Isaiah 25:1-12 Discussion Guide

Pray

Apart from God, we can do nothing. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion. Throughout your time together, continue asking God for help.

Read Scripture

Read Isaiah 25 together.

Bible Study: The HEAR Method

The bulk of your time will be spent discussing God's Word together. HEAR is an inductive Bible study method that looks closely at what the Bible says to discover what it means so that we can faithfully apply it to our lives.

HEAR stands for:

- <u>Highlight</u>: read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- <u>Examine</u>: based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- <u>Apply</u>: determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- <u>Respond in prayer</u>: pray God's Word back to Him.

Remember:

- Walk through the Bible study together using the HEAR method and talk about what stuck out most to you in the passage.
- Make sure you move discussion to the application section of your study.
- Affections, beliefs, and practices: Make sure to apply the passage to all your life.

Pray

• Take time to pray for one another and ask for His grace to apply His Word to our daily lives.

Open: Have you ever looked forward to a trip or vacation before? If so, did it live up to your expectations? Why or why not?

Context: Isaiah chapters 24-27 describes the end of this present age, when God judges the nations and saves his people.

Study:

- 1) Why does God deserve to be praised (vs. 1)? Give some examples from what we've read in Isaiah already.
- 2) For what three things does the prophet glorify God (see vs. 1-5)?
- 3) What blessings has God given to the poor and needy (see vs. 4)? Has this been your experience personally? If so, recount an example.
- 4) In contrast to God's blessings towards the poor and needy, what is God's disposition to the "ruthless" (see 3-5)? Why is there such a contrast in God's disposition between these two groups of people? What does this say about God?
- 5) Where does God prepare a feast and whom does He invite (see vs. 6)? What's significant about the location of this feast? What does this feast signify?

- 6) How does God use this feast imagery to give hope to His people for the future in Revelation 19:7-9; 21:3-4; and 1 Corinthians 15:54)? What do these descriptions of the food and wine indicate about the way God blesses His people? What does the repetition of "all" in vs. 6-9 indicate?
- 7) What does the promise that "*he will swallow up death forever*"(25:8) provide such comfort to the people living during Isaiah's time? How does this comfort us today when we grieve the death of loved ones?
- 8) How will God's treatment of those "*on this mountain*" compare to His treatment of Moab (see vs. 10) and the wicked (see vs. 11-12)? Why is Moab singled out like this?

Apply:

- 9) Why do you think that God gave His people a description of the end of this present age? How often do you consider the end of this present age and what awaits you? Why?
- 10) When you consider the present events of history, what does it cause you to long for? Why?
- 11) Since the end of the present age is already assured, how can you derive joy, hope, and comfort as you wait?
- 12) How is it possible that God can and has "swallowed up death forever"? Why is it important for Christians to keep at the forefront the only way that God can swallow up death forever and be disposed to wipe away tears from our faces?
- 13) It seems that vs. 9 describes the only appropriate response to God's promised salvation and deliverance of His people. If this is true, how might you apply this to your life today? How can you share this with others?

PRAY:

- Take time thank God the He truly is the One who always keeps His promises.
- Take time to thank God that there is coming a day when He will judge the nations and save His people.
- Ask God for the Spirit's help you believe this future reality more and derive hope as you await the end of the present age.
- Ask God to give you opportunities to share with others His salvation before it's too late to receive it.