

# A Flourishing Faith

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Isaiah 7-12

March 5, 2023

## Snapshot:

A flourishing faith hopes in what God is doing.

I. Signs and Portents (7:3, 14; 8:3, 16–18)

II. The Person to Whom We Look (9:1–7)

III. The Reign in Which We Hope (11:1–12)

IV. The Praise We Bring (12:1–6)

## Connect

*What are some practices that you have found helpful to remind yourself of what God is doing when your world or the world around you seems to be falling apart?*

## Study

### Point 1: Signs and Portents (7:3, 14; 8:3, 16–18)

READ: Isaiah 7:3, 14; 8:3, 16–18

What do the three names we see in 7:3, 14, 8:3 mean? What do these communicate to Israel and Judah at the time of Isaiah? What do these names foreshadow for the future people of God? How do these names help bolster the faith of the church today? According to Isaiah 8:16–18, what do these children represent for Isaiah? What signs and portents do we have today that help our faith in a similar way?

### Point 2: The Person to Whom We Look (9:1–7)

READ: Isaiah 9:1–7

2) What do we learn of Jesus and His Kingdom in these verses? Discuss the importance of His character and His Kingdom in respect to how it strengthens our faith. What turns our eyes away from Jesus and His Kingdom and hinders our faith? What does it look like to dwell in the reality of a sinful world, where we are affected by sin daily, but still live by faith in Jesus?

### Point 3: The Reign in Which We Hope (11:1–12)

READ: Isaiah 11:1–12

3) What do we learn of the reign of Jesus in these verses? What are the clues that this “shoot” must be Jesus? What is the danger of believing that this passage is only future? How do you see the reign of the Messiah reversing the curse of sin in this passage? What comforts do we find now in the reign of Jesus? How does this help strengthen your faith?

Point 4: The Praise We Bring (12:1–6)

READ: Isaiah 12:1–6

4) How has the Lord turned His anger away from Israel? From us? How should God as our salvation increase our trust? How should it decrease our fear? What does it mean that God is our strength? our song? In 12:1, 2 “you” is singular and in 12:3, 4 “you” is plural; what is the significance of the pronoun change? How does Isaiah 12 help us understand that Isaiah 11 is not only future (HINT: Look at 12:3)?

### **Pray the passage**

Spend time praying through Isaiah 9:1–6 and 11:1–9 and worshipping the Lord for who He is, what He has done, and what He is going to do.

### **Memorize & Meditate**

“I will wait for the Lord, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him” (Isaiah 8:17).

### **Preparing for next week**

**Read:** Romans 14-15

**Ask:** questions of the text

**Pray:** through text, for the pastor as he prepares, for your heart to hear, for the congregation to hear, for all of us to be obedient.