

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, June 12, 2022

Passage: Isaiah 8:1-8

Memory Passage: Isaiah 8:3-4

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Is. 7:1-25.** Write a paragraph describing what you learned last week in your study of Is. 7:1-17.

(b) With specific attention to detail, write a paragraph recounting what you learned last week in your study of Is. 7:18-25. These verses are intimately connected to 8:1-8.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Is. 8:1-8.** What was the purpose of writing “Maher-shalal-hash-baz” (which means “speeding to the spoil, hastening to the prey”) in readable letters on the tablet?

(b) The Hebrew spelling of the name includes a one-letter prefix that, if the name was already known, would only be a designation of the name. However, if the name was not already known (which seems likely), the prefix would designate the accusative and would be translated, as in the ESV, “belonging to” or “referring to.” What purpose does this meaning serve?

(c) Why does God say He will “get reliable witnesses” to “attest for” Him?

(d) “Zechariah, the son of Jeberechiah” could be King Ahaz’s father-in-law, but the identity of “Uriah the priest” is surer. What do you remember of him from last week’s study (cf. 2 Kings 16:10-16)? What significance do you see in God using this man as His “reliable witness?”

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Is. 8:1-8.** Explain what the birth of this child will convey to God’s people (8:4).

(b) How are this child and the Immanuel child (7:14-17) related?

(c) What countries and kings do “Damascus” and “Samaria” represent?

(d) To whom does “this people” refer (v. 6)?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Is. 8:1-8.** Explain the metaphorical language used in vs. 6-8 by identifying the referents of “the waters of Shiloah that flow gently,” “the waters of the River” (i.e., The Euphrates) and the description of its movement, and “outspread wings.”

(b) Explain why God will orchestrate this judgment (v. 6)?

(c) What hints of a remnant do you find in v. 8?

(d) In what way did Judah (“this people” in v. 6) “rejoice over” Syria and Israel?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Is. 8:1-8.** The people of Judah looked at their circumstances without considering their God. Things looked one way, but God was doing something else. In what ways does this passage instruct you as you look out on the world in which you live? In what ways does it encourage you to be faithful? Obedient? Fearless?

(b) In what ways are you tempted to put your trust in something other than God, just as Judah tried to trust in other nations?

(c) Write down everything you learned about God’s character and work in 7:1-8:8. Which of these do you most often forget in your daily life? What will you do to etch these truths about God into your decision-making in the future?

(d) “Immanuel” brackets this entire section (7:14, 8:8) and transitions us to the next (8:10). How should this promise affect your daily walk with Jesus? How should this promise bring fearlessness to your actions and decisions?

DATE: June 12, 2022

PASSAGE: Isaiah 8:1-8

Maher-shalal-hash-baz