

Isaiah was written about seven centuries before Christ, warning the people of Israel that they were on a path leading to God's judgment. But judgment isn't the end of the story. There is also comfort in the promise that God will have compassion, and ultimately rescue His people through His Servant. Isaiah also offers us the opportunity to ask the questions: What path are WE on? What is the way forward?

Week Four: KILLING PRIDE

Text: Isaiah 13-14

Do you consider yourself a prideful person? Isaiah chapters 13-14 show that our pride puts our own desires before others and God. However, God has given us the ability to break down pride through community.

Discussion Questions: The following are based on the "My Application" Questions found in the bulletin this week. Leader urge your group members to attend worship—or watch the sermon online—and to spend time considering and answering those questions <u>before</u> coming to the group. This will produce a richer discussion time.

- How would you explain the difference between positive and negative pride?
- Why do you think God uses such strong language against arrogance and pride throughout the Bible?
- How have you seen pride manifest itself in your life? What consequences have you seen from this pride in your life?
- On Sunday Mark said, "Kill pride before it kills you." From Scripture, what are some passages we can apply so that this can happen in our lives? Look at Philippians 2:1-11; Proverbs 8:13; Proverbs 11:2; Proverbs 16:16; 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Are there others that are important to you?
- What one way this week could Jesus become greater in your life and you become less?

Prayer Time:

Read Isaiah 13:11 and 14:12-15.

What areas of pride or arrogance in your life do you need prayer for in order to receive His help and healing?

Pray for each other and thank God for the hope He gives us through Jesus.

Memory Verse:

"He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less."

John 3:30

Application:

There are two great opportunities coming up for you and your group members to serve:

- 1. <u>Great Adventure</u> this summer. This is our annual church-wide effort to saturate our communities with the Love of Jesus. People can serve in the following ways:
 - a. Host a Back Yard Bible Club. (July 8-12)
 - b. Drive a team of teens to the clubs they will lead.
 - c. Man a game booth at Summerfest. This is a great project for groups to do together.
- 2. <u>Defying Gravity</u> this fall. As a church, we will be examining Biblical principles of stewardship that can free us up to follow Christ more fully, allowing us to find our security in God alone. All small groups are encouraged to participate by engaging with FPU (Financial Peace University) and by identifying one new leader for an additional group.