

SEE THE KING!

with Isaiah

'Your eyes will behold the King in his beauty (Is. 33:17)'



Handouts to help you read & understand –
for personal Bible study, reading the Bible with a friend or with a group

2nd Session **THEME: True conversion**

1. Start with prayer. Then look at this icebreaker question. 10 minutes to get started

If you face a crisis, it makes a big difference to know whether God is with you in that crisis, or against you. Let everyone, in a moment of silence, wonder whether there is a crisis that you are currently facing. [If there are many, then wonder what is the biggest one] If you think of that crisis, are you sure that God is with you in that crisis? It may take too much time for everyone to share, but give opportunity that some may share their thoughts. In the end of the meeting, we will come back to this icebreaker question.

2. Read Isaiah 2 30 minutes to answer these questions

Look again at 2:1-5 **Isaiah's prophecy, concerning the nations in the latter days & inference**

- What, according to what Isaiah foresees, will the nations be eager to learn and not to learn?
- In how far is this prophecy concerning the latter days fulfilled, or unfulfilled?
- Pay attention to the inference, the appeal, made in verse 5. What do you learn?

Look again at 2:6-11 **Isaiah's prayer, concerning God's people in those days & inference**

- Isaiah prays that God at that moment rejected his people and may not forgive them. What are the reasons that God, at that moment, would not accept, nor forgive them?
- Pay attention to the inference, the appeal, made in verses 10-11. What do you learn?

Look again at 2:12-21 **Isaiah's prophecy concerning the day of the Lord & inference**

- Which word is frequently repeated in this passage?
- Is God by definition for his own people? (You may also look at 1:24-25a, Rom.1:18, Rev. 2:4)
- Pay attention to the inference, the appeal, made in verse 22. What do you learn?

God's people at that time were not impressed by God's Word, holiness and coming judgement. They were impressed by their crisis, unaware of their sin, looking for human help in their crisis. Isaiah calls them to repent. Through the Word they need to see their need of a Saviour, a Hiding place. They must be impressed more by God than by men. They needed true conversion. By coming to and being into Christ, we may find true safety and find help in our need. (See Romans 8).

3. Apply and end with prayer. 15 minutes to make it personal and to pray

In times of crisis, we need God. We need to be right with God. We need peace with God. Take some moments of silence. Does today's Bible passage teach you something concerning the crisis of which you were thinking at the beginning of this meeting?

DIGGING DEEPER: As a prophet, Isaiah did not speak 'out of the blue'. He read and applied the Bible that the people at that time had (at least, the books of Moses). He looked at their situation, through the lens of the Bible. Related to Isaiah 2, you might look for instance at: Deuteronomy 32:21, Deuteronomy 17:16,17, Leviticus 19:26b. Nor do the New Testament authors speak 'out of the blue'. They do not go beyond what was written. Look for instance at Rev.6:15-17