

## "A New Thing"

- Opening Prayer
- Opening Announcements
- God Sightings - How have you seen God move/work this week?

Q: Have you ever felt "stale"? Like things are "old", predictable, boring? How does it feel? What problems can it cause?

Q: Have you ever had something "new" come into your life? Maybe a new job or relationship or opportunity? How does that feel? What can THAT do for/to your life?

### **Table Time...**

**READ: Isaiah 42: 5-9** " Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: 6 "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, 7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. 8 I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. 9 Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Q: According to verse 5, WHO is speaking? AND, how does He describe what He's done? Why does God do this?

Q: According to verse 6 He again identifies Himself! What does "I am the Lord" signify?

Q: According to verse 6, what has He done? What does "righteousness" mean? What is He going to do?

Q: According to verse 7, what else is God going to do?

**READ: Luke 7:18-23** "The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, 19 calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 20 And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?' " 21 In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight.

22 And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

Q: John is in prison and sends the disciples to Jesus to ask Him a question. According to verse 19, what is the question?

Q: What did Jesus "DO" in verse 21? How does THAT compare to Isaiah 42:7a above?

Q: What is missing from Isaiah 42:7 in Jesus' answer to John?

Q: If John is thinking Isaiah 42, and Jesus answers with only part of Isaiah 42, how is THAT the answer to John's question? In other words, WHAT is John asking Jesus?

Q: According to verses 8 above, WHAT is Jesus saying about the idols of mankind? Why is THIS important? What idols do people worship these days?

Q: What's the promise of verse 9 above? Why is a "new thing" good news?

**READ: Luke 22:20** "And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood." - Luke 22:20

Q: How is this "New Covenant" a "new thing"?

### ***Big Group Debrief....***

Q: What stood out to you about this section of Isaiah's "Servant Song"?

Q: What characteristics of Jesus did you notice in these "verses" of this song?

### **HOMEWORK:**

- Finish reading through Isaiah 42-43. How does Isaiah's Servant Song portray Jesus? What are His characteristics and character according to this "song"?

Q: How is that both instructive, comforting and maybe even terrifying?

- Continue with the Daily Bible Reading Plan!