



LESSON 19

ISAIAH 51:1-52:12

1. What poetic imagery from **Isaiah 49-50** has stayed with you throughout the week, and how has it brought home the compassion of the Lord?
2. As you read **Isaiah 51:1-52:12**, pray and keep an eye out for the pictures of redemption and salvation based on God's faithfulness in the past. Then read **1 Peter 1:18-21**, noting which aspects of salvation secured by Jesus stand out to you.
3. Review **Isaiah 51:1-3** and describe the "before" and "after" pictures Isaiah uses to illustrate God's faithfulness. Challenge: Refer to **Genesis 15:1-6** and **Romans 4:16-17** to write a truth about God's faithfulness.

4. God continues making contrasts between the temporary and those things that last forever in **Isaiah 51:4-8**. What does He compare, and why do you think this is an important and comforting message for people in exile?
5. a) In **51:9-11**, Isaiah asks God's people to wake up to an event in its history. Skim **Exodus 14**, then summarize the event, its relevance to facing current enemies, and the mood of those rescued. *Note: Rahab is thought to be a mythical monster symbolic of Egypt.*
- b) Think of a time when you have personally witnessed God's faithfulness or deliverance. Write a brief prayer to the Lord that begins with "Was it not you who..." as the remembrance of God's power in the past strengthens you.
6. How does the Lord describe Himself and His accomplishments in **Isaiah 51:12-16**? What is His relationship with the people He is addressing (**V16b**)?
7. Explain the metaphor of the "cup of wrath" that Isaiah employs in **V17-23** in a few sentences.
8. From the poetic images in **52:1-3**, how does God assure His people He will redeem them?

9. What is the reason God gives for redeeming His people (**V4-6**), and why do you think this is important to Him?
10. Isaiah envisions a messenger bearing good news to the city of God in **52:7-12**. As *you* listen to the good news of salvation and redemption, what of Isaiah's instruction and assurance in these verses will you take to heart?
11. Reflecting on who God is: **Comfort (Nochem)**

Savor the words of **Isaiah 51:3**: **"The Lord will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the Lord. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing."** No one escapes the desolation of spiritually dry places. Surrender your spiritual deserts to the **Comforter** and ask Him to redeem them and bring joy again.

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST