



FOR THE  
DISPLAY  
OF HIS  
SPLENDOR  
ISAIAH 61:3

GROUP GUIDE

Isaiah 61

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who  
are bound;  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup> to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of  
ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, that he may be  
glorified.  
<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
<sup>5</sup> Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks;  
foreigners shall be your plowmen and  
vinedressers;  
<sup>6</sup> but you shall be called the priests of the Lord;  
they shall speak of you as the ministers of our  
God;  
you shall eat the wealth of the nations,  
and in their glory you shall boast.  
<sup>7</sup> Instead of your shame there shall be a double  
portion;  
instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their  
lot;  
therefore in their land they shall possess a  
double portion;  
they shall have everlasting joy.  
<sup>8</sup> For I the Lord love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;<sup>1</sup>  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with  
them.  
<sup>9</sup> Their offspring shall be known among the  
nations,  
and their descendants in the midst of the  
peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge them,  
that they are an offspring the Lord has  
blessed.  
<sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of  
salvation;  
he has covered me with the robe of  
righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with  
a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
<sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to  
sprout up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and  
praise  
to sprout up before all the nations.

**Dedicated to the Mission of Jesus // October 6, 2024**

1. When it comes to living missionally, what words come to mind? Exciting? Challenging? Exhausting?
2. Read Isaiah 61:4. God renews ruined cities. Think about what this might look like in your own city.
  - a. Where do you see the city in ruins? In other words, where do you see brokenness, injustice, pain, etc.? This could be within your specific neighbourhood or throughout the entire city.
  - b. Where do you see restoration already happening? Are there initiative, programs, or organizations that are doing good work? Are there people you admire?
3. Read Isaiah 61:5.
  - a. What's your gut instinct to this verse? Would you want to be involved in restoration that looks like this?
  - b. How should we understand this verse today? How might we read this differently standing on the opposite side of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection?
4. Read Isaiah 61:6. God calls each of us to be "priests of the LORD," that is, people who help others draw closer to Jesus. What experience do you have "living missionally"? Have there been certain environments or seasons where you've been more intentional than others? How intentional have you been in this current season?
5. In this passage, Isaiah assumes that people will do this together. Living missionally cannot happen in isolation. Community Groups can help us to live missionally by pushing one another forward.
  - a. As a group, brainstorm practical ways you could live missionally in the coming weeks.
  - b. Have each person make personal commitments regarding missional living, and have someone record them. The goal isn't fear or shame; the goal is for our communities to strengthen our ability to live more like Jesus.
6. As a group, pray by name for those in your lives who do not know Jesus.



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### [LEADERS NOTES]

#### RESOURCES TO HELP YOU FOLLOW JESUS

- [centralheights.ca/followjesus](https://centralheights.ca/followjesus)

#### STORIES

- We love hearing how God moves in people's lives. If you or anyone in your group has a story and would be willing to share, we'd love to hear it and celebrate with you. You can share your story by emailing [stories@centralheights.ca](mailto:stories@centralheights.ca)

#### MESSAGE Video and Audio can be found at:

<https://www.centralheights.ca/currentseries>