



a royal son is given

Isaiah 1.1-9.7

2/12	Isaiah 1.1 - 2.4
9/12	Isaiah 2.5 - 4.6
16/12	Isaiah 5.1 - 6.13
23/12	Isaiah 7.1 - 9.7

This discussion guide includes preparation BEFORE the group and some guidance DURING the group meeting.

Preparation before the group will help you, your leader, and your group to engage and respond to the living and active Word of God.

PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS

The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.

Read Isaiah 36-39

These chapters are the central pivot that all of Isaiah turns on. To understand Isaiah we need to understand these chapters. Chapters 1 to 35 talk about "why" these events happened. Judah, God's special people (the northern tribes have already been destroyed), reject God totally and so Isaiah prophecies destruction. Then we have Hezekiah who we're looking at now. Chapters 40-66 talk about God's big plan to save his people after the events of chapters 36-39.

What are the key parts of what we read here?

What is significant about the actions of Hezekiah king of Judah (c.f. 37.14-19 and 33-35)

What does the tragedy of 39.1-8 teach us about Hezekiah and human kings?

Read Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12

Why is this promised King better than Hezekiah?

Read Philippians 2.6-11

How can we tell that Jesus is this promised king?

What comfort and encouragement does this give us?

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Opening Question: Share any insights you gained from the preparation page

The Sin - Read Isaiah 1.1-5, 10-14, 21-23

(NB: Sodom and Gomorrah pop up in Genesis 18-19. God destroys them because of their wickedness. However, because of Abraham's pleading his nephew Lot and family are saved except for Lot's wife who looked back and turned into a pillar of salt. The sin of Sodom and Gomorrah are used as an illustration of Judah's sin)

Describe the sin of Judah?

How can our own attitudes or church life have the same issues as Judah and Jerusalem?

The Judgement - Read Isaiah 1.6-8, 15, 24-25

Describe the judgment that God will bring against Judah and Jerusalem?

What does this teach us about God and how he views rejecting him?

The hope and repentance - Read Isaiah 1.9, 16-17, 18-20, 1.24 - 2.5

Describe the ways that salvation is described?

Why does this give us hope and comfort when we are convicted of our own sin?

Read Romans 9.27-33

How does Paul describe the sin of Israel?

What is the key point that God's people missed?

What does that mean for us?

Read Romans 12.1-8

(NB. this is the conclusion to the apostle Paul's argument from chapters 1 to 11, which includes what we looked at in the previous question)

What does it look like to pursue righteousness by 'faith and not by works'?