

Discussion Guide

“EXPECTANT: Jesus Is Worth the Wait”

December 4, 2022



Big Idea

Jesus was worth waiting for in Isaiah’s time, and He is worth waiting for now.



Icebreaker

Share an experience from your life where you remember waiting expectantly for something to be received; happen; etc. that came to pass and that was just so joyful.



Discussion Questions

1. Take some time together to talk about what you recall, or know, regarding the context of Isaiah chapter 11. For example, what does God, through Isaiah, describe in the chapters leading up to it (chapters 9 & 10) that will take place. Also, why will this take place?
2. Read Isaiah 11:1-3a (end with ... *fear of the Lord*). In the face of all that God had communicated in chpts 9 & 10 of the Book of Isaiah (discussed above in question 1), why is this portion of Isaiah 11 so needed & so powerful? What, at its core (in one word, perhaps), does chapter 11 communicate?
3. Have you ever been in a “dead stump” season of life, just looking for a sign of life or hope, where you received it? When was that; in what way did God provide that sign of life or hope? What difference did it make? Are you in a “dead-stump” season today? What are some things you may need to do that you have perhaps been neglecting which could help you see a “shoot of life” that God may be trying to show to you?
4. Flash forward 700+ years from the time of Isaiah & read Luke 4:14-30. This is quite a riveting scene full of drama & emotion, including an emotional swing. Discuss as a group some of what Jesus was communicating (there are multiple things) as He began His ministry in this, His Nazareth Manifesto (vs’s 16-20), and the passages surrounding it. How may you have responded to all said?
5. Read Isaiah 11:3b-5. How is Jesus’ mode of judgement superior to ours? How can we grow in His likeness when it comes to the ways in which we judge others?
6. Read Isaiah 11:6-10. These passages paint a wonderful picture of Jesus’ 2nd coming (2nd advent) for which we, today, await. When that time comes & is completed, there will *no longer be* many of the painful, harmful, or destructive things we face today. What is something you are personally most expectant for, that you, nor humanity, will have to walk through &/or face any longer?



Concluding Question

As we, in gratitude for Jesus’ first coming, await expectantly for His second coming, how can you specifically be an ambassador of God’s hope and peace during this Christmas season; bringing a foretaste of what will one day be fully realized?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer

-That in this season we, the Church, will receive a filling of wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, and knowledge from the Lord through the pouring out of His Spirit.