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

² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

³ 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.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities,

the devastations of many generations.

Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks;
foreigners shall be your plowmen and
vinedressers;

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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. ⁸ For I the Lord love justice;

I hate robbery and wrong;[[]
I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their 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.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ 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.

Delight in Jesus// September 22, 2024

- 1. What brings you delight and joy? Share why that something or someone stirs joy in you.
- 2. Read Isaiah 61:1-11.
 - a. How would you summarize God's redemptive vision in verses 1 to 10?
 - b. How does this chapter move toward response? Consider the place of verses 10-11 to verses 1-10.
- 3. Read the following two stories from Jesus' life in Luke 10:38-42 and Matthew 22:34-40. Then, discuss the following:
 - a. What principle do you think Jesus is trying to instill in these stories?
 - b. Is doing for God (serving, helping others, etc.) wrong?
 - c. How should our doing for God flow from our being with God?
 - d. What happens when we get the order wrong?
- 4. How are good, earthly things both a shadow of and a signpost to the deeper joy we were made for?
- 5. Using Isaiah 61:10, discuss the two different sources of delight:
 - a. Delight in what God has done
 - b. Delight in God himself
- 6. How is delighting in what God gives different than delighting in God for God?
- 7. Delight will look different for different people but at Central Heights we believe there are three essentials to cultivate and express delight: prayer, worship, and Scripture.
 - a. Which of these three can you commit to undertake this week to cultivate a delight in Jesus?
 - b. What will that look like? Make a plan.



[LEADERS NOTES]

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU FOLLOW JESUS

• 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

MESSAGE Video and Audio can be found at:

https://www.centralheights.ca/currentseries

