

## LESSON 22

## **ISAIAH 55-57**

- 1. In what situation did you find fresh hope from the reminders of the everlasting kindness of God in our study last week of **Isaiah 54**?
- 2. Pray for an open heart as you read through **Isaiah 55-57**, where we hear God's invitation and vision for returning to the Lord from exile. Read Jesus' words in **John 10:10-16**. Based on these Scriptures, describe God's attitude toward those who are far from Him.

3. Savor the poetic language of God's gracious invitation in **Isaiah 55:1-2** and then restate His invitation in your own words.

4. List the blessings of David's kingdom described in **V3-7**. From **V7**, describe the recipients of God's pardon.

- 5. Meditate on how unlike us our Lord is in **55:8-13.** 
  - Describe His thoughts and ways:
  - What is significant about His Word?
  - Share a Scripture passage about His glory and renown:
- 6. Read through **Ch. 56:1-8**.
  - a) Discuss the breadth of God's salvation and who will be included in His "house of prayer for all nations"?
  - b) What are the practices and attitudes that accompany those who have a place in His family?

7. God accuses Israel's unfaithful religious leaders in **56:9-12**. Restate the accusations in your own words. Where do you see instances of similar leadership today?

8. In contrast, what is proclaimed in **57:1-2** about death for "the righteous"? For additional insight refer to **Psalm 27:4-5** and **Philippians 1:20-23**.

- 9. In **57:3-13**, God continues to denounce unfaithful Israel, ending with a breath of hope.
  - What are some of the marks of Israel's spiritual adultery?

- What does it mean to "take refuge" in God? Share personally. (**V13**)

10. Isaiah paints a beautiful picture of God's comfort and restoration for the contrite in **V14-19**, while **V20-21** is a warning to the wicked. What inspires you to pray or speak into a loved ones' life from these verses?

11. Reflecting on who God is: Faithful (El Ne'eman)

"Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David." Isaiah 55:3. We have all benefitted from God's faithfulness. "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commandments." Deuteronomy 7:9. Spend some time confessing areas of your unfaithfulness to Him. Then turn to the Lord and pour out your gratitude to Him for His faithful love. NAME

## PRAYER REQUEST