

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DECEMBER 7/8 | CHRISTMAS IN ISAIAH
THE NEED FOR A SAVIOR | ISAIAH 1

FOR STARTERS

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you or raised questions?
2. Why is it so hard for people, especially good people, to acknowledge they need a Savior? Have one or two from the group share how they came to understand their need for Christ.

DIGGING IN

1. Isaiah, speaking for God, charges the people of God with rebellion (v2).
 - a. Read Isaiah 1:3-9. What do we learn about their rebellion and about God's character?
2. In Isaiah 1:10-15, how does Isaiah describe their religion and what's God's take on it?
3. Read Isaiah 1:16-23.
 - a. What exactly was Israel doing wrong?
 - b. What is God's offer to His rebellious children in verse 18?
 - c. What does He ask them to do and how exactly do scarlet sins become white as snow (forgiven)? See also Psalm 51:7, 1 John 1:7-9.
4. Read Isaiah 1:24-31 and note God's faithfulness to His promise to bless all the families through Abraham's family (cf Genesis 12:3). What is God going to do?

BRINGING IT HOME

1. What does it look like to live out Isaiah 1:17 today?
2. What does it look like for us to live lives that help people know they need Jesus?
3. Isaiah 1 makes it clear that God will use hard things to refine us in order to restore us. Is God doing this in your life now? Where and how can we pray?
4. End by thanking God for sending Jesus as our Savior and praying for friends and family who are convinced they don't need Jesus.