

OUTLAWS

MESSAGE NEXT STEPS

ISAIAH

MARCH 24

Many times in our lives we experience circumstances beyond our control, whether that involves finances, relationships, family, health, or even the weather. Being human, we often feel the need to worry and try to control the various factors in our lives in an attempt to protect ourselves and the ones we love, but ultimately we don't have the power. What could it look like to let go and trust God to be in control of all the things we care about so much?

Work through the following questions and Scriptures on your own, and get together with your running partner, life group, or friends and family to talk through what you are learning.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were some of your fears as a child? What are a few of your fears now, as an adult?
2. What do you turn to make you feel better about your fears, giving you a sense of assurance?
3. **Read Isaiah 7:14.** Which of the things that the Bible says are true about Jesus are the most difficult for you to accept?
4. **Read Isaiah 42:1-9.** Hundreds of years before Jesus came, God promised us through Isaiah that He would bring healing, freedom, and justice. If He clearly knows the future and promises good things for those who turn to Him, how does that make you feel about your own future?
5. **Read Isaiah 41:9-13.** If God has to reassure us that He has not rejected us and that He's there with us, then that means He knows we will feel at times that He has abandoned us. Have there been times in your life where you have been able to cling to these promises, even when they don't feel real? What did that look like for you?
6. **Read Isaiah 53:1-6.** So often we don't believe God's promises to be enough for us in our fear, pain, and need, and yet He actually carried all of those sorrows that cause our doubt. When you would rather go your own way, does this idea give you strength to trust God? Why or why not?
7. **Read Isaiah 43:1-3.** When you see the way God has predicted world history, as well as the coming of His Son, you see how He is all-powerful and all-knowing. When you read verses like these, you see how He is also all-loving. How do these ideas impact you moving forward to have confidence in God's loving plan for you, letting go of worry and fear? What practical steps can you take this week to walk in the assurance of God's love?

KEY SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 7:14 – Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

Isaiah 42:1-9 – “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations.... I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles [nations], to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. “I am the Lord; that is my name!...new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.”

Isaiah 41:9-13 – I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. “All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish...For I am the Lord your God...”

Isaiah 53:1-6 – Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord [Messiah] been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot...He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain...Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering...he was pierced [nailed to a cross] for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity [sins] of us all.

Isaiah 43:1-3 – ...“Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown...For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...”

DIGGING DEEPER

As you look to dig deeper into the topics of this week’s message, consider checking out the Trust God outcome on Gateway’s Spiritual Growth Path.

To complete the Trust God outcome in its entirety, head to gatewaychurch.com/spiritual_outcomes/trust-god

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gatewaychurch.com/spiritual_outcomes/trust-god