



Growth Group discussion questions for Isaiah 53
Week of Oct. 14 – Oct. 17, 2018

1. Scripture memory: Memorize, meditate on, and be ready to recite Ephesians 2:1-6.
2. Read Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12 at least twice. Isaiah wrote this chapter approximately 700 years before Christ, yet it has been called the “5th Gospel” because of its clear prophetic connection to Jesus Christ.
3. What do you think Isaiah meant when he said the servant/Messiah “had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him” (53:2b)? How might this be significant?
4. Jesus came to usher in the New Covenant (Matt. 26:28), to save sinners (John 1:29), to give people an abundant life (John 10:10), etc. So why was he “despised,” “rejected,” and not “esteemed” (Is. 53:3; also Mark 9:12)? (e.g. John 8:56-59, 10:30-33, 11:45-53)
5. a) Read through our passage and identify ways the “Suffering Servant” suffered.

b) Read Matt. 27:26-35 and identify ways that Jesus suffered historically. What parallels do you see to Isaiah 53?
6. Isaiah said that the servant “opened not his mouth” (53:7). Read Matt. 26:62-63. Why do you think Jesus didn’t attempt to defend himself and escape the serious charges against him?
7. a) Why was Jesus’ death not a tragic accident but necessary (Is. 53:5-6, 10-12)? What does it tell us about the nature of sin and God’s attitude toward it? (Is. 13:11, Prov. 6:16-19, Rom. 2:5)

b) Think about your own life. What is your attitude toward sin typically? If God hates sin with such a burning hatred, what should be your attitude toward it? How can you develop a hatred for sin and grow in your love for righteousness? (Prov. 8:13, Matt. 5:6, Rom. 6:12-23)

8. The apostle Paul called the gospel (life, crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus) “the gospel of the glory of Christ” (2 Cor. 4:4). Crucifixion and death were designed to be massively humiliating. Where is the glory in the gospel? (Acts 2:29-36, Phil. 2:5-11)
9. Why is it so important that the gospel doesn’t end with Jesus in a grave but in his resurrection? (1 Cor. 15:12-19, Rom. 10:9-10) In Jesus’ victorious resurrection, who and what was defeated? (2 Tim. 1:10, 1 Cor. 15:24-25, Heb. 2:14)
10. What can you learn from Jesus’ example in the way he suffered (Is. 53:9, 1 Pet. 2:18-25)? How does it feel countercultural or even unnatural?
11. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from the message on this passage on Sunday, Oct. 14th? How were you specifically challenged? What points of application did you take away from the message?
12. PRAY IN THE GROUP: God works in us through the preaching of the Word when our hearts are prepared and ready to hear. Pray that all who come on Sundays will have “ears to hear.” Pray also for our pastors that God would prepare their hearts and focus their minds as they prepare the messages and preach the Word.