

Advent in Isaiah

*He has Sent me to bring
Good News to the Poor
Isaiah 61:1-7*

TALK IT OVER

Passages

61 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. 4 They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. 5 Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers; 6 but you shall be called the priests of the Lord; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory, you shall boast. 7 Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore, in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy. — *Isaiah 61:1-7 (ESV)*

Start Talking: Find an announcement or mission for your group. (15 Min)

- Family Christmas Movie Night December 16th 6pm St. Johns. Invite your friends!
- What's one thing from last weekend's sermon that you hope we talk about as a group?

Head: Start Thinking about the Text. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- The sermon text was Isaiah 61:1-7 and can be found on the left-hand side. To keep the study fresh please read Luke 4:16-21 in your Bible for your life group's main text.
- As Jesus reads Isaiah, how is He fulfilling scripture?
- What Good News did "does" He bring? Read Isaiah 61:1-7.

Heart: Start Sharing how the Text is shaping our beliefs. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- How would you react to hearing Jesus read those words from Isaiah if you were listening in the synagogue? And why?
- What kind of hope can you personally take out of this scripture?

Hands: Start living the Text. Commit to believing or obeying the text this week. (10 Min)

- Who do you know that needs to hear the good news Jesus brings? How will you tell them?
- Volunteer somewhere this Holiday season, and share God's loves.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. Pick a question. (15 Min)

1. Who is one non-believer or someone without a church home that you need to reach out to this week?
2. What kind of conversations are you having with people you are reaching out to?
3. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
4. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.