

**Week 8 | REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF THE LOWLY
(Isaiah 57:12-21)**



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.

On Saturday, April 26th there's an opportunity to do some tutoring with John P. Parker students to help them get ready for standardized tests. Consider serving on this "Super Saturday"! Check the website/the City for more details.

APRIL WOMEN'S GATHERING SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH 7PM Come fellowship with the women of New City at Mary Bishop Wild's home (345 Warren Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45220) on April 27 at 7 p.m.! Mary will lead us in some gardening tips and techniques just in time to start planting this spring! We'll have some encouragement from the Word, some encouragement from each other...and probably some wine :) RSVP on The City!

Especially note that coming up on the first weekend in May we are having our worship gathering on SATURDAY evening and staffing a Hydration Station for the Flying Pig. We've been moved from mile 24 down on River Rd. to mile 10 near Erie & Madison! To serve you NEED to register online. Visit the post about it on The City for more info and for a link to sign up. Consider all serving together as a community group. It's fun and it's a great way to serve, literally giving a cup of water to those who are thirsty! ;) **You NEED to register by April 26th and we need all hands on deck!**

WOMEN'S INFERTILITY AND ADOPTION PRAYER GROUP SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH AT 7PM If you are interested in meeting with other women for prayer and encouragement, please come to this informational meeting at the church office (3229 Madison Road, 45209), so we can help love and support one another. For questions and to RSVP please email Paige Reitano, paige.reitano@gmail.com

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ENGAGE (10 minutes)

Starter question(s): Have you ever met anyone famous? Tell the story. If not, what's the closest you've ever come to being BFFs with someone pseudo-famous?

REFLECTION & STUDY (30-35 minutes)

Up through Easter we're going to be looking at the latter chapters of Isaiah, particularly focusing on the Suffering Servant. This week we're looking at Isaiah 49.

>> READ>> Isaiah 57:12-21

- (1) What immediately stands out to you as interesting, significant, encouraging, challenging, confusing, etc.?
- (2) Verses 12 and 13 focuses on Israel's idolatry. What things are we tempted to worship other than God?
- (3) After condemning Judah's idolatry (see vv.1-13) the Lord returns to the theme of building a highway for the return of his true people. According to verses 12-21 who gets to enter his kingdom and who is excluded?
- (4) Isaiah names 3 characteristics of God in v. 15. What is true of God?
- (5) God says he dwells in a high and holy place and *also* with the contrite (penitent, crushed) and lowly (see 57:15b). The high and holy place is reasonable for the High and Lofty One (see 57:15a). However, why does God dwell with the lowly and contrite?
- (6) Specifically, how could the aspects of God's character in 57:15 affect your attitudes and actions this week?
- (7) How does it affect our view of God that he dwells in the high and holy place? If we really viewed him as holy, how would it affect how we relate to him?
- (8) Verse 15 says the Lord will dwell with the contrite and lowly. What does it mean, what does it look like, to be contrite and lowly?

PRAYER (15 minutes)

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 the City so that your group can continue to be praying for each other.