

La Novela de Dios

Episode 9 – Isaiah: God’s Rescue Plan



group discussion flow

connect with needs

- Find out how they are doing.
- Pray for wisdom from God for the session.
- Start by stating: “Sometimes the hero in the story is not exactly who you might expect.”
- Then, surface experiences:
 - “Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
 - “Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “This is also true in the Christian life.”
- Illustration(s):
- Video Clip Suggestion(s):

hear what God says

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic.
- Choices:
 - Isaiah 1**
 - Isaiah 53**
- Commentary:
 - Isaiah 1** — In this time period, God often used men to convey a message to his people. These men were called prophets. In the beginning of this book, the prophet Isaiah comes with a very important message. God’s people have turned their backs on him. They are sinning, have idols, and have perverted the way he wanted them to live. He also tells them that it’s their whole body that’s messed up. He says this to tell them one thing—this isn’t about just getting their acts together. God’s people are so messed up that they need a rescuer—someone who can come in and dramatically changes the situation. Otherwise, they will have no hope.
 - Isaiah 53** — In this passage, God uses Isaiah to lay out his rescue plan. Because he loves his people so much, he will send someone to deliver them. It might not be who they expect—he may not come like a king in majesty, but he will be exactly who they need. He will be the one who will take all of the peoples’ sins on himself and he will be punished instead of them so that the people can be right with God.

- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions below:
 - “What do you think this passage teaches us?”
 - “What can we learn about God or our response to God?”
- How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: “Sometimes the hero in a story is not quite who you would expect?”
- God sees that his people are a mess. We’ve read stories about a lot of the great heroes of the Bible and, as we saw with David, even those people didn’t entirely keep God’s law. They thought they knew better than God and went their own way.
- But God loved His people and wanted them to be right with him again, so he used Isaiah to tell them of his plan to rescue them. The hero would come, but not necessarily the way one might expect. The hero would come in the form of a man—God’s Son—who would be willing to take on the sin of mankind and be punished for it so that man could be set free.
- This is the only way that the sinful people could be right with God again, and God delighted in setting forth his rescue plan. It will be about 700 more years before the deliverer comes, but God is always faithful. He gives us Isaiah’s words as his promise that He’s got a plan.

apply that to life

- State the main lesson: “God’s rescue plan is exactly what people need.” Have them write the **lesson learned** on their Mini-Journal card.
- Discuss:
 - How are we similar to the Israelites in this passage?
 - What are some ways you’ve tried to take care of your sin on your own? Has it worked?
 - Explain God’s rescue plan in your own words. How does it apply to us today?
 - “What is one action you can take this week to share this good news with someone who isn’t here?”
- Have them write down their specific **action to take**. Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

tell someone they know

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after **person to tell**. Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

notes & preparation checklist

pray

- Pray for wisdom.
- Pray for group members.

connect

- Think of a good personal example to share.
- Decide when and how to transition from **connect** to **hear**.

notes & preparation checklist

hear

Alternate questions to ask:

- **Isaiah 1**
 1. Put Isaiah’s message into your own words. What is he trying to get across to the people?
 2. In verse 5-6, Isaiah says that their whole body is injured and whole heart is afflicted. What does he mean by this?
 3. What about verse 18 gives a lot of hope for Israel?

○ Isaiah 53

1. In your own words, how is the the man described in this passage?
2. Why was he “crushed?” Why did all of these painful things happen to the rescuer?
3. What do you think it means that “his life was an offering for sin” (verse 10)? How exactly will he help the people who are in sin? How does he make it possible for them to be right with God again?

notes & preparation checklist

apply

- Decide when and how to transition from **hear** to **apply**.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. Have an example in mind.
- Print Mini Journal

notes & preparation checklist

tell

- Commit to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Look for group members who “tell” easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.

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lesson learned



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