Isaiah SEASON 2

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four components to a healthy group: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, we will study Isaiah 57 using inductive Bible study, which has three components: observation, interpretation, and application.

As the leader of your group, feel free to use whatever parts of this guide most help you do this!

CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- What is something in your life that you like to do slowly?
- If you could change careers right now, what would you do?
- Discipleship check-in:
 - Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
 - Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?

INTRODUCTION

Isaiah can be a complicated book and is filled with ideas and words that many of us can have a hard time understanding. In order to help with this, we as a church have taken time to look at the major themes and storylines that can be traced throughout this book. This has meant that our time in Isaiah has been high level and fast, but this week we want to slow down. We want to meditate on three verses and learn what God is saying to the Israelites and to us, but most importantly we want this text to reveal more of who God is.

In chapters 56-59, Isaiah is telling the Israelites about when some of them will finally return home to Israel. But in the future, Israel will not be the only one who will be welcome into God's Kingdom other nations will be joining them as well. Today we are going to see what God is doing to welcome the world to himself and what kind of people he is looking for.

OBSERVATIONS what does the text say?

WATCH: Bible Project - Isaiah Part 2

<u>READ:</u> Isaiah 57:14-16 in three different translations

DISCUSS:

- What words are used to describe God in this passage? Take time to define any words that are unfamiliar or not normally used in the English language.
- What words are used to describe the people who are with God? Take time to define any words that are unfamiliar or not normally used in the English language.
 - **Leaders Note** In this section, encourage your people to state what the verses say and not add what they think they say.

INTERPRETATION what does the text mean?

DISCUSS:

- Slow down and use the observations you made to restate each line or phrase in your own words.
 - Activity: Have someone in your group right down your group's "translation" of these verses.
- Based on these verses, what is God like? What is he doing?
- What are the people who are with God like? Why do you think God wants these types of people?
- Read Isaiah 53:5. How is God going to make these verses a reality?

APPLICATION WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

DISCUSS:

- Hope for the Humble: God is in the business of revival, but he only brings revival to the humble. For those who are humble, God says he will dwell with them and revive them. Where in your life do you find pride and arrogance instead of humility? How is the hope of God dwelling with and reviving the humble calling you to humility?
- **Becoming Prophetic:** Isaiah is the one who is prophesying these words of truth about who God is and what he is doing. Everyone who walks with Jesus is to some degree prophetic because we know the future. We know the end of the story. One way we can grow our own prophetic voice is by meditating on the truth of God's word. This week, how you can be intentional about meditating on these verses?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

As a group leader studying the book of Isaiah could feel daunting and intimidating. Please know that as your staff we are ready and available to help you in any way possible. Two resources that will helpful are the Bible Project and the Gospel Coalitions course on Isaiah. Links to each of them are below and use them as you see fit.

Bible Project resources on the Book of Isaiah

The Gospel Coalitions course on the Book of Isaiah

PRAYER

Praise God that he is eternal, holy, and lifted up. Praise him for being the one who is carrying out a plan of revival for the whole world. Pray that you would each embrace humility this week and become prophetic by meditating on the truth of this passage.