



KING OF GLORY
A LUTHERAN COMMUNITY

Isaiah

Point:

We can all be prophets by standing up for what we know God wants, calling for justice for all, and pointing to God in our words and our lifestyles.

God sent the prophets to warn people when they were breaking God's commandments and to tell them about God's plan for their future. Isaiah was one of the most important of the prophets because he told people of the coming of Christ. We can all serve as prophets of God.

We believe that God did not quit speaking through people when the Bible was finally completed. God continues to be active in the world, speaking through the words and actions of people today. God uses people as prophets to create change in the world. Think of people like Martin Luther King, Jr. or Mother Theresa. But you don't have to be famous.

We can all be prophets by standing up for what we know God wants, for calling for justice for all, and for pointing to God in our words and our lifestyles. This last call is the most important. As Isaiah pointed to God and called for people to follow, so we should do the same.

Scripture:
Isaiah 53:4-6

4

Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

5

But he was pierced 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.

6

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 of us all.



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Discussion:

1. Isaiah is one of the most important Old Testament prophets. Read Isaiah 53:4-6. What words or phrases are confusing?

Isaiah prophesied during one of the worst times in the history of Israel. The Israelites had become so corrupt that God was going to remove them out of God's sight. God raised up the Assyrian army to be an unmerciful, barbaric, ruthless, and unstoppable war machine. This was at a time when king Uzziah had just died. King Uzziah was a faithful servant of the Lord and people felt secure under his leadership, but when he died there was almost panic. This is when the Lord showed Isaiah who was really on the throne. Not a king that ruled by oppression, violence, and fear, but one that came to save us from our sins.

2. Isaiah was talking about a king coming in the future. Who do you think he was writing about?

In this scripture, Isaiah was talking about the coming of Christ. Israelite people had been enslaved, freed, and forced to wander in the wilderness for 40 years. Then their people had been split, defeated, and exiled. The people were looking for a messiah to come and help rebuild their nation.

3. What type of Messiah was Isaiah prophesying would come? What kind of person do you think the Israelites thought the Messiah would be, a humble person or a mighty king?

Think about the possibilities for God communicating this message to the Israelites. God wanted to let us know a Messiah was coming, but it wouldn't be a Messiah like they were expecting. They might have been expecting a new and glorious king who would defeat their enemies, reunite the people, and rule in glory; not a God born in a manger who would live as a servant and then die on a cross.

4. Prophets also called people back to living the way God intended by caring for and standing up for one another. The Israelites didn't like to be told that the way they were living was wrong. Why do you think people don't like others who tell them that what they are doing is wrong?

Let's face it..... no one likes to be told that they are wrong about something. We don't like to be criticized or confronted.

5. What words do we use to describe those who have the courage to stand up and tell people that what they are doing is wrong?

We want to get to know Isaiah. However, none of the material in the book of Isaiah is really about him. So, we think in terms of people who call for change.



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What do we call people today who call for change in our society? ANY of these words could apply today.

6. Think of a situation that exists now at school, home, or in the world where you see someone being treated unfairly. Write down specific things you could do to be like a prophet and help the situation.

God can use you to help the world just like God used Isaiah, Amos, Martin Luther King Jr., and all the other prophets.



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Student Questions:

1. Isaiah is one of the most important Old Testament prophets. Read Isaiah 53:4-6. What words or phrases are confusing?
2. Isaiah was talking about a king coming in the future. Who do you think he was writing about?
3. What type of Messiah was Isaiah prophesying would come? What kind of person do you think the Israelites thought the Messiah would be, a humble person or a mighty king?
4. Prophets also called people back to living the way God intended by caring for and standing up for one another. The Israelites didn't like to be told that the way they were living was wrong. Why do you think people don't like others who tell them that what they are doing is wrong?
5. What words do we use to describe those who have the courage to stand up and tell people that what they are doing is wrong? Circle all that apply:

Troublemaker
Whistleblower
Goodie Goodie
Friend

Courageous
Problem Child
Visionary
Bossy

Selfish
Honest
Predictor
Pain

Teacher
Prophet
Uptight
Rebel



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