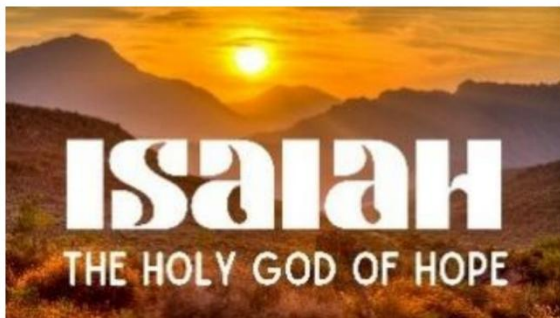




Isaiah 61

Good News!

The Year of the Lord's Favour (1-3)

Build and Renew (4-7)

Justice (8-9)

Celebrate! (10-11)

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS AND FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

Read Isaiah chapter 61 together.

THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOUR (1-3)

1. Why is the Good News so good?
2. Look at the pairs of statements about what God is going to do.
Which ones encourage you the most, and why?
3. Why does Jesus only quote the first part of this passage in Luke 4 verses 18-19?

BUILD AND RENEW (4-7)

4. When and how was the prophecy in verse 4 fulfilled?
5. Why is verse 6 important, and in what way(s) does the prophecy work on more than one level?

JUSTICE (8-9)

6. What do these verses tell us about God's character?
7. How can you use these verses in your witnessing to others about what God is doing in your life (hint: 1 Peter 3 v 15)?

CELEBRATE! (10-11)

8. What does verse 10 make you feel about your future?
9. Why is it important that it is the 'Sovereign Lord' who makes righteousness and praise spring up before all nations (NIV)?
How does that encourage or reassure us when the going gets tough?

Bonus: see how many hymns and songs you can think of which come out of this one chapter.