

Isaiah

| SEASON 2

Group Guide:
Week 3

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 40 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 you could talk about for hours?
- How do you wind down after a long day?
- 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

Season II of Isaiah started by looking at different problems and tensions that had arisen because of the looming threat of Assyria. Through all of it, Isaiah reminds God's people to put their trust in the Lord their God. We left off last week looking at King Hezekiah and how under his rule, Jerusalem was invaded, fell, and sent Israel into exile.

This week, in chapters 40-48, we see the story take a shift both in tone and time. Now 100 years in the future, there are words of comfort and hope for God's people amid their exile.

OBSERVATIONS WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

READ: Isaiah 40

DISCUSS:

- Before discussing, take a moment with your group to sit silently, meditating on the chapter.
- Together, come up with 10 characteristics (or more) about God that are shown in the passage.

INTERPRETATION *WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?*

DISCUSS:

- Why do you think knowing God's character is so important?
- Why does Isaiah compare the word of God to flesh? Why does he compare flesh to grass and flowers?
- How does Isaiah's prophecy stir up hope and bring good news?
- What does it mean to wait on God?

APPLICATION *WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?*

DISCUSS:

- Where is God calling to wait on him in your own life? What would it look like for you to wait?
- Which characteristic of God mentioned in this passage, do you need to meditate on this week? Why?
- **Challenge:** Take time this week to think about God's character and sit in his presence. Even if you can only sit for 5 minutes, do it! Note how being with God begins to change you!

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 be 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 who is so much better than we could ever imagine and we can spend the rest of our lives growing in our understanding of him. Pray that you would take intentional time to meditate on the truth of the Lord this week.