

I. Synopsis

At the time in history in which Isaiah writes, the people living in Israel are filled with despair. They fear that God has abandoned them. However, Isaiah provides a prophecy that gives a vivid picture of God's people living in joy following the One who has come to rescue them.

II. Ice Breaker Question

What brings you the most joy in the Christmas season?

III. Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10 (ESV)

IV. Discussion Questions

1. Isaiah describes those who are fearful become full of confidence and courage because God comes to save them (vs. 3-4). Can you recount a time in your life that circumstances brought you fear?
2. Isaiah describes the desert bursting forth with life several different times throughout this chapter. If God can cause the desert to burst forth with life, what does that mean for your life as you follow Jesus? How have you witnessed Jesus transform your life?
3. How might living into the joy & redemption of the one to come (vs. 5-7) bring you confidence and courage to face the challenges & fears in your life?

Digger Deeper

Discover what the New Testament tells us about Jesus' return as the conquering king. The Apostle John is given a vision of the new heaven and new earth, read Revelation 21. What are your thoughts regarding this vision?