LIFE GROUPS – LEADER OUTLINE Sunday Sermon Notes – Discussion – Application Isaiah 35:1-10 JOY (ADVENT)

STARTER QUESTIONS FOR THE GROUP

- What's one way you've seen God turn a difficult season into something life-giving?
- What helps you stay on a "straight path" when life feels confusing?
- What's a promise of God that gives you hope right now?

READ THE PASSAGE TOGETHER – Isaiah 35:1-10

Have each group member read a couple of verses that will be covered during the study time.

PRAY FOR THE TIME TOGETHER IN THE WORD

• Invite someone in the group to open the study time in prayer.

HIGHLIGHTS and OBSERVATIONS OF THE TEXT

- In what way was Israel's condition like a wilderness (v. 1)?
- What is the glory of the Lord, and in what way would Israel see it (v. 2)?
- How does Isaiah give us a clear pattern for the encouragement of discouraged and weak Christians (v. 3-4)?
- How does this passage speak directly about the wonder-working power of Jesus Christ (v. 5-6)?
- What is the highway Isaiah speaks of (v. 8-10)?
- What does this passage teach you about the joys of heavenly life (v. 10)?

FROM SUNDAY's SERMON - Reflect and discuss the main points

- What stood out in the sermon to you and why?
- How does Christ fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah 35?
- How does the image of a desert being transformed speak about our spiritual transformation in Christ?
- How does it speak about the physical transformation of the universe in the new heaven and new earth?
- Who can access the way of holiness?
- Explain the terms redeemed and ransomed. How do they fit in this passage?

PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE THIS WEEK - PERSONAL APPLICATION

- How can we use this chapter to strengthen our hope in heaven and build up others who are struggling?
- Where do you currently feel like you are in a desert place?
- What would it look like to invite God's renewing presence there?
- Which fears have been speaking louder than God's promises, and what truth from Isaiah 35 can silence them?
- What intentional step can you take this week to pursue holiness with greater focus?
- What are the biggest distractions or temptations that pull you off God's path?

CLOSE YOUR TIME IN PRAYER TOGETHER FOR ONE ANOTHER

 As we close out this study, spend some time sharing with one-another prayer requests for where you feel the Lord has been speaking to your heart about what might be a needed change in habits, thoughts, or attitudes as it relates to our walk with Christ.