

RESURRECTION

AND

Renewal

EASTER IN ISAIAH

STUDY GUIDE

The Conquering Christ

Isaiah 61.1-11

WELCOME & SHARING

Share any announcements...

- The first weekend in May is a big weekend for the city with the Flying Pig Marathon and we lean into the celebration with: (1) a **Saturday worship service & “pig out” May 2nd @ 4:30pm (Eli’s BBQ!)** You can bring drinks to share (ex. beer, soda, juice boxes) if you’re last name is A-M, dessert if you’re N-Z. (2) staffing a **hydration station at mile 10** of the marathon route on Sunday morning. We need “all hands on deck” for this! Register online.

Opener Question: Are you more “Star Wars”, “Star TREK”, or Star Weekly (Magazine)?

Intro: This spring we are walking through the final chapters of the book of Isaiah particularly in light of Easter and the reality of the resurrection.

STUDY/DISCUSSION

One of the most interesting and enlightening ways to understand old testament texts is to see how the NEW Testament uses them. We’re going to look at how Luke uses a portion of our Isaiah 61 text.

Read: Luke 4:16-30

1. What is happening in this passage? What is the setting? What is the atmosphere?
2. This text from Isaiah 61 is the Scripture for Jesus’ “first sermon”. What is Jesus’ message? And what do you think that means? Why might it be significant?
3. What was the *initial* reaction to Jesus’ “sermon”?

4. What other Bible stories does Jesus tell in response to some of the doubting or criticism he receives (vv.25-27)? Why do you think he reference THESE particular stories? (See: 1 Kings 17.8ff & 2 Kings 5.1ff)
5. What is the *NEXT* reaction to Jesus after their initial awe and befuddlement (vv. 28-29)? Why does Jesus' teaching provoke this reaction?
6. It's been said that if the gospel we share isn't good news for the POOR then it's not the gospel. Agree? Disagree? What do you think this little saying is meant to convey?
7. How is the gospel of God's grace, the good news that God saves sinners, good news for the POOR specifically? What stories or examples have you experienced or heard that demonstrate that the gospel is good news for the poor?
8. What does this passage (and Isaiah 61 as well) teach us about how to live and love others?
9. Who are the poor, brokenhearted, the captive, the blind, and the oppressed today? How might God be calling you or providing you opportunities to reach out any of these people/groups?

Take some time and pray together: You can pray as a large group, break into smaller groups, split up into men and women, etc. If you share prayer requests, post them to he City so that your group can continue to be praying for each other.