



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;  
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.

## For the Display of His Splendor // September 15, 2024

1. If you could watch any movie or read any book, what would you watch/read? Share why.
2. Read Isaiah 61:1-3.
  - a. How would you summarize God's redemptive vision in these verses?
  - b. What is the part God plays and the part we are meant to play?
3. The vision of Isaiah 61 is theocentric (God is the centre and focus). As you consider this, discuss the following:
  - a. Why is it important that God is the central focus?
  - b. What difference does it make if God is the focus instead of us?
  - c. How does God's Spirit make it possible for us to live out Isaiah 61?
4. Of the following hesitations or barriers to join God in what he wants to do in the world, which one do you most see yourself in:
  - a. No one's described the part I have to play to me
  - b. This is for the professionals and the elite few
  - c. We compartmentalize our lives
  - d. I don't have what it takes, how could God possibly use me?
5. Consider the statement 'we are saved from something, to something.' Then discuss the following:
  - a. What are we saved *from*? Consider Ephesians 2:1-3.
  - b. What are we saved *into*? Consider Ephesians 2:4-10 and Romans 6:1-11.
6. Read Isaiah 61:3 again. What do you think it means to live for the display of God's splendor (for his glory)? Consider using Isaiah 61 as a way to think about this.
7. Isaiah 61:1-3 lists different people the Anointed One (Jesus) was sent to (the poor, the brokenhearted, the captive, the prisoner, those who mourn and grieve, those experiencing a spirit of despair). As you look at this:
  - a. Which one of these draws your affection and attention the most?
  - b. Why do you think that is?
  - c. How might God be inviting you to partner with him to love them?



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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>