



## The World is Scary but God is with You

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- Everyone Answer: When you hear the word "anxiety" what comes to mind?
  - In what ways does anxiety show up in your life or in our culture today?
  - Do you think anxiety looks different today compared to the time of Jesus and the early church? In what ways do you think it is the same and in what ways do you think that it is different?
  - Do you consider yourself an anxious person? Why or why not?
- Read Isaiah 54:1-10
  - v.1 God is calling the barren woman to sing before her circumstances change. Why do you think that God invites us to joy and worship even when life feels empty, anxious, or overwhelming?
    - Anxiety says, "Wait until things get better." God says, "Rejoice now because of My Faithfulness." How could worship become a practical weapon against anxiety in your life?
  - v.2 God tells his people to "enlarge the place of your tent" and make room for growth. How can anxiety cause us to shrink back or play small? How does faith invite us to live with expectation instead?
    - Anxiety narrows our focus to what could go wrong: God invites us to prepare for blessing. What's one "faith step" of preparation you could take even before your circumstances change?
  - v.4 says, "Do not be afraid; you will not be put to shame." How does fear of failure, rejection, or shame feed anxiety in our lives?
    - Many anxieties tie back to "What if I fail?" or "What will people think?" How does God's promise of acceptance help to free us from those fears?
  - What about v.10 speaks out to you in regard to our conversation?
    - If God's covenant love cannot be shaken, how should that truth shape the way we respond to anxiety in daily life?
- Read Philippians 4:6-7
  - How does Isaiah 54's picture of God's compassion and covenant love reinforce the promise of peace in this passage?