

Community Group Discussion Guide

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
ISAIAH

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 1:21-31

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

In this week's text, God laments over Jerusalem's idolatry, announces his process of purification, and promises to redeem all who repent of sin.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

- Where does Isaiah fit within the timeline of Redemptive History? What were the two kingdoms in Israel that Isaiah prophesies to (verse 1)?
- Why does God lament over Jerusalem? Why does He personify Israel as an adulterous prostitute (Hosea 2:2; Exodus 34:14; James 4:4) and a lodge of murderers (1 John 3:15)?
- What does Isaiah mean by his metaphors of silver and wine in verse 22? Is there sin in your life that you attempt to justify or tame rather than mortify through repentance?
- Explain how sin corrupts community, including leadership (verse 23)? Explain how unconfessed sin affects all of life.
- How will Jerusalem be purified and restored to a city of righteousness and faithfulness (verses 24-26)? What are the three titles that Isaiah uses of God, and what do they reveal about Him (verse 24)?
- How do verses 24-26 point to God's sovereign grace and the gospel? Do you trust God to cleanse you of your sin and the painful effects of sin made against you?
- Discuss how God simultaneously disciplines and restores by his grace (verses 25-26).
- What two parties does Isaiah contrast in verses 27-31? How do they each respond to God's call to turn from their idolatry (1 Thessalonians 1)? Is there an idol in your life that is drawing you away from Christ?
- What is redemption, why is it necessary, how is redemption accomplished? Why does Isaiah use the imagery of oaks and gardens to point out Israel's dissatisfaction and danger?
- Are you trusting in a false, functional savior for your purpose, meaning, identity rather than Christ alone? How does God redeem and restore without compromising his justice and righteousness and holiness (Titus 2:13-14)?