**3.3.19 - Isaiah: Light to the Nations - Tim**

**Exile in Babylon with a Vision of the Future**

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.

**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?
* Have you ever experienced a season of exile--separation from and longing for your own people or your own place? What was that like?

Watch: [Bible Project Isaiah Part 2](https://youtu.be/_TzdEPuqgQg)

* Review time: Why did God plan / allow the exile of Israel? (their oppression of the poor, idolatry, etc.)
* Why did the exiled people continue to worship the defeated God instead of the god of the “winning” army?
* If you were in exile in Babylon, do you think you would have stayed faithful to God?
* Do you trust that God is wise enough, willing, and able to help you in your situation?
* Read **Isaiah 43:1-3**. How can this promise speak to you as you face challenges?

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Take some time to talk about this as a group.

* What is the purpose of Lent? Why do people fast during this time?
* How is Lent like our own mini season of exile?
* Have you ever participated in Lent? How was that experience meaningful for you?
* Are you thinking of participating this year?