

Use this daily Transformation Journal to learn how to study the Bible for yourself. Pray before you begin and ask God to bless you with insight and discernment as you ponder and respond to the questions, which are tools for your spiritual growth.

Isaiah 9:1-6



- ¹ Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan-
- ² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.
- ³ You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.
- ⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.
- ⁵ Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.
- ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sermon Notes

Monday, November 30

Prophets were called in unique ways to become the messengers of God's truth. In this reading, Isaiah describes his unique call. Isaiah's eyes and ears were open to God's directions. Pray that God will open your eyes and ears to God's direction for you.

Isaiah 6; Matthew 13:10-17

What was Isaiah worried about when he went into the presence of God? What happened to Isaiah in this experience?

How are you looking and listening for God's call? What is God saying to you today?

Tuesday, December 1

Isaiah spoke out against the people's empty words. God wants us to truly worship with our lives - not just talk about it. Isaiah prophesied about those who say they love and follow God and then deny God by their practices.

Isaiah 29; Mark 7:1-13

How did Jesus (in Mark 7:6-8) appropriate Isaiah's prophecy in verse 29:13?

How can you keep your worship practices from becoming repetitive and empty?

More scripture

Isaiah 12-28

Isaiah's prophecies to specific, neighboring nations.

Wednesday, December 2

God provided hope through the prophet Isaiah. This passage shows us God's power to create as well as to provide. We can take comfort that the God of creation is in control, and provides comfort through salvation for those who are weary.

Isaiah 40; Luke 3:1-6

What characteristics of God did Isaiah write about? How do John's words in Luke 3 relate to Isaiah?

How can you keep your worship practices from becoming repetitive and empty?

More scripture

Isaiah 37-39

Isaiah's connection with King Hezekiah, as described in 2 Kings

Thursday, December 3

Christians look to the Servant Songs of Isaiah (chapters 42, 49, 50, 53) to understand the baptism, suffering, and death of Jesus. These passages provided a prophetic message of hope to God's people, even though they did not live to see the promised deliverer who would establish justice throughout the world.

Isaiah 42:1-4, 52:13-53:12

What characteristics of Jesus did the early Christians perceive in Isaiah's description of the suffering servant? (See Matthew 26:63-67; Luke 18:31-32; 24:25-27, 44-45).

How do you feel about what Christ went through for the sake of humanity? What is your response?

Friday, December 4

Regardless of our selfish intentions, God desires our actions to be motivated by faith. God's people were engaged in religious practices but not God-practices. God spoke through Isaiah to call them to a new way of life.

Isaiah 58

What were the people doing? What did God require of them?

What differences do you see between what God wanted and what the people were doing? In what ways can you do more of what God asks, rather than just what you want?

Saturday, December 5

In Isaiah 63-64, God's people prayed for deliverance. In Isaiah 65-66, God answered. It is great to know that we serve a living God who responds to us! When we sincerely need something, God provides.

Isaiah 64:1-12; 66:1-13; Matthew 7:7-12

What did people pray for in chapter 64? What was God's answer?

What are you praying? According to Matthew 7:7-12, what can you expect when you go to God in prayer?