



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;
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.
⁴ 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.
⁵ 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;¹
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with
them.
⁹ 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.
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.

Vision // September 8, 2024

1. If you could wave a magic wand and the world would be completely fixed, what would it look like?
2. Read Isaiah 61:1-11.
 - a. What do you feel as you read these verses?
 - b. What image or picture most resonates with you? Share why.
3. In Isaiah 61, Israel has just returned from exile and is living among the ruins of a destroyed Jerusalem. Based on this context:
 - a. How do you think Israel was feeling at this moment? Consider Isaiah 59:9-11.
 - b. How have you experienced the 'rubble' of broken circumstances, relationships, or trauma in your life? Share what that experience was like.
 - c. Did God show up during that time? If so, share how and what difference that made.
4. Imagine how it felt for Israel to hear the words of Isaiah 61 and then have to wait for them to be fulfilled.
 - a. What difficult do you think that would have been?
 - b. Have you experienced waiting for God to keep a promise? Share that experience and what it was like for you
 - c. How can God's promises for the future help you wait in the present?
5. At the heart of God's redemptive vision is a figure called the 'Anointed One.'
 - a. Who is the Anointed One? Consider Isaiah 42:1-4, Isaiah 53:2-12, and Luke 4:16-19.
 - b. What is the Anointed One sent to do? Consider verses 1-4 and 10-11.
6. Jesus comes and accomplishes what Isaiah 61 speaks about in his life, ministry, death, and resurrection. He then sends his followers (the church) to continue what he started. Read John 20:22, Matthew 28:18-20, and Acts 1:8 and then discuss together what the church has been sent to do by Jesus.
7. Isaiah 61 is our new vision as a church. As you close, consider the following statement and then pray for the following:

Central Heights is here to show a lost and hurting world who Jesus is and invite all people to be transformed through a life with him. Simply put, we exist to display God's splendor in the power of the Spirit.

- a. God, help me receive this vision and be formed by it.
- b. God, give me a hunger to see Isaiah 61 come to life in our day
- c. God, show me the part you want me to play in this



FOR THE
DISPLAY
OF HIS
SPLENDOR
ISAIAH 61:3

GROUP GUIDE

[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>