

Life Application Notes

Isaiah 9 – 30th September 2018 (Central & Lordshill)

Speaker: Si Munsie

Introduction

The passage of Isaiah 9 is most often read during advent or Christmas – with it being just short of 100 days of Christmas, discuss people’s bizarre family Christmas traditions. What do you do on Christmas day that no one else does?! Maybe each group could put in some dates and ideas for Christmas and get them in the diary well ahead of time and work towards an event in early December that you could then invite people to the carol services etc?

“The zeal of the Lord will accomplish this”:

Zeal is best translated from Hebrew as jealousy or envy – God is jealous for his own glory.

Look at the following verses and consider what this teaches us about God – how can we reconcile and understanding of God’s zeal/jealousy when it seems to us to be an unhealthy/sinful characteristic. What is the Lord jealous for? Is it justifiable?

Exodus 20:5 // Exodus 34:14 // Deuteronomy 4:24 // Isaiah 42:8 // Ezekiel 39:7 // Joel 2:18

Kennings

On Sunday, Si explained that Anglo-Saxons/Vikings etc used kennings to describe different things i.e. two (or three!) words put together to describe something more than just the name of something might.

Which of the names/kennings for Jesus stood out most to you and why? Light bringer // Freedom fighter // Wonderful Counselor // Warrior God // Everlasting Father // Prince Of Peace

Can you explore creating some kennings around the character of God or what we see Jesus doing? Even some of the themes that have been explored throughout Isaiah so far?

God wrestler	shame atoner	silence holder
Blessing stealer	hope holder	truth teller
name changer	peace bringer	people lover
soul lover	soul healer	live giver
whole maker	sleep giver	wounds healer

Prayer

We can all look at our local areas, our city, our nation, even the church and have fears and worries for the future. While verse 7 is showing Jesus’ reign and rule over the whole earth, we also know that his eye is on the sparrow. Jesus is interested in the affairs of nations, he establishes rulers on their thrones but also binds up the broken the broken-hearted and cares for the poor.

Spend time in prayer for your locality, for the nation and for the church in our nation. We can lift our sights higher than our own individual problems but God is interested in both. You could write down things that concern us on post-its to give reference points to stir people to pray or to pray with a news website on your tv screen. Karl Barth said “Take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible.” – believing prayer aligns our hearts with God’s and changes the world.