercy. Even as Moab’s strength collapses, God’s plan for His people is unshakable. The contrast is striking—human pride falls, but God’s faithful kingdom endures. **Application:** How does the promise of Christ’s just and faithful reign give you hope in a world marked by pride and

injustice? How can you live today as someone loyal to His throne?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 17 – A Prophecy Against Damascus. “*You Have Forgotten God Your Savior*”** This prophecy against Damascus (Syria) and the northern country of Israel (Ephraim) warns that their glory will fade. The land will be stripped bare like a harvested field. Why? Because they have forgotten God their Savior and failed to remember the Rock of their refuge. Their strongholds and fertile fields cannot save them. Yet the chapter closes with a glimpse of hope, as nations one day turn in awe to their Maker. The message is clear—forgetting God leads to emptiness, but remembering Him leads to life. **Application:** What does this imply about Israel’s spiritual condition? God here is described as the Maker, the Holy One, the Savior, and the Rock. Which of these aspects do you tend to forget sometimes? What helps you to actively remember God as your Savior and strength?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 18 – A Prophecy Against Cush (Ethiopia). “*God Rules the Nations*”** This short chapter speaks of Cush (Ethiopia), a distant and powerful nation. Envoys go out across the rivers to persuade Jerusalem to align with them, but God calmly watches and acts in His timing. At the right moment, He intervenes, cutting down pride like a harvest. Yet the chapter ends with a surprising note of hope—people from this nation will one day bring gifts to the Lord in worship. God is not just the God of Israel, but the Lord of all nations, and His kingdom will include people from every tribe and tongue. **Application:** How does it strengthen your faith to know that God rules over every nation on earth? In what small ways can you join in God’s global mission today? How do you pray for those nations that seem most fearsome to you?

## Week 4

### God Rules Over the Nations (Isaiah 19–24)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 19 – “*Blessed Be Egypt, My People*”** Egypt was Judah’s most likely ally against Assyria. Why is that so foolish? (1-4). Isaiah delivers a prophecy against Egypt, describing civil war, economic collapse, and idolatry exposed. God shows that even mighty Egypt is under His sovereign hand. But the chapter also contains a stunning promise—Egypt, Assyria (Northern Iraq, but also included portions of modern-day Turkey, Iran, and Syria) and Israel, historic enemies, will one day worship the Lord together. *Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance.* This vision of unity and redemption shows God’s heart for all nations. Even judgment is meant to lead people to repentance and healing. What begins as a word of warning ends with a glimpse of worldwide worship. **Application:** Someone has said, “Whatever we trust in place of God will eventually turn on us and destroy us.” How have you seen that to be true so far in Isaiah? How does God’s plan for Egypt and Assyria expand your vision of His kingdom? Who in your life seems far from God, yet might one day join in worshipping Him?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 20 – Prophecy Against Egypt and Cush. “*A Living Sign*”** In a dramatic act of prophetic symbolism, God commands Isaiah to walk barefoot and stripped for three years. This was a living picture of how Egypt and Cush (Ethiopia/Sudan) would be led away in shame by Assyria. The sign warned Judah not to rely on alliances with other nations for protection. Their security would never come from political deals, but only from trusting the Lord. Sometimes God’s prophets were called to embody His message in radical ways. The passage reminds us that God wants His people to learn dependence on Him alone. **Application:** What is the “Assyria” that seems unstoppable in your life? What “Egypt” are you tempted to rely on for help (other than God?) What would it look like to trust Him more radically in your current struggles?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 21 – Prophecy Against Babylon. “*Fallen, Fallen Is Babylon!*”** Isaiah describes a vision of Babylon’s downfall, a phrase later echoed in the book of Revelation: *Fallen, fallen is Babylon!* Though Babylon would one day seem like the unstoppable power of the world, God declares its collapse. Watchmen are set to observe, and when the city falls, the cry goes out. This prophecy reminds God’s people that human kingdoms rise and fall, but God’s word endures. The same God who judges nations also sustains His people in hope. History is not chaotic—it unfolds according to God’s sovereign plan. **Application:** What “Babylon” are you betting on to shelter you from the uncertainties of life? What worldly powers or systems today feel unshakable to you? How does God’s sovereignty over Babylon encourage you to place your confidence in His eternal kingdom?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 22 – A Prophecy About Jerusalem. “*The Lord Called for Weeping, but You Rejoiced*”** Here the focus turns back to Jerusalem itself. The people celebrate as though they were safe, even though judgment is near. Instead of humbling themselves, they live with false security, saying, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” God also rebukes Shebna, a proud official, and replaces him with Eliakim, who becomes a sign of stable leadership: *I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David.* This phrase is later picked up in Revelation as pointing to Christ. The warning is clear—when God calls for repentance, celebration and pride are out of place. **Application:** When stress looms, how could you look to God instead? How do you respond when God convicts you—do you distract yourself with comfort, or turn to Him in repentance? Where do you need to embrace humility and depend on Christ, the true holder of the keys?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 23 – Prophecy About Tyre. “*The Lord Has Stretched Out His Hand Over the Sea*”** Isaiah now speaks against Tyre (capital of Lebanon), a wealthy trading city on the sea. Tyre’s merchants were like princes, and its riches seemed endless. But God announces its downfall, showing that wealth

and human achievement cannot protect against His judgment. After seventy years, Tyre would return, but its profits would one day be devoted to the Lord. This prophecy is a sobering reminder that riches without righteousness are fleeting. God calls His people to invest in treasures that honor Him and endure forever. **Application:** What alliances have you put in place – what do you rely on rather than God to protect you in times of trouble? Where might you be tempted to place too much trust in wealth, possessions, or success? How can you redirect what God has given you to serve His purposes?

**Note:** Chapters 24-27 present in universal terms the blessings and judgments Isaiah prophesied for specific nations in chapters 13-23.

**Day 6 – Isaiah 24 – The Lord’s Devastation.** *“The Earth Is Utterly Broken”* Isaiah widens the scope to a worldwide vision of judgment. The whole earth staggers under the weight of sin, described in cosmic language: “The earth is utterly broken, the earth is split apart.” Kings and nations are brought low, and even the heavens are shaken. Yet the chapter does not end without hope: *The Lord Almighty will reign on Mount Zion... and His glory will be before the elders.* This is a reminder that God’s final purpose is not destruction but the establishment of His perfect reign. The judgment of sin paves the way for the glory of God’s kingdom. **Application:** How does this vision of God’s coming reign affect the way you live in the present? In what areas do you need to shift your focus from temporary things to eternal realities?

## Week 5

### Songs of Salvation & Warnings of Trust (Isaiah 25–30)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 25 – Praise the Lord.** *“He Will Swallow Up Death Forever”* Isaiah breaks into a song of praise, celebrating God’s victory over His enemies and His salvation for His people. He describes the Lord preparing a great banquet for all

nations and promises: *He will swallow up death forever; the Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces.* This stunning prophecy points to the resurrection hope fulfilled in Christ. God's judgment of the proud results in joy for those who take refuge in Him. Even the ruins of human pride are turned into a backdrop for God's glory. Salvation is not just for Israel but for all peoples. **Application:** What are some of the "cities" (seats of power, feats, accomplishments, wealth) in which people place their pride and confidence today? How does the promise that God will "swallow up death forever" give you hope today? In what ways can you live with greater joy and confidence in God's ultimate victory?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 26 – A Song of Praise. “You Keep Him in Perfect Peace”** This chapter is another song of trust in God. Isaiah calls God's people to enter a strong city with salvation as its walls and gates. The famous promise shines out: *You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.* Even when the world is shaken, those who trust God find peace. The chapter also looks forward to resurrection: “Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise.” It's a vision of God's ultimate triumph and His invitation to His people to rest in Him. **Application:** Of the qualities of God's people (3-4, 7-9), what one or two do you yearn for now? Where are you most in need of God's perfect peace? What practical step could help you fix your mind more fully on Him this week?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 27 – Deliverance of Israel. “The Lord's Vineyard Restored”** Isaiah describes God defeating Leviathan, the great enemy, symbol of chaos and evil. In contrast to the ruined vineyard of chapter 5, here the Lord tends His vineyard with care and blessing. He promises to water and protect it, and ultimately to gather His people from the ends of the earth. Judgment is not the final word—restoration and fruitfulness are. God's purposes are always to bring life, not destruction, to those who are His. The hope of a gathered people and a flourishing vineyard gives courage to endure present trials. **Application:** What “sea monsters” (pressures, temptations,

opposing forces) seem to be chasing after you these days? What does it mean for you to live as part of God's vineyard—watered, protected, and called to bear fruit? How can you live with the hope of being gathered into His presence?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 28 – Woe to Ephraim. “A Tested Stone in Zion”** Isaiah speaks a woe to the proud leaders of Ephraim (Samaria, the Northern Kingdom of Israel), warning that their drunkenness and arrogance will bring them low. In their place, God promises something far better: *See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.* This points to Christ, the true cornerstone of God's kingdom. While human leaders fail, God Himself provides a foundation that cannot be shaken. The chapter challenges us to build our lives on what is lasting and true. **Application:** Judah's kings often lacked strength to oppose evil. Where do you need the Spirit of the Lord to strengthen you to “*turn back the battle at the gate*” of your life? Is your life built more on human wisdom or on Christ the cornerstone? How might you realign your foundation on Him in a deeper way this week?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 29 – Woe to David's City. “This People Honors Me with Their Lips”** Isaiah delivers a word to “Ariel” (Jerusalem), warning that its outward religion hides inward hypocrisy. God says, *These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.* Blindness and dullness of heart keep the people from truly knowing Him. Yet God also promises a day when the deaf will hear and the blind will see, and the humble will rejoice in the Lord. Empty religion will be replaced by genuine faith. God longs not just for rituals, but for hearts that belong to Him. **Application:** What rituals or routines do you see in your life or our church that try to keep “God on our side?” Where are you tempted to honor God with your lips while holding back your heart? What would it look like to worship Him this week in spirit and truth?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 30 – Woe to the Obstinate Nation. “*In Repentance and Rest Is Your Salvation*”** Judah turns to Egypt for help instead of trusting in God, but the Lord warns that this reliance will only bring shame. Still, in the midst of rebuke, God offers a gracious invitation: *In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength.* The people refused this word, but God’s mercy is greater than their rebellion—He longs to show compassion. The chapter ends with a vision of blessing for those who turn back to Him, including healing and joy. It is a call to lay down frantic self-reliance and find life in God’s presence. **Application:** He talks about Judah’s “shame” – looking for the right thing in the wrong places. What are some of your wrong places you’ve looked for the right things (hope, security, love, acceptance)? Where are you restless or striving in your own strength? How can you practice repentance and quiet trust in the Lord as your true source of salvation?

## Week 6

### God’s Reign and Deliverance (Isaiah 31–36)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 31 – Woe to Those Who Rely on Egypt. “*The Holy One of Israel*”** Isaiah warns Judah not to put their trust in Egypt’s horses and chariots. Though Egypt seemed powerful, they were only humans, not God. The Lord promises to defend Jerusalem Himself, like a lion over its prey or like birds hovering over their nest. The call is simple: *Return to Him you have so greatly revolted against.* Trust in God, not military alliances, is the only path of safety. This chapter highlights the contrast between fragile human strength and the unshakable power of the Holy One of Israel. **Application:** Where are you tempted to trust in human strength more than God’s? When is it easiest to trust in God? What would it look like for you to rest in God’s protection instead of scrambling for your own solutions? Do you ever forget to pray in the middle of a tough situation? When was the last time you forgot?

## **Day 2 – Isaiah 32 – “A King Will Reign in Righteousness”**

Isaiah looks forward to the day when a righteous King will reign and rulers will rule with justice. Under His reign, people will be like streams of water and the shade of a great rock in a weary land. The foolish will no longer be exalted, but truth and righteousness will flourish. God also promises that His Spirit will be poured out, leading to peace, quietness, and trust forever. This points to the coming of Christ, the true King, and the Spirit He gives. The hope of this chapter is a kingdom marked by righteousness, security, and peace. **Application:** When you need someone to be a shelter for you, to whom do you turn? Why? How is Jesus presented in this passage? How does knowing Christ as the righteous King shape the way you live? What area of your life needs to come under His reign of justice and peace today?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 33 – Distress and Help. “The LORD Is Our Judge, the LORD Is Our King”** Have you ever prayed in times of massive distress or destruction? As their city is besieged, how does Israel respond (2-3)? Of the kingdom traits in 33:17-24, which ones do you most yearn to see with your own eyes? This chapter contrasts the terror of God’s judgment with the peace of trusting Him. Isaiah describes the devastation of the nations, but also lifts up a vision of God dwelling with His people: *The LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; it is He who will save us.* God’s presence transforms Zion into a place of stability, forgiveness, and joy. The people who dwell with Him are those who walk in righteousness and honesty. Even in times of distress, the Lord Himself is the sure foundation. **Application:** What does it mean that the Lord Jesus is the fulfillment of 33:22? What aspects of His earthly and future ministry come to mind? Do you tend to trust more in human leaders or in God’s ultimate kingship? How can you remind yourself daily that the Lord alone is your Judge, Lawgiver, and King?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 34 – Judgment Against the Nations. “The LORD Has a Day of Vengeance”** Isaiah turns to a vision of judgment against all nations, with Edom (southern Jordan) as a

symbol of the world's rebellion. Remember that God's wrath means most often that He leave us alone. Why is the Lord this angry with them? The imagery is intense: the land drenched in blood, streams turned to pitch, and smoke rising forever. It's a sobering reminder that God takes sin seriously and will bring justice to the earth. Yet even here, God's judgment clears the way for His redemption and righteousness. The message is clear: nothing and no one can escape the day of the Lord. Only those who seek refuge in Him will endure. **Application:** How do you feel about God after reading this? How might you feel if you read it from the viewpoint of an oppressed person reflecting on the fact that justice would one day be yours? How does the certainty of God's judgment affect the way you see sin—both in the world and in your own life? What does it mean for you to seek refuge in Christ, who bore judgment in your place?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 35 – Hope. “*The Desert...will bloom*” and “*The Highway of Holiness*”** After the bleak vision of chapter 34, Isaiah paints a beautiful picture of restoration. The desert will blossom like a rose, the weak will be strengthened, and the fearful will find courage. Famous words appear here: *Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped... the lame shall leap like a deer.* This points forward to Jesus' ministry and the final renewal of creation. God's people will travel on the “Highway of Holiness,” leading them safely to Zion with everlasting joy. Sorrow and sighing will flee away. **Application:** What pressures are “causing your hands and knees to tremble” now? How does Isaiah's vision of restoration give you hope in your own desert places? What does it mean for you to walk the “Highway of Holiness” in everyday life?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 36 – Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem. “*Do Not Let Hezekiah Deceive You*”** The story shifts to history as Assyria invades Judah. The commander of the Assyrian army (the Rabshakeh) mocks King Hezekiah and mocks God, claiming that no god of any nation has ever saved his people. His speech is designed to terrify the people into surrender. Yet

this sets the stage for God to show His power in the chapters to come. The lesson here is that human arrogance often rises highest just before God brings it low. The question for God's people is whether they will listen to the taunts of the enemy or trust in the living God. **Application:** How did Hezekiah's faith seem foolish to the Assyrians? What "voices" in your life tempt you to doubt God's power or goodness? How can you strengthen your trust in the Lord when fear and mockery come against your faith?

## Week 7

### God's Deliverance & the Servant's Mission (Isaiah 37–42)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 37 – Deliverance Foretold.** ***"The Lord Will Defend This City"*** King Hezekiah responds to Assyria's threats by going to the temple and spreading out the enemy's letter before the Lord. His prayer (14-20) acknowledges God's sovereignty: *You alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth.* God answers through Isaiah, promising that the Assyrian king will not enter Jerusalem. Sennacherib's Fall (21-38) That very night, the angel of the Lord strikes down 185,000 Assyrian soldiers. God Himself defends His people, proving His power when they are powerless. This is a story of prayer, trust, and deliverance. **Application:** Hezekiah models how to respond to intimidation! What big threat to the Christian faith do you worry about? What is the difference between spiritual pride and a rightful sense of accomplishment? When you feel overwhelmed, do you bring your fears before God like Hezekiah did? How can you practice turning threats into prayers this week?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 38 – Hezekiah's Illness.** ***"I Have Heard Your Prayer and Seen Your Tears"*** When Hezekiah falls gravely ill, God tells him to set his house in order, for he will die. But Hezekiah prays earnestly, and the Lord graciously adds 15 more years to his life. In response, Hezekiah writes a song of

thanksgiving, acknowledging that God has delivered him from the pit. This chapter reminds us that God hears prayer and responds with compassion, though His purposes remain greater than ours. It also shows that life itself is a gift to be received with gratitude. **Application:** When wicked people live long or easy lives, whereas those serving God often experience great hardships, how do you deal with the seeming unfairness? What might God’s perspective be? How can you cultivate a heart of gratitude for the years and days God has given you? What situation in your life right now needs earnest prayer and trust in God’s mercy?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 39 – Envoys from Babylon. “*There Will Be Nothing Left*”** Messengers from Babylon visit Hezekiah after his recovery, and in pride he shows them all his treasures. Isaiah warns him that one day everything he showed will be carried off to Babylon, and even his descendants will serve there. This moment of short-sighted pride sets the stage for the exile. Hezekiah’s response is troubling—he is relieved the judgment will not come in his lifetime. The chapter reminds us that pride and selfishness can have lasting consequences beyond our own generation. **Application:** Where are you tempted to live for short-term comfort instead of long-term faithfulness? How might your choices today impact others who come after you? Is it harder for you to be faithful during times of hardship or times of success? Why?

## Part Two: The Restoration

**Day 4 – Isaiah 40 – “*Comfort, Comfort My People*”** Here begins the second major section of Isaiah, opening with the famous words: *Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.* This chapter has more familiar passages than most, thanks to Handel’s Messiah! The chapter announces that God is coming with power and tenderness to rescue His people. We hear voices crying, *Prepare the way of the Lord... every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low...* (fulfilled in John

the Baptist), and the promise: *Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles.* God is incomparable in His greatness and yet near to His people in their weakness. His Word endures forever, even when human power fades. **Application:** Where do you most need God's comfort and strength right now? The Gospels quote v.3 in reference to John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus. How can you "prepare the way" in your life for Jesus? What needs leveling or shoring up to make room? Jesus comes as shepherd and King. What sort of sheep do you feel like: cradled? Content? Wandering? Caught? Lost? Why? How can you prepare room in your life for the Lord's presence and promises this week? Practically and theologically, how does one "Soar like eagles?"

**Day 5 – Isaiah 41 – The Helper of Israel. “Do Not Fear, for I Am with You”** The “one from the east” (2) was Cyrus, the Persian King who overthrew Babylon in 538BC. What is God asserting about Himself by claiming that He is the one behind Cyrus' success? God speaks to His people with encouragement and reassurance: *Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you.* He reminds them that He alone directs history, raising up kings and nations for His purposes. The nations' idols are powerless, but the God of Israel promises to hold His people by the hand and make them into a new threshing tool, strong and useful. God's people are weak, but He is strong—and His presence makes all the difference. And yet, of all the conquered peoples, only the Jews held on to their religious, ethnic, and political identity. How might this be a witness to other nations? **Application:** What fears are weighing on you today? How can you hold onto God's promise: “*I will strengthen you and help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand*”? In whose predictions of the future do you place your faith? Are there any “idols” in your life whose wisdom and advice you credit above God's?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 42 – The Servant of the Lord. “A Light for the Nations”** This chapter introduces the first “Servant Song” of Isaiah, pointing to Jesus Christ: *Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight.* God’s servant will bring justice to the nations, not through force, but with gentleness: *A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.* He will be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles. Song of Praise to the Lord (10-17). This prophecy shows God’s heart not only for Israel but for the whole world, fulfilled in the mission of Christ. Israel Blind and Deaf (18-25). What did God plan that Israel should be?

**Application:** In what ways does Jesus fulfill this picture of God’s servant? How does knowing Jesus as the gentle healer yet powerful Servant encourage you in your weakness? In what ways can you reflect His light to others this week?

## Week 8

### The God Who Saves and Redeems (Isaiah 43–48)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 43 – Israel’s Only Savior. “When You Pass Through the Waters”** God reassures His people with some of the most comforting words in Scripture: *Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.* He promises that when they pass through the waters or the fire, He will be with them. God’s Mercy and Israel’s Unfaithfulness (14-28). Israel was created for His glory, and He will gather them from the ends of the earth. The Lord declares, *Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me. I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.* His people are witnesses to His saving power. **Application:** In your worship life, are you lavishly giving yourself to God? How does knowing you belong to God by name change the way you face trials? Where do you need to remember that He is with you in the waters and fire of life?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 44 – Israel the Chosen. “I Have Redeemed You”** God contrasts His living power with the foolishness of

idols. He promises to pour out His Spirit on His people, blessing their descendants like streams on dry ground. The chapter contains a beautiful reminder: *I have made you, you are my servant; I will not forget you. I have swept away your offenses like a cloud... Return to me, for I have redeemed you.* The Lord, Not Idols (6-23). Isaiah highlights the absurdity of idol-making—people use the same wood to build a fire and carve a “god.” But the Lord alone is the Redeemer. Jerusalem to Be Inhabited (24-28). What truth about God is stressed in 44:24-26? How do these confirm the promises given in 44:26-28? **Application:** What “idols” in your life (things you trust more than God) need to be exposed and replaced with trust in your Redeemer? How can you return to Him today with confidence?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 45 – “Every Knee Shall Bow”** God calls Cyrus, a Persian king who does not know Him, to be His instrument of deliverance for Israel. This demonstrates that the Lord alone directs history. Famous words appear here: *I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.* God promises that one day, *Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear.* Paul likely gets his Philippians 2 hymn from here. God’s salvation will extend beyond Israel to the ends of the earth. The chapter is a powerful declaration of God’s sovereignty and universal reign. **Application:** How does God’s control over history encourage you to trust Him with your present circumstances? In what ways can you bend your knee willingly to His Lordship today?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 46 – Gods of Babylon. “I Am God, and There Is No Other”** Isaiah again mocks idols (Bel and Nebo are Babylonian idols), describing how people carry them on their shoulders, though they cannot move or save. By contrast, the Lord carries His people: *Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you.* God declares, *I am God, and there is no other; I make known the end from the beginning.* He alone is worthy of trust because He alone has absolute power and wisdom. The message is clear: idols burden, but God

carries. **Application:** Have you seen people worn out and let down by the very idols to which they have devoted themselves? How so? When has this happened to you? Are you carrying burdens that God wants to carry for you? How can you practice leaning on His sustaining power instead of your own strength?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 47 – The Fall of Babylon. “No One Can Save You”** This chapter is a taunt against Babylon, portrayed as a pampered queen who will suddenly fall into humiliation. Despite her confidence in her wisdom, sorcery, and luxury, Babylon cannot escape God’s judgment. What is the meaning of this image? Her downfall is certain because she trusted in herself rather than in the Lord. The message to God’s people is that worldly powers may seem secure, but they will not last. Only God’s kingdom endures forever. **Application:** Where are you still fully immersed in “Babylon?” When are you most tempted to put confidence in worldly security—money, status, or influence? How can you remember that only God’s reign is unshakable?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 48 – Stubborn Israel. “There Is No Peace for the Wicked”** God rebukes Israel for their stubbornness and idolatry, but He also reaffirms His commitment to act for the sake of His name. Why has God gone to such great lengths to announce this deliverance ahead of time? He refines His people, not because they deserve it, but because His glory is at stake. Israel Freed (12-22) The chapter emphasizes listening to God’s voice: *This is what the LORD says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.* Yet it closes with a sobering truth: *There is no peace, says the LORD, for the wicked.* Real peace comes only through trusting and obeying the Redeemer. **Application:** The Jews never gave up the worship of the Lord, but added idolatrous practices to their faith. Where have you been caught between Christian faith and the values of modern idols? Where do you need to listen more carefully to God’s voice rather than stubbornly resisting? What steps can you take this week to walk in the peace that comes from obedience to Him?

## Week 9

### The Lord's Servant & Hope of Salvation (Isaiah 49–54)

**Day 1 – Isaiah 49 – The Servant of the Lord. “*A Light to the Nations*”** The second “Servant Song” appears here, describing God’s chosen servant who will bring salvation not only to Israel but to the ends of the earth: *I will make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.* Though rejected at first, the Servant will ultimately be honored by kings. Restoration of Israel (8-26) God promises to restore His people and never forget them—*See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.* This is a message of hope to the discouraged, showing God’s unstoppable plan.

**Application:** Jesus said His believers were to be “the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14). From this passage, what did He mean? When you feel overlooked or forgotten, how does it help to know that God has engraved you on His hands? How can you reflect the Servant’s mission of light in your daily life? Emotionally and spiritually, what does it mean to be a forsaken captive? Is the freeing of the exiles from Babylon by Cyrus (22-23) at all like what Jesus has done for you? How so?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 50 – Israel’s Sin and the Servant’s Obedience. “*The Lord God Helps Me*”** The third “Servant Song” describes the Servant’s obedience in the face of suffering. Has God indeed “divorced Israel? He says, *I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.* Yet the Servant’s confidence is unshaken: *The Sovereign LORD helps me; I will not be disgraced.* This foreshadows Christ’s passion, showing His willingness to suffer in obedience to God’s mission. **Application:** How would you describe your current relationship with God? What would it mean for you to start your day listening to God? How does Jesus’ example of faithful endurance encourage you in your own trials? Where do you need to lean on the truth: “The Sovereign LORD helps me”?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 51 – Everlasting Salvation for Zion.** “*Awake, Awake!*” God calls His people to listen and take courage. He reminds them of Abraham and Sarah, of His power to comfort Zion, and of His coming salvation. Three times the command comes: *Listen to me*. The chapter builds to a cry for God to “awake” and act with power as in days of old. God reassures them that His salvation will last forever, unlike the fading power of their enemies. The call is both to remember and to trust in His everlasting deliverance. The Cup of the Lord’s Wrath (17-23). **Application:** Where do you need to remember God’s past faithfulness as fuel for present trust? How can you cultivate a listening heart in a noisy world?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 52 – “How Beautiful on the Mountains”** This chapter bursts with hope, announcing the coming redemption: *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace*. God calls His people to awake and put on strength, for the Lord is returning to Zion (the city of Jerusalem and also the people of God). The nations will see His salvation. The chapter prepares us for the great Servant Song that follows, pointing forward to the gospel’s good news of victory and peace in Christ. **Application:** What does Paul say about the “beautiful feet” verse in 7? (See Romans 10:14-15). Who in your life needs to hear the good news of peace in Christ? How can your words and actions this week carry “beautiful feet” that bring hope?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 53 – The Suffering and Glory of the Servant.** “*He Was Pierced for Our Transgressions*” This is the most famous Servant Song and one of the clearest prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament. So much so we read it every Holy Week for Good Friday. The Servant is despised, rejected, and acquainted with grief. *He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities* (immoral, grossly unfair behavior)... *and carried our sorrows... and by his wounds we are healed*. Though innocent, He bears the sins of many and makes intercession for transgressors. This chapter lies at the heart of the gospel, showing the suffering and atoning work of

Christ. **Application:** How does Isaiah 53 deepen your understanding of what Jesus endured for you? Have you been to a Good Friday service that focuses on this Servant Song? Have you ever thought about the fact that Jesus took up our sin? Even more, have you thought that he “*carried our sorrows?*” (53:4) What sorrows have you neglected to give Him to carry? What response of worship, gratitude, or obedience will you offer Him today?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 54 –The Future Glory of Zion. “No Weapon Formed Against You”** Following the Servant’s sacrifice comes a song of joy and restoration. God calls barren Zion to sing, for He is about to enlarge her tent and bring many children. He promises steadfast love, saying, *My unfailing love for you will not be shaken.* The covenant of peace will never be removed. The chapter closes with assurance: *No weapon forged against you will prevail.* Because of the Servant’s work, God’s people can live with security, joy, and confidence in His promises.

**Application:** Although Jerusalem was rebuilt, it has not regained the influence and status pictured in vs. 11-15. In light of that, what does the prophet really mean? How does this relate to the “New Jerusalem” in Revelation 21:11-21? Where do you need to exchange fear for the confidence of God’s steadfast love? How can you live this week in the assurance that His covenant peace will not be shaken?

## **Week 10**

### **God’s Invitation and the Coming Glory** **(Isaiah 55–60)**

**Day 1 – Isaiah 55 – “Come, Everyone Who Thirsts”** This chapter is a grand invitation: *Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!* God offers His mercy and abundant life freely. His Word will not return empty but will accomplish His purposes. Joy and peace will mark His redeemed people, and even creation will join in the celebration. This is a reminder that God’s grace is not

earned but received by faith. **Application:** How does the question in v.2 strike you? What things have you spent your money or labor on that have ultimately proved to be unfulfilling? What is required of the exiles to receive this blessing from God? Where are you striving to earn what God freely gives? How can you respond to His invitation to come and receive His mercy today?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 56 – Salvation for Others. “My House Will Be Called a House of Prayer”** God’s salvation is not limited to Israel alone. Foreigners and eunuchs—those once excluded—are welcomed into His covenant family. God promises blessing to those who keep His covenant and love His name. *My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.* God Accuses the Wicked (9-12) A new oracle here (continuing in tomorrow’s reading) also warns leaders who fail to shepherd God’s people faithfully. It’s a vision of God’s all-encompassing, prayer-filled community. **Application:** How do the attitudes and actions of verses 1-8 apply to us today? Why are these so crucial to God? How can you live in a way that reflects God’s welcome to outsiders? What does it mean for you to be part of a “house of prayer for all nations”?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 57 – “No Peace for the Wicked”** The chapter contrasts two groups: the wicked, who pursue idolatry and find no peace, and the humble, who find healing and revival in God’s presence. God declares: *I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit.* He promises to restore the brokenhearted and give peace to those who turn to Him. Yet He warns again: *There is no peace for the wicked.* **Application:** Where do you need to humble yourself before God to receive His healing and peace? How can you cultivate a contrite heart that welcomes His presence? How can you proactively remove obstacles for people to find Christ?

**Day 4 – Isaiah 58 – True Fasting. “Is This Not the Fast I Have Chosen?”** God confronts false religion—ritual fasting without heart transformation. True fasting is not about outward

show but about justice, mercy, and care for the oppressed: *Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice... to share your food with the hungry?* The result of genuine devotion is light breaking forth like the dawn and God's guidance in every step. The chapter ends with a call to honor the Sabbath as delight in the Lord. **Application:** Where do you find yourself just going through the motions? (Church? Reading the Bible? Prayer? Fasting?) How can your devotion to God move beyond ritual to genuine acts of love and justice? What would it look like for you to call the Sabbath a delight?

**Day 5 – Isaiah 59 – Sin, Confession, Redemption. “Your Iniquities Have Separated You”** This chapter begins with a sobering truth: *Your iniquities have separated you from your God.* Remember iniquities are immoral, grossly unfair behaviors. The people's sins—violence, dishonesty, and injustice—are laid bare. Yet God Himself intervenes: He puts on righteousness as armor and salvation as a helmet, coming to bring redemption. This imagery later inspires Paul's “armor of God” in Ephesians. The Redeemer will come to Zion and establish His covenant with His people. **Application:** When have you experienced “blindness” like that described in v.10? What helped as you groped through life's darkness? Did God break through in that dark time? How? Where do you need to honestly confess the ways sin separates you from God? How does it encourage you to know that the Redeemer comes to rescue even when we cannot save ourselves?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 60 – The Glory of Zion. “Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come”** A vision of future glory bursts forth: *Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.* Nations and kings will be drawn to God's light shining on His people. Exiles will be gathered, wealth will flow in, and joy will abound. The Lord Himself will be the everlasting light for His people, replacing sun and moon. This prophecy looks forward to Christ and ultimately to the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21–22). **Application:** Where do you need to rise and shine with God's light in a dark world? How

can you live now in anticipation of the coming eternal glory of God's presence?

## **Week 11**

### **The New Heavens and the New Earth** **(Isaiah 61–66)**

**Day 1 – Isaiah 61 – “*The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me*”** This famous passage is what Jesus read in the synagogue at Nazareth (Luke 4), declaring that it was fulfilled in Him. The Spirit-anointed Servant proclaims good news to the poor, liberty to captives, and comfort for those who mourn. God promises beauty for ashes and joy instead of despair. The restored people will be like oaks of righteousness, planted by the Lord for His glory! **Application:** How does knowing Jesus fulfill this prophecy shape the way you see His mission—and your own calling as His follower? Where do you need to exchange ashes for His beauty today?

**Day 2 – Isaiah 62 – “*You Will Be Called by a New Name*”** God speaks of His delight in Zion: *You will be called Hephzibah (which means “My delight is in her”)*... *for the LORD will take delight in you.* Jerusalem will no longer be forsaken but will shine with God's glory. Watchmen are placed on the walls to pray continually for Zion's restoration. God's people are pictured as a bridegroom's joy—loved and cherished. **Application:** Have you ever thought about how much God gets a kick out of you? What does it mean to you that God delights in you and gives you a “new name”? How can you join the “watchmen” by praying persistently for God's work in your community?

**Day 3 – Isaiah 63 – Vengeance and Redemption. “*The Lord Treads the Winepress*”** This chapter contrasts God's judgment against the nations with His mercy toward His people. The striking image of the Lord's garments stained with blood shows His role as the One who treads the winepress of wrath. Praise

and Prayer (7-19) Yet the prophet recalls God's compassion, His mighty acts of salvation, and His Spirit's presence among His people in the past. It's a plea for God to show mercy again as He did before. **Application:** What "exodus event" do you fondly recall in your life when it was clear God was working in you (v.11)? How do you hold together God's justice and His mercy in your understanding of Him? (God's attributes are not petals on a daisy. They are all unified in Him). Where do you need to pray for God to act again with His saving power?

#### **Day 4 – Isaiah 64 – “*Oh, That You Would Rend the Heavens*”**

Isaiah cries out with one of the most powerful prayers in the Bible: *Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!* He acknowledges God's holiness and the people's sinfulness: *All our righteous acts are like filthy rags.* Yet he appeals to God as Father and Potter, asking Him not to remember their sins forever. This chapter captures both the despair of human sin and the hope of God's mercy. **Application:** Where do you need to cry out for God to “*rend the heavens*” and intervene in your life or community? How does remembering God as Father and Potter shape your prayers?

#### **Day 5 – Isaiah 65 – “*Behold, I Create New Heavens and a New Earth*”**

This is God's reply to the prayer of chapter 64. God promises a radical renewal: a new heavens and new earth (17-25) where joy replaces sorrow, and life is full and flourishing. He rejects empty religion but blesses those who seek Him. In this vision, there is peace even among animals: *The wolf and the lamb will feed together.* The New Testament picks up this vision in Revelation, pointing to the eternal future of God's people. **Application:** What has been God's frustration in His relationship with Israel (v1-16)? Have you ever thought of yourself as a “servant” of God (v.13-16)? How does the promise of a new creation give you hope in the brokenness of this world? What might it look like to live today in light of God's coming renewal?

**Day 6 – Isaiah 66 – Judgment and Hope.** *“Every Nation and Tongue Shall Worship”* The book closes with a majestic vision of God’s greatness and His global mission. Heaven is His throne and earth His footstool, yet He looks with favor on the humble and contrite. God promises to gather all nations and tongues to see His glory, and from them He will bring people as an offering to the Lord. The final note is both sobering and hopeful: judgment for the rebellious, but eternal joy for God’s faithful people in His new creation. **Application:** When have you found yourself focusing on the forms of worship and missing the reality of what it’s all about? How does Isaiah’s ending shape your understanding of God’s global mission? In what ways can you live now as a humble worshiper who points others to His glory?

## Closing Reflection

As you finish Isaiah, you’ve walked through God’s call to holiness, His warnings of judgment, His promises of redemption, and His breathtaking vision of the future. Isaiah reminds us that God rules over history, nations, and individuals. He is the Holy One, yet He draws near to the humble and contrite. His Servant has come in Jesus Christ to bring good news, healing, and freedom. And one day, God will make all things new.

Take time to reflect:

- How has this journey through Isaiah shaped your understanding of God’s character?
- Where have you seen Jesus more clearly as the fulfillment of God’s promises?
- How will the hope of God’s coming new creation encourage you to live faithfully today?

May this study deepen your love for God, strengthen your faith in Christ, and renew your hope in His coming glory.

# Leader's Guide

## (For Small Groups)

This leader's guide is designed to help facilitators draw out discussion and reflection during the 11-week study.

### Tips for Leaders:

- Begin with prayer and invite the Holy Spirit to guide the discussion.
- Read the assigned passage (or key verses) aloud together.
- Encourage everyone to share observations before moving to application.
- Keep Christ at the center—point often to how Isaiah foreshadows Jesus.
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### Key Themes by Week:

**Week 1:** God's holiness and our need for cleansing (Isaiah 6). → How do we respond to God's holiness today?

**Week 2:** The promise of Immanuel and the coming King. → Where do you see God calling you to trust His promises?

**Week 3:** God's sovereignty over nations. → How do we trust God when world events seem chaotic?

**Week 4:** God rules over history. → What does it mean that God raises up and brings down nations?

**Week 5:** Trusting God instead of worldly security. → Where are we tempted to trust in "Egypt" instead of God?

**Week 6:** God's deliverance in crisis. → How does Hezekiah's prayer inspire our faith?

**Week 7:** Comfort for God's people. → How do you experience God's comfort in hardship?

**Week 8:** God's supremacy and redemption. → What idols compete for our trust today?

**Week 9:** The Suffering Servant. → How does Isaiah 53 deepen your love for Christ?

**Week 10:** God's invitation to all. → How can we extend God's invitation of grace to others?

**Week 11:** New creation and eternal hope. → How does Isaiah's vision shape how we live now?

## Discussion Starters

- What stood out to you in this week's reading?
- Did anything surprise or challenge you? Do you have questions about it?
- Trust is a key factor in Isaiah as he challenges the kings, leaders, and people. Where is trust a factor in the reading?
- Where do you see Jesus foreshadowed or promised?
- How does this passage shape how we live out our faith?

## Brief Outline with Key Quotes

### Week 1: God's Holiness and Judah's Need (Isaiah 1–6)

- Ch. 1 – God's case against Judah: *Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow.*
- Ch. 2 – The nations stream to God's mountain; *They shall beat their swords into plowshares.*
- Ch. 3 – Corrupt leadership...
- Ch. 4 – But the promise of the *Branch of the Lord*.
- Ch. 5 – The Song of the Vineyard; woes on injustice and corruption.
- Ch. 6 – Isaiah's vision: *Holy, holy, holy; Here am I, send me.*

### Week 2: Judgment and Hope (Isaiah 7–12)

- Ch. 7 – Ahaz and the sign of Immanuel: *The virgin will conceive...*
- Ch. 8 – Assyria as God's instrument; *God is with us (Immanuel).*
- Ch. 9 – The promised Son: "For unto us a child is born, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God."
- Ch. 10 – God's judgment on Assyria's pride; remnant preserved.

- Ch. 11 – The shoot from the stump of Jesse; *wolf and lamb dwell together.*
- Ch. 12 – A song of salvation: *God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.*

### **Week 3: Oracles Against Nations (Isaiah 13–18)**

- Ch. 13–14 – Oracle against Babylon; *How you are fallen, O morning star!*
- Ch. 15–16 – Oracle against Moab; *In love a throne will be established.*
- Ch. 17 – Oracle against Damascus; fading glory of nations.
- Ch. 18 – Oracle concerning Cush; God rules the nations.

### **Week 4: Oracles Against Nations (Isaiah 19–24)**

- Ch. 19 – Oracle against Egypt: *Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance.*
- Ch. 20 – Isaiah’s acted sign—walking barefoot and naked as warning.
- Ch. 21 – Oracle against Babylon: *Fallen, fallen is Babylon!*
- Ch. 22 – Oracle against Jerusalem: misplaced trust.
- Ch. 23 – Oracle against Tyre: wealth humbled.
- Ch. 24 – Worldwide judgment; *The earth shall be utterly broken.*

### **Week 5: Songs of Salvation (Isaiah 25–30)**

- Ch. 25 – Praise for God’s deliverance: *He will swallow up death forever.*
- Ch. 26 – A song of trust: *You keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you.*
- Ch. 27 – The Lord’s vineyard restored; Leviathan defeated.
- Ch. 28 – Woe to Ephraim’s pride; *Behold, I lay in Zion a tested stone.*
- Ch. 29 – Woe to Ariel (Jerusalem); blindness and hypocrisy exposed.

- Ch. 30 – Trust in God vs. Egypt; *In repentance and rest is your salvation.*

### **Week 6: God's Reign and Deliverance (Isaiah 31–36)**

- Ch. 31 – Do not trust Egypt's horses, but the Holy One.
- Ch. 32 – The coming righteous King.
- Ch. 33 – *The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high.*
- Ch. 34 – God's judgment on the nations (Edom as symbol).
- Ch. 35 – The highway of holiness: *The eyes of the blind shall be opened.*
- Ch. 36 – Sennacherib's invasion; Assyrian taunts.

### **Week 7: God's Deliverance (Isaiah 37–42)**

- Ch. 37 – Hezekiah prays, God delivers from Assyria.
- Ch. 38 – Hezekiah's illness and healing.
- Ch. 39 – Hezekiah's pride and Babylonian envoys.
- Ch. 40 – Comfort for God's people: *Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.*
- Ch. 41 – Fear not, for I am with you.
- Ch. 42 – The Servant of the Lord: *A bruised reed he will not break.*

### **Week 8: The Servant of the Lord (Isaiah 43–48)**

- Ch. 43 – *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.*
- Ch. 44 – *I have called you by name... I am the first and I am the last.*
- Ch. 45 – Cyrus as God's anointed.
- Ch. 46 – *I will carry you; I will sustain you.*
- Ch. 47 – Humbling of Babylon.
- Ch. 48 – God refines His people for His glory.

### **Week 9: The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 49–54)**

- Ch. 49 – *I will make you a light for the nations.*
- Ch. 50 – The obedient Servant.
- Ch. 51 – *Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness.*

- Ch. 52 – *How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.*
- Ch. 53 – The Suffering Servant: *He was pierced for our transgressions.*
- Ch. 54 – *No weapon formed against you shall prosper.*

### **Week 10: God's Invitation and Victory (Isaiah 55–60)**

- Ch. 55 – *Come, all you who are thirsty.*
- Ch. 56 – God's house of prayer for all nations.
- Ch. 57 – *I live in a high and holy place, but also with the contrite.*
- Ch. 58 – True fasting: *Is this not the fast I have chosen?*
- Ch. 59 – Sin separates, but Redeemer will come to Zion.
- Ch. 60 – *Arise, shine, for your light has come.*

### **Week 11: New Heavens and New Earth (Isaiah 61–66)**

- Ch. 61 – *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to proclaim good news to the poor.*
- Ch. 62 – Zion's restoration: *You shall be called Hephzibah, My Delight.*
- Ch. 63 – God the warrior; His steadfast love.
- Ch. 64 – *Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!*
- Ch. 65 – New heavens and new earth.
- Ch. 66 – *Heaven is my throne; worship of all nations.*