

Comfort Came at Christmas Isaiah 40:1-8

| Time | | Questions | Answers |
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| 10 | Hook | <i>Use this question to engage group members in conversation with an introduction question that helps them get to know each other better.</i> | |
| | 1 | Describe a time when you really felt the comfort of the Lord. | Open. |
| 10 | Book | <i>Use these questions to set the tone for the study and give group members a background in the text you will be studying.</i> | |
| | 2 | In a most general way compare Is. Chapters 1-39 to 40-66. | Woes and discomfort to Joys and comfort. Old Testament to New Testament. There is a message that seems to be dual but the two most go together. |
| | 3 | What's the problem with separating God/Jesus' discomfoting words from His comforting ones. | We tend not to understand/appreciate one without the other. Plus, we miss a part of the story we see God/Jesus as only a wrathful God who we should fear or only a loving forgiving God. |
| 25 | Look | <i>Use these questions as entry points into the passage of scripture.</i> | |

4

Who turns out to be the voice calling in the desert as spoken of in verse 3? What does he mean that the valleys shall be raised up and the mountains made low? How will this reveal the glory of the Lord?

John the Baptist. That the pathway of the Lord will be like a level highway, with access for all to see the coming glory of the Lord's procession.

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What is the comforting message of Isaiah 40?

That our sin has been paid for and we have received double from the Lord's hand, instead of what we deserve. Grace instead of wrath.

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| 15 | <u>Took</u> | Use these questions to help the group take the meaning and apply it to their lives in tangible ways. Applications can be cognitive (change my thinking), behavioral (change my actions), or emotional (change my feelings). Be sure to turn these applications into prayer requests for the upcoming week as you close the study. | |
| | 11 | Have we received this gift from the Lord? | Open |
| | 12 | How have you experienced the glory of the Lord this Christmas season? | Open |
| | 13 | | |

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| <u>Pray</u> | Our Father like King David we confess our sin against you and you alone. We pray that we see and experience your glory this Christmas. May we receive your comfort and in relationship with your “living Word” your son Jesus. | |
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