



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAR. 27
2022

ISAIAH 56-57

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What does the Lord say in Isaiah 57:15 about himself, about those who can dwell with him, and about what he does for them? What does it mean to be contrite or lowly, and why does the Lord desire and honor that?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. How can you demonstrate a "contrite and lowly spirit" (57:15) before the Lord this week? What does that look like in your prayer life, your relationships with others, and how you talk about yourself?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Sermon: ["A Big Holy God Who Lives with Little Broken People"](#) by D.A. Carson

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE ISAIAH 58

APR. 3
2022

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What does the Lord mean when he calls different acts of righteousness "the fast that I choose" (58:6-7)? How should Christians, including you, "loose the bonds of wickedness," "share your bread with the hungry," etc.?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. What can you do to help the needy this month (the hungry, poor, etc.)? Does this feel hard to do? Why or why not?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Online Resource: "[The Secret of Joy](#)" by Jim Martin

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

ISAIAH 59

APR. 10
2022

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Which is harder for you to believe: that God opposes sin or that he forgives sin? Why? Why is verse 20 important in explaining God's response to sin?

APPLICATION

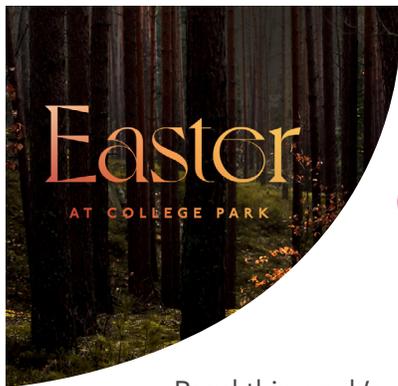
6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Much of this passage is grieving the pervasiveness of sin. Where does sin exist in your life, family, church, or community? Lament that sin before God and ask him to change it by the power of the Redeemer (v. 20).

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Article: "[Heralds of Peace Wielding the Sword of the Spirit](#)" by Justin Taylor

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

APR. 17
2022

GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What truth from Good Friday or Easter services struck you the most and why? Was it something new or different, or was it a reminder of something you already knew?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. When was the last time you shared about the death and resurrection of Jesus with someone who isn't a Christian? What can you do this month to open the door for you to have this type of conversation?
8. This week, thank God for defeating evil, sin, and death through Jesus's resurrection. If you are struggling with one of these (for example getting mistreated, battling sin, or experiencing a loved one close to death), tell the Lord and praise him for his coming kingdom where there will be no more tears or pain.

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Video: "[Resurrection Letters Live](#)" by Andrew Peterson

Article: "[Why Did Jesus Have to Die?](#)" by Eve Stipes

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE ISAIAH 60

APR. 24
2022

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Which of the promises about God's future kingdom is most enticing to you? Why?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Are you living in fear right now (of others, of the power of the world, of politics)? What promise about God's future kingdom do you need to put your hope in, knowing that God secures our final victory?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Article: "[We Need a Church Besotted with the Glory of God](#)" by Jared C. Wilson

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE ISAIAH 61

MAY 1
2022

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Jesus's Spirit-empowered preaching has created a new people. In what ways has Jesus (or will Jesus) fulfill verses 1-2 (see also Luke 4:16-21)?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Like our Messiah has greatly rejoiced in the Lord (v. 10), do you greatly rejoice in the Lord's Messiah? What part of this passage can you remember and rejoice in this week?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.
Article: "[Anticipating the Restoration of Zion](#)" by D.A. Carson
[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE ISAIAH 62

MAY 8
2022

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What does the emotional language in verse 4 say to you: "you shall be called My Delight Is in Her...for the Lord delights in you"? Is it difficult to imagine God taking this kind of delight in his messy people or in you? Why or why not?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. What aspect of your identity as part of God's people do you need to remember and live out this week (v. 12)?
 - Being holy - "The Holy People"
 - Acting as if you've been rescued - "The Redeemed of the Lord"
 - Taking comfort that God's love pursued you - "Sought Out"
 - Having hope that God will never forsake you - "A City Not Forsaken"

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Article: ["Practicing Prayer: An Invitation to Pester God"](#) by Jani Ortlund

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

ISAIAH 63

MAY 15
2022

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Is the Lord severe or kind? Angry or loving? Which verses support the various sides of God's disposition towards his people? How can seemingly conflicting characteristics both be true? How does the story of salvation display this?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. In what way(s) are you tempted to grieve the Holy Spirit right now (v. 10; see also Eph. 4:30)? What can you specifically confess and repent of to your group and/or in your time with God this week? Remember: "When we go into repentance, our experience of our complex God becomes simple—steadfast love through the blood of the Lamb" (Ray Ortlund, *Isaiah: God Saves Sinners*, 428).

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Article: ["The God of Severity and the Hope for Renewal"](#) by D.A. Carson

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAY 22
2022

ISAIAH 64-65

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What does it mean for the Lord to "come down" (64:1)? What emotions does this description of God coming down evoke?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. How often does your hope in earthly circumstances turn out favorably? How often do you place your hope in the new heavens and new earth (65:17; see also Rev. 21)? What would it look like for you to transition your hope more fully towards the coming new heavens and new earth (ex. greater patience, trust, worship, endurance, etc.)?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Commentary: [Isaiah: God Saves Sinners \(Preaching the Word\)](#) by Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr.

Article: ["The New Heaven and New Earth"](#) by Matt Emerson

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)