

LESSON 21

ISAIAH 54

1.	From last week's study of Isaiah 52:13-53:12, what aspect of the Servant's nature or	deeds has
	been most meaningful to you this week, and why?	

2.	Invite the Lord to open your mind and heart as you read through Isaiah 54 , in which Isaiah
	speaks of the end of exile and the future glory of Zion. Refer to another prophetic promise of
	peace in Ezekiel 34:23-31 and make note of some of the poetic imagery Ezekiel uses to
	portray future peace and restoration.

- 3. a) What are the instructions God gives His people using the metaphor of a barren woman in **Isaiah 54:1-3**? Elaborate on how this is a fitting response to the hope of being released from exile. Note: In Israel at that time, barrenness for a woman would have been a source of shame.
 - b) As you live in "exile" on this earth, how do these instructions resonate with you? Evaluate your current openness or inclination to rejoice as you anticipate the Servant's second coming. Refer to **Philippians 3:20-21**.

NOTE: Questions are based on NIV 2011 Translation

4.	•	In 54:4-8 , how does God use the metaphor of a wife to give deeper insight into His nature and His relationship with Israel?
	b)	When and how have you seen the kindness of the Lord free you or a loved one from fear, disgrace, or abandonment?
5.		ad 54:9-10 . Why do you think the author draws a comparison between this moment in Israel's history and the time of Noah? See Genesis 6:5-13 , 9:8-17 .
	-	Write a simple definition of God's "covenant of peace" (Isaiah 54:10). What are the implications of this covenant for the nation Israel? See 2 Samuel 7:9-11 .
6.		Isaiah 54:11-15 , Isaiah presents a picture of a city to portray the future for God's people. nat will characterize this city?

Lesson 21 2

7.	Which attributes of God are declared in V16-17, and how does this bring assurance to those
	living in exile?

8. <u>Challenge:</u> **V17** refers to "servants of the Lord" whose vindication or righteousness is from God. Read **Romans 4:3-8**; **9:30-32**. Who do you think the "servants of the Lord" are and how do they gain righteousness?

9. Reflecting on who God is: **Everlastingly Kind** (**El Hesed**)

Reflect on how the rich words in the following verses connect to you and your life. As you meditate, write down what God is revealing to you about His everlasting kindness.

"With everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you" Isaiah 54:8.

"Let the one who boasts, boast about this, . . . that I am the Lord who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight." Jeremiah 9:24.

Lesson 21 3

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST

Lesson 21 4