

**WEEK 6 | THE GREAT INVITATION
ISAIAH 55:1-13**



ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

Catch everybody up to date on what's going on with New City. You can use your bulletin as a tool to do so.

- The **Mazatlan Team** is leaving on March 31 (some cGroups are involved in donations for the children's homes; if your group is, make sure and talk about that).
- The next **New Member Sunday** is April 6. If you have been through the Intro to New City class and are interested in becoming a member, contact Amy (amy.samad@newcitycincy.org).
- **Super Saturdays:** On April 26 New City will be hosting a Super Saturday tutoring event at Parker School to help kids get ready for their standardized tests. The school will be providing training material, but we are providing tutors, as well as both breakfast and lunch for the kids. Please consider volunteering to tutor, or to work on providing breakfast or lunch that day (as a community group?). Details to come.
- **Flying Pig Weekend:** In lieu of our normal Sunday worship gathering, we'll meet on Saturday night May 3 at 5:30pm for worship, with a potluck dinner to follow. On Sunday morning we'll be working the Mile 10 Water Station for the Flying Pig Marathon (NOTE: you have to register with the Pig to serve; see information on The City).

ENGAGE (10 MINUTES)

Starter Questions: If you could only eat one meal again for the rest of your life, what would it be?

REFLECTION AND STUDY (30-35 MINUTES)

From now until Easter we're going to be looking at the latter chapters of Isaiah, particularly focusing in on the Suffering Servant and the salvation he brings.

Read Isaiah 55:1-10.

- 1.) What is the main metaphor in this passage? What do you think it is trying to communicate?
- 2.) What does this passage teach us about God?
- 3.) Compare this passage to Luke 14:16-24. What keeps people from coming to the banquet?
- 4.) Focus on verses Isaiah 55:6-7. What does it look like to respond to God's invitation? How would you explain this to someone who is new to the Bible?
- 5.) What is the difference between viewing God's salvation as free rather and viewing it as cheap? (You might look at Isaiah 53:4-6 to remember how costly our salvation is)
- 6.) If you didn't already talk about it in #2, discuss the meaning of verses 8-9.
- 7.) What does verse 10 teach us about the Word of God? How can you place a higher value on the Word of God in your own life?
- 8.) What picture of the kingdom of God do you get in verses 12-13?
- 9.) John 20:21 says "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." What would be different in your life if you consciously thought of yourself as being *sent* by God into mission?
- 10.) ***Application exercise:*** Take time to have everyone write down the names of 3-5 people that they want to reach out to, pray for, or get to know better. What action steps can you take in this next week or two with these people?

PRAYER (15 MINUTES)

Break up into smaller groups of men and women. For those who are comfortable, share your applications and pray for one another.