

Isaiah 26:1-15 **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 26 together, with a special focus on 26:1-15.

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:

- **Highlight:** read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- **Examine:** based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- **Apply:** determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- **Respond in prayer:** 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: Recall a time where you had to wait for something in your past. What made waiting so difficult?

Context: Isaiah chapters 24-27 describes the end of this present age, when God judges the nations and saves his people. While for Christians today our salvation is assured in Jesus, yet we are still called to patiently wait for it to be fully realized in the midst of a troubled and frustrating world, as we learn to hope and hide in our Savior. In chapter 27 specifically we are taught a song that teaches us how to wait for the Lord as we live under the shadow of the curse of our fallen world where sin, tears, and death abound.

Study:

- 1) Describe the heavenly Jerusalem that we see in 26:1-4, and 7-9. Who is allowed to enter there?
- 2) What will be sung in Judah according to 26:2-3? Why is this significant considering their context?

- 3) According to 26:3-4, what is the key to perfect peace? What happens when we get distracted from trusting in the Lord? Why is the Lord called an “everlasting rock”?
- 4) In contrast to the blessing described in vs. 3-4, what do those described in vs. 5-6 receive instead? Why?
- 5) What is the “lofty city” (see 26:5)? What do Jehovah and His saints do to it (see 26:5-6, 10-11)?
- 6) How is the way of the just described in vs. 7-9?
- 7) What happens when grace is shown even to the wicked in vs. 10-11? Why is this their response? What is hindering them from responding rightly? How can this inform the ways you pray for family members, friends, and co-workers who don’t know God?
- 8) How does the relationship of the people with God compare to the dominion of other masters
- 9) Who does Isaiah see resurrected with himself in vs. 12-19?

Apply:

- 10) Where are you finding it difficult to “*trust in the Lord*”? How does this passage of Scripture (especially 26:3-4) encourage you to put your trust in Him completely for your life and the lives of those you love? How can remembering the gospel encourage you to begin to “*trust in the Lord*” again and again?
- 11) What are some specific ways that the mentality of the “*lofty city*” is seen today in the world? How have you been tempted to embrace this mind-set? How does this Scripture, and this book of Isaiah so far, encourage you to resist the temptation to put your trust in other things?
- 12) This song is giving us a glimpse into the future and how completely trustworthy our God is. How can we help one another believe this song as we wait for the fulfillment of God’s promised future?

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 and give us peace.
- Take time to pray and ask for God’s kingdom to come visibly to fruition.
- Ask God for the Spirit’s help to trust in the Lord when all around you seems chaotic and out of control.
- Ask God to give you opportunities to share with others His salvation before it’s too late to receive it.