

A SMALL GROUP STUDY

ISAIAH

Tom Holladay



drivetime
DEVOTIONS

ISAIAH: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

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ABOUT DRIVETIME DEVOTIONS SMALL GROUP STUDIES

Welcome to this special Drivetime Devotions, small group study. This 8-week study is designed so that you can enjoy Drivetime Devotions as a podcast throughout the week and then talk about it with your small group. This will allow for more time in your small group for discussion, application, and fellowship.

The purpose of Drivetime Devotions is to help you know God's Word and put it into practice. It's usually better to study small sections of God's Word each day instead of a larger section once a week. Studying the Bible is like eating—you'll be healthier if you eat small amounts each day rather than one big meal a week! Episodes are designed to be listened to once per day, five days a week. In the event you miss a day or two, you can still stay on schedule.

ABOUT DRIVETIME DEVOTIONS SMALL GROUP STUDIES

In Drivetime Devotions, Pastor Tom Holladay teaches God's Word and helps you put it into practice. With over 30 million downloads, Drivetime Devotions has built a reputation for changing lives and helping people grow closer to God. You can access this podcast study on ISAIAH by downloading the DrivetimeDevotions app for your phone or by going to DrivetimeDevotions.com.

HOW TO USE THIS INTERACTIVE STUDY GUIDE

This study guide is designed to be used as a downloaded file on your tablet or phone. You do not need to print it out unless you want to.

A FEW TIPS BEFORE YOU DIG IN



LISTEN

Prepare yourself before each study by listening to each week's five daily podcast episodes (one per day).



CHECKING IN

Open each meeting with a time for everyone to check in on each other's progress with the podcast. Accountability is a key to success in this study!



KEY VERSE

Each week you will find a key verse (or verses) from the chapter you are studying. You may want to memorize this verse together as a group.



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

These are questions for group discussion. Please don't feel pressured to discuss every single question. The material in this study is meant to be your servant, not your master. Therefore there is no reason to rush through your discussions. Give everyone ample time to share their thoughts.

Some questions will reference the verses from which they are taken. Many groups will want to have someone read those verses accompanying the question. There is something powerful about hearing the Bible read aloud together as a group.



LIVING ON PURPOSE

This section helps you encourage each other in balancing God's five purposes of evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship. Each week, there will be a prayer, practical action, or personal assignment that focuses on one of these purposes.



PRAYING TOGETHER

At the end of each session you will find suggestions for your group prayer time. Praying together is one of the greatest privileges of small group life. Please don't take it for granted.

Get ready for God to do incredible things in your life as you begin the adventure of learning more deeply about the most exciting message in the world: the truth about God!

A FEW TIPS BEFORE YOU DIG IN



TELL A FRIEND

As you go through each session, the Holy Spirit may bring to mind different people in your life. You may even want to write their names down beside a point, phrase, or verse in the margins. Take the opportunity to share God's Word in a friend's life during the week.

WEEK ONE: ISAIAH Isaiah 1-5



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK ONE



CHECKING IN

1. If you're just starting as a group, take some time to get to know each other by going around the circle and sharing your name, where you grew up, and something about your life.
2. When you were a kid, what was a rule or expectation that you had the hardest time following?



KEY VERSE

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

Isaiah 1:18 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you look at the description of a rebellious heart losing connection with God in verses 2-5, what subtle signs indicate you might be drifting, and how can we as a group help keep each other anchored? *Isaiah 1:2-5*
2. As you consider the challenge to stop bringing "meaningless offerings" in verses 11-13, what Christian activities do you find yourself just going through the motions with, and how can we encourage one another to re-engage with genuine commitment? *Isaiah 1:11-13*

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3. Looking at the beautiful invitation to have our scarlet sins washed as white as snow in verse 18, where in your life do you struggle to accept God's complete forgiveness, and how can we remind each other of this grace?
Isaiah 1:18
4. When you read about walking in the light of the Lord's hope in verses 2-5, what makes it most difficult for you to choose faith over cynicism in our current world, and how can we help each other keep our eyes on God's promises? *Isaiah 2:2-5*
5. Thinking about the canopy of God's protection and presence described in verses 5-6, can you share a specific time when you clearly felt God shielding you, and how does that experience strengthen your trust for today? *Isaiah 4:5-6*
6. When you consider all the care God has poured into you like the vineyard owner in verses 1-7, how do you handle the disappointment when you fail to produce good fruit, and how can we support each other in staying connected to the True Vine? *Isaiah 5:1-7*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

DISCIPLESHIP

Choose one specific area of your life where you have been just "going through the motions" with God this week, and take 10 minutes each day to intentionally sit in quietness, asking Him to renew your heart.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Take time to pray for each other to recognize the subtle areas of rebellion in our lives and to fully embrace the cleansing forgiveness that God offers.

WEEK ONE



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK TWO: ISAIAH Isaiah 5-10



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK TWO



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week, did anyone get a chance to take a quiet 10 minutes to renew their heart with God, and what was that experience like?
2. If you had to describe your current season of life using only a weather forecast, what would you say?



KEY VERSE

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"

Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you look at the warning against gathering more and more for ourselves in verses 8-10, how do you personally fight the pull of materialism, and how can we encourage each other to find joy in giving instead? *Isaiah 5:8-10*
2. As you consider the danger of calling evil good and good evil in verse 20, where do you find it most challenging to stand firm in God's truth today, and how can our group help you remain grounded? *Isaiah 5:20*

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3. Looking at Isaiah's overwhelming realization of his own unholiness in the presence of God in verses 1-5, what makes you feel unworthy to approach God, and how can we remind each other of the cleansing fire of His grace? *Isaiah 6:1-5*
4. When you read about Isaiah boldly answering God's call with "Here am I, send me!" in verse 8, what fears or insecurities hold you back from serving Him, and how can we help each other step out in faith? *Isaiah 6:8*
5. Thinking about the command to keep calm and not lose heart when facing powerful enemies in verses 3-4, what current circumstances make you want to panic, and how can we pray for God to steady your heart this week? *Isaiah 7:3-4*
6. When you consider the incredible promise of Immanuel, "God with us," in verse 14, how does knowing God is intimately present change the way you face your daily anxieties, and how can we remind each other of His presence? *Isaiah 7:14*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

EVANGELISM

Identify one person in your sphere of influence who doesn't know Christ and intentionally reach out to them this week to encourage them and share how God has been your Immanuel.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray that God would reveal His holiness to us afresh, and that we would have the courage to say "Here am I, send me!" wherever He calls us to share His love this week.

WEEK TWO



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK THREE: ISAIAH Isaiah 11-26



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK THREE



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at our purpose from last week, did anyone find an opportunity to reach out and encourage someone who doesn't know Christ, and how did they respond?
2. What is a specific song or type of music that always instantly lifts your mood when you hear it?



KEY VERSE

"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation."

Isaiah 12:2 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you read about the Spirit of wisdom, counsel, and might resting on the promised Branch in verses 1-3, in what specific area of your life do you most desperately need God's clear direction right now, and how can we seek it together? *Isaiah 11:1-3*
2. As you consider the declaration that God is our strength, song, and salvation in verse 2, which of these three is hardest for you to fully depend on Him for, and how can we support each other in letting go of control? *Isaiah 12:2*

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3. Looking at the joyful habit of drawing water from the wells of salvation in verses 3-5, what practical daily rhythms help you regain your joy when you feel emotionally dry, and how can we encourage one another to keep practicing them? *Isaiah 12:3-5*
4. When you consider the vivid reminder that our spiritual enemy is ultimately foolish, frail, and defeated in verses 12-17, how does this reality change your perspective on the battles you are facing this week? *Isaiah 14:12-17*
5. Thinking about the incredible shift from surprise to absolute trust described in verses 1-5, what recent overwhelming moments in your life do you need to intentionally turn into "You are my God" declarations, and how can we help you do that? *Isaiah 25:1-5*
6. When you read the promise of perfect peace for the steadfast mind in verses 3-4, what distractions most easily pull your focus away from trusting God, and how can we keep each other anchored in His truth? *Isaiah 26:3-4*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

WORSHIP

Spend at least 5 minutes each morning this week writing down one specific thing you are grateful for, explicitly turning it into a prayer of praise to God as your strength and song.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for each other to experience the deep, unshakeable peace that comes from keeping our minds steadfastly focused on God in worship instead of being distracted by our circumstances.

WEEK THREE



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK FOUR: ISAIAH Isaiah 27-39



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK FOUR



CHECKING IN

1. Looking back at last week, how did intentionally writing down and declaring your gratitude to God impact your joy and stress levels?
2. What is the most memorable piece of good (or bad) news you've ever received out of the blue, and what was your immediate reaction?



KEY VERSE

"Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert."

Isaiah 35:5-6 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you look at the consequences of undisciplined living and relying on emotions in verse 7, in what areas do you find yourself reacting impulsively rather than resting on God's foundation, and how can we hold each other accountable? *Isaiah 28:7*
2. As you consider the danger of honoring God with our lips while our hearts remain far from Him in verse 13, what practices help bring your heart back into authentic alignment with God, and how can we encourage one another in this? *Isaiah 29:13*

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3. Looking at the beautiful picture of the desert blossoming with joy in verses 1-2, where in your life are you currently experiencing a "dry season," and how can we pray for God's refreshing water in that specific area? *Isaiah 35:1-2*
4. When you read the command to strengthen feeble hands and fearful hearts in verses 3-4, who in your life right now needs you to come alongside them with God's strength, and how can we support you in reaching out to them? *Isaiah 35:3-4*
5. Thinking about how Hezekiah literally spread out his enemy's threatening letter before the Lord in verses 14-15, what overwhelming problem do you need to stop trying to fix and simply spread before God today? *Isaiah 37:14-15*
6. As you consider Hezekiah's raw emotional response to devastating personal news in verses 2-3, how do you typically react when blindsided by bad news, and how can our group better support you in those vulnerable moments? *Isaiah 38:2-3*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

FELLOWSHIP

Share a specific struggle or "dry season" you are facing with at least one other person in the group this week, and commit to checking in with each other to pray for that specific need.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray that we would be a community that strengthens feeble hands and fearful hearts, lifting up each other's burdens before the Lord.

WEEK FOUR



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK FIVE: ISAIAH Isaiah 40-42



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK FIVE



CHECKING IN

1. How did you put into practice the truth we learned last week about trusting God during trials?
2. When you think of the word "comfort," what is the first picture or idea that comes to your mind?



KEY VERSE

"but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Looking at the promise that our hard service has been completed and our sins fully paid for, how does this grace change your perspective when you struggle with unresolved guilt, and how can we remind each other of this freedom? *Isaiah 40:1-2*
2. When you consider the promise of a highway made straight in the wilderness, where are you currently feeling trapped by circumstances, and how can we help you look to Jesus for a way out? *Isaiah 40:3-5*

ISAIAH: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

3. As you reflect on the tender image of God carrying His lambs close to His heart, in what specific areas of your daily routine do you most need to rest in His shepherd-like care right now? *Isaiah 40:11*
4. When you lift your eyes to see the incomparable Creator who calls each star by name, how does this vision of His majesty comfort your current worries, and how can we remind each other to look up rather than looking around? *Isaiah 40:25-26*
5. Reading about the promise of renewed strength for those who wait upon the Lord, what is one challenge where you are growing weary, and how can we stand with you as you wait on His timing? *Isaiah 40:27-31*
6. Reflecting on the gentle justice of the Servant who will not break a bruised reed, how does His compassion invite you to bring your deepest hurts to Him, and how can we model this tender care for one another? *Isaiah 42:1-4*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

WORSHIP

Take time this week to go on a nature walk or sit outside, intentionally worshipping God for His incomparable power and thanking Him for His gentle comfort in your life.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray together that God would renew the strength of anyone in the group feeling weary, asking Him to reveal His comfort and gentle guidance in the daily challenges we face.

WEEK FIVE



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK SIX: ISALAH Isaiah 43-51



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:



CHECKING IN

1. How did you experience God's comfort or renewed strength this past week when facing weariness?
2. What is a favorite childhood item or possession you once thought you couldn't live without, but eventually outgrew?



KEY VERSE

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When reading God's promise to be with you when you pass through deep waters and fiery trials, what overwhelming situation are you facing today, and how can we as a group walk alongside you? *Isaiah 43:1-3*
2. As you consider the invitation to forget the former things because God is doing a new thing, what past failure or disappointment do you need to let go of, and how can we encourage you to step into His new streams of grace?
Isaiah 43:18-19

ISAIAH: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

3. Looking at the description of how a blacksmith or carpenter laboriously builds an idol out of wood, what false securities or modern "idols" are you most tempted to build your life around, and how can we help each other cast them down? *Isaiah 44:12-18*
4. Reflecting on the profound reassurance that God has engraved you on the palms of His hands, how does this truth comfort you when you feel forgotten, and how can we remind one another of our secure identity in Him? *Isaiah 49:14-16*
5. When reading the bold call to awake and clothe yourself with strength, in what specific relationship or responsibility do you need God's strength to rise up and break free from old chains? *Isaiah 51:7-9*
6. Considering the beautiful picture of God restoring desolate lands and guiding us to springs of water, where in your life are you desperate for His restoration, and how can we pray for His compassion to guide you there? *Isaiah 49:9-10*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

FELLOWSHIP

Pair up with someone in the group this week to share a cup of coffee or a phone call, checking in on the specific areas where they need God's strength and offering them a listening ear and prayer.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray that God would reveal and tear down any false securities in our lives, and ask Him to strengthen the bonds of fellowship in this group as we walk through deep waters together.

WEEK SIX



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK SEVEN: ISAIAH Isaiah 52-57



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK SEVEN



CHECKING IN

1. What new thing did you see God doing in your life or relationships this past week?
2. If you had to share a piece of really good news with the world today, how would you deliver the message?



KEY VERSE

"But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you think about the beautiful feet of those who bring good news and proclaim peace, who in your life needs to hear God's message of peace right now, and how can we support you in sharing it with them? *Isaiah 52:7*
2. As you reflect on the deeply personal truth that Jesus was despised and rejected, how does recognizing your own moments of ignoring Him bring you to a place of humility, and how can we encourage each other to turn back to Him daily? *Isaiah 53:2-3*

ISAIAH: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

3. Looking at the incredible exchange where He took our punishment to bring us peace and healing, what specific guilt or brokenness do you need to leave at the cross today, and how can we celebrate this freedom together? *Isaiah 53:5-6*
4. Considering the picture of sheep going astray to their own ways, in what subtle ways are you tempted to wander from God's path, and how can we as a group gently point each other back to the Shepherd? *Isaiah 53:6*
5. When reading the free invitation to come to the waters and buy bread without money, what empty things are you currently spending your time and energy on, and how can we help each other seek true satisfaction in Jesus? *Isaiah 55:1-2*
6. As you read about God's ways and thoughts being infinitely higher than our own, what confusing situation are you struggling to trust Him with, and how can we stand in faith with you as you wait for His purpose to unfold? *Isaiah 55:8-9*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

EVANGELISM

Identify one person in your life who is thirsty for hope, and creatively find a way to share the good news of Jesus' love and peace with them this week.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray together for the courage to bring the good news of peace to those around us, asking God to soften their hearts and open their eyes to the beautiful sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

WEEK SEVEN



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.

WEEK EIGHT: ISAIAH Isaiah 58-66



LISTEN

Use this space below to type any notes or thoughts you may have had while listening:

WEEK EIGHT



CHECKING IN

1. How did your perspective change as you focused on the sacrifice Jesus made for your peace and healing this past week?
2. Have you ever been part of a rebuilding or remodeling project? What was the most challenging part of it?



KEY VERSE

"The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,"

Isaiah 61:1 (NIV)



DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When reading about God's call to become a repairer of broken walls, what specific "ruins" in your community or relationships are you feeling drawn to rebuild, and how can we partner with you in that work? *Isaiah 58:12*
2. As you consider the job description to bind up the brokenhearted and comfort all who mourn, who has God placed in your path that is grieving right now, and what practical step can we take together to provide for them? *Isaiah 61:1-3*

ISAIAH: A SMALL GROUP STUDY

3. Looking at the desperate cry for God to rend the heavens and come down, what area of your life feels impossible to fix on your own, and how can we pray for God's rescuing presence to intervene? *Isaiah 64:1-4*
4. Reflecting on the humble realization that we are merely clay in the hands of the Potter, where are you struggling to surrender to God's shaping process, and how can we encourage each other to say "have Your own way"? *Isaiah 64:8*
5. When you envision the promise of a new heaven and a new earth where there is no more weeping or crying, how does this eternal hope change the way you face today's heartaches, and how can we remind each other of our future home? *Isaiah 65:17-19*
6. Considering the contrast between those who humbly tremble at God's word and those who choose their own ways, how can we intentionally cultivate a deeper reverence for Scripture in our daily routines? *Isaiah 66:2-4*



LIVING ON PURPOSE

MINISTRY

Choose a specific, practical way to serve someone who is mourning or brokenhearted this week—such as providing a meal, running an errand, or helping with a task around their house.



PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray that God would fill the group with His Spirit, empowering each person to boldly minister to the brokenhearted, rebuild ruined places, and humbly submit to the Potter's hands.

WEEK EIGHT



TELL A FRIEND

Look back through the study guide above and highlight a point, phrase, or verse that you would like to share with somebody this week.