

Advent in Isaiah

The Eyes of the Blind shall Be Opened

Isaiah 35:1-10

TALK IT OVER

Passages

35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; 2 it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. 3 Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. 4 Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; 7 the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. 8 And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. 9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. 10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. — *Isaiah 35:1-10 (ESV)*

More of God's truth all week long at the "Renewal Church Denver" app or "St. John's Denver" app in your app store.

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

- What Life Group Christmas Parties are you planning this year? Would this be a good time to invite some new members?
- Family Christmas Movie Night December 16th 6:30 St. Johns.
- If the preacher had to give an abbreviated version of last weekend's message, what two points or ideas would you tell him to include on matter what?

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

- Read Isaiah 35:1-10, What promises are made in this Passage?
- What comfort might this passage bring to those who suffer physical ailments?
- Did Jesus fulfill these promises in His ministry? Can you think of a one that stands out to you?

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

- Are we all blind and deaf in some ways? What is something you need to see more clearly this season?
- How has or does Jesus make things clearer?

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

- Who is someone who is sick that needs ministering too?
- Consider joining the Homebound ministry team and give your time to someone who might need the company.

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.