

Advent in Isaiah

I will Extend Peace Like a River
Isaiah 66:7-14, 18-19, 22-23

TALK IT OVER

Passages

"Before she was in labor she gave birth; before her pain came upon her she delivered a son. 8 Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? Shall a nation be brought forth in one moment? For as soon as Zion was in labor she brought forth her children. 9 Shall I bring to the point of birth and not cause to bring forth?" says the Lord; "shall I, who cause to bring forth, shut the womb?" says your God. 10 "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her; 11 that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance." 12 For thus" says the Lord: "Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip, and bounced upon her knees. 13 As one whom his mother comforts so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. 14 You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bones shall flourish like the grass; and the hand of the Lord shall be known to his servants, and he shall show his indignation against his enemies." – *Isaiah 66:7-14 (ESV)*

18 "For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, 19 and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations." – *Isaiah 66:18-19 (ESV)*

22 "For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. 23 From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord." – *Isaiah 66:22-23 (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)

- Christmas Eve Services 3pm Traditional, 5pm Modern, and 6:30 Modern. Invite a friend!
- Was there any one thing that you most agreed with or disagreed with from last week's message? What was it and why?

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

- Read Isaiah 66:7-14, 18-19, 22-23 How will the Lord extend His peace to all the nations.
- What images of Joy do you see in these passages?

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

- As we prepare our heart for Christmas, what will you cherish the most?
- What is something you're waiting for this Advent season?

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

- Plan to slow down this week and taken it all in. How can you be present and mindful of the gifts of God?

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.