

"Behold My Servant"

- Opening Announcements
- Opening Prayer
- God Sightings

Q: Ever get a song stuck in your head? Why is that either annoying or great?

Q: Why is music so powerful?

Q: How has both the enemy and God used music to communicate?

Table Time:

The Book of Isaiah is a HUGE book! There are four famous sections called "Servant Songs". These are poems/songs that focus on "the Servant", who would later be known as Messiah or Jesus. In our new series we will look at each one. This is a continuation of the Season of Easter. We saw Jesus as "the Servant" clearly beginning with Palm Sunday. Maundy Thursday, Jesus says this explicitly as He washed the feet of the disciples. Good Friday, He served ALL humanity by giving up His life on the cross. And on Resurrection Sunday, He begins to call His disciples to follow Him in the resurrection life! All of this was prophesied in many places in the Old Testament, but none more clear than in the Servant Songs of Isaiah. This is one example of why Isaiah is so powerful and important! This morning we'll look at the first of the Servant Songs.

READ: Isaiah 42:1-4 "Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. 2 He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; 3 a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. 4 He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law."

Q: Who is "my servant"?

Q: Who is the "I" in verse 1?

Q: According to verse 2-3, what will the Servant NOT do? What does this signify/mean/teach us about the "Servant"?

Q: What are some examples of this from Jesus' earthly ministry?

Q: According to verse 4, what does this signify? What's important about the "coastlands"?

NOTICE: The Word "BEHOLD" (v. 1) means: "pay attention"; "focus"; "look"!

Q: Why is "beholding" Jesus important?

Q: What's the difference between "beholding" and casually glancing?

Q: What distracts us from "beholding" Jesus?

Q: What are some practical ways we might "Behold" Jesus?

NOTICE: The Word "Justice" (v.4) means: "judgment"; the act of deciding a case".

Q: According to verse 4, the "Servant" will NOT grow weary UNTIL He establishes "justice" in the earth. What does this mean? How might that be different from the popular ideas surrounding "justice"?

Big Group Debrief....

Q: What are some of the practical ways you "Behold Jesus"?

Q: What did Isaiah's prophecy teach us about Jesus and how do you see it fulfilled in Him?

Q: Why would this "Servant Song" be a good one to get stuck in your head and heart?

Another "Servant Song" roughly 170 years later....

READ: Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

Q: Who is this prophecy about?

Q: How is it similar to Isaiah's song?

Q: How does poetry, songs, psalms, metaphorical/prophetic, parabolic language help us have a deeper understanding? What do these forms invite us to do?

Q: Given that the time between Isaiah's "Servant Songs" and Zechariah's is approx. 170 years, what does this tell us about the timing of God's plans? What do we need to help us with there's a long "gap" between giving the promise and the fulfillment of that promise?