



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 Nine: GOD’S INVITATION**

**Text:** Isaiah 55

When we stop respecting God, we start experiencing chaos and judgement. But God’s response is to send His Suffering Servant, Jesus, on a rescue mission to deliver those in captivity. To those experiencing chaos and judgement, He offers an invitation to join Him in a life where they will experience eternal salvation and satisfaction, mercy and pardon, joy and a peace-filled future.

**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 before coming to the group. This will produce a richer discussion time.*

- Describe a time in your life that you were invited to something that made you very excited. OR, describe an invitation you’ve received but didn’t want to accept. Why did you feel the way you did?
- Read Isaiah 55. What types of people does God invite to come to Him? Are those the people you would expect Him to invite? Who do you most relate to?
- What does God offer in His invitation? What does He require in return? What might keep someone from accepting?
- What was the condition of your life when you received God’s invitation to come to Him? What eventually lead you to accept? (Leader, be aware that not everyone will be able to answer this question. Some in your group may still be considering God’s invitation to them. Be prepared to lead by example by sharing your story.)

## **Application:**

This week, spend some time considering the following questions:

- What is in your life right now that may prevent you from experiencing the life that God promises in Isaiah 55?
- What do you settle for in this world rather than what God has to offer?
- What would accepting God's invitation look like for you?

Be prepared to share what you discover next time we meet.

## **Memory Verse:**

*"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;  
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost."*

Isaiah 55:1

## **Prayer Time:**

Pair up and share your thoughts on this question: Why do you spend your labor on what does not satisfy? In other words, what are you working hard for that leaves you dissatisfied and unfulfilled?

Then pray for each other that this area of dissatisfaction in your life would remind you to seek God and turn to Him for ultimate satisfaction. (Note, you aren't asking God to change your circumstances and make that area of your life better!)