

2.3.19 - Isaiah: Light to the Nations - Christian

Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a few questions that are best suited to your group.
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Goal: God and the Axis of Evil: God's Heart for Reconciliation with Egypt and Assyria

Remember to choose just a few questions from each section, as needed for your group.

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
- Did you watch the Super Bowl? What team were you rooting for and why?

Background / Reading

Read: Isaiah 19:16-25

- Does anyone have any questions about this passage? Or observations that stand out to you immediately?

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- How does God describe Egypt and Assyria in this passage? How do we make sense of that in light of the last several chapters of woes and judgement on these nations?
- What is some evidence in the text that Egypt & Assyria's repentance and faith are real?
- What does God promise for Assyria and Egypt in v. 23-25?
- If this points forward to the day when those "from every tribe and language and people and nation" will worship God because of the saving work of Christ ([Rev. 5:9](#)). What are the various ways that nations will be blessed, according to [Isaiah 19:18-25](#)?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- In v. 25, God says "blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork..." How do you think the Israelites would have responded to this? (Think Moses in Exodus: "Let my people go!")
- Who could we never imagine joining in worship of God? Who could we never imagine becoming a follower of Jesus?
- God's heart has always been for the whole world to know him. Read these verses as a group to see his heart for people to be reconciled to Him **AND** at peace with each other: Romans 5:10; Ephesians 2:14-20; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; James 2:13.

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- God has always used people to be his messengers in the world. What are some ways that God has used people in your life to bring His truth, hope, love, etc. to you?
- Do you believe that it's possible for God to use you to bless and reach others? Do you experience any fear or self-doubt or apathy about that? How do you handle that?

- **What is God calling you to say yes to?** Put another way: How can you make yourself available where you're at with the people you're with to be God's hands and feet in simple, everyday ways --- at your workplace, in your school, in your neighborhood, in your family, while you're running errands, etc. Think of one situation or person where God is calling you to be a faithful witness. Be as specific as possible! Write it down and share it with the group.
- Who does this make you want to pray for? (could be individuals or groups) What does this make you want to pray for them?
- Pray that God would make space in our hearts for for the people around us who don't yet know the Lord. Pray specifically for each person who shared what God is calling them to say yes to with big prayers of hope that God would use them powerfully.
- What prayer commitment as a group do you want to make about this?

NOTE: If there are other prayer requests, we recommend praying separately for those after you have concluded this focused prayer time