

Life Group Discussion Guide

Isaiah: Yahweh Alone Is God

Week 13: Wake Up! • Isaiah 51:17-52:12

Read **Isaiah 51:17-52:12** together. Focus on recurring themes, words, and phrases. As you reflect on this passage and Pastor Jon's message, what are your initial impressions or takeaways? What stood out to you most?

Wake up! Judgment is over

Isaiah 51:17–23 God commands Jerusalem (Israel) to awaken from her stupor, symbolizing the end of his judgment. The cup of his wrath is now taken away. This calls for an awakening to a new reality where God's people are no longer under his anger but are being restored.

- What does Isaiah 51:17–23 say about the end of God's judgment on his people?
- How does the imagery of the cup of wrath being taken away help us understand God's mercy?
- Do you struggle with the idea that God is both the defender of his people and also the one who makes them stagger with his wrath? How does the concept of God as *Creator and Redeemer* help our understanding of this fact?
- According to John 3:36, what is the difference between those who trust in Jesus and those who reject him?

Wake up! Put on splendor and strength.

Isaiah 52:1–6 Jerusalem is urged to awake and dress in strength and beautiful garments, symbolizing a restored and honored status. The call is to shake off the dust and rise up, moving away from the past captivity. God's people are reminded of their worth and are called to embrace their identity with confidence and dignity.

- According to Isaiah 52:1–6, what does it mean to "put on splendor and strength"? What does this mean for believers today?
- In his message, Pastor Jon mentioned "shaking off the dust" and the importance of recognizing our true identity in Christ. How does this passage reinforce that identity?
- What steps can we take to remind ourselves daily of our identity in Christ?
- How does knowing our worth in God influence our actions and decisions?

Burst into song! Your God reigns.

Isaiah 52:7–12 The message of salvation and God’s reign brings joy and calls for a celebration. The good news of God’s victory and his comforting presence among his people leads to a spontaneous outburst of praise. The people are encouraged to sing and proclaim the reign of God, as he brings peace and redemption.

- What does Isaiah 52:7–12 reveal about the proclamation of good news and the reign of God?
- In what ways does Isaiah’s image of beautiful feet bringing good news resonate with you?
- How does recognizing God’s reign influence our trust in his plans for our lives?

Depart, depart, go out from there!

God’s people are instructed to leave their place of captivity, symbolizing a complete separation from their past bondage. God is calling his people to awaken from their slumber, embrace their renewed identity with strength and splendor, and rejoice in the reign of God as they move out from captivity into freedom.

- How did Pastor Jon explain the significance of leaving behind the place of exile?
- In verse 12, God’s word to his people is, *“But you will not leave in haste or go in flight; for the Lord will go before you, the God of Israel will be your rear guard.”* What is the significance of this word? Why does God insist they not “go in flight”?

