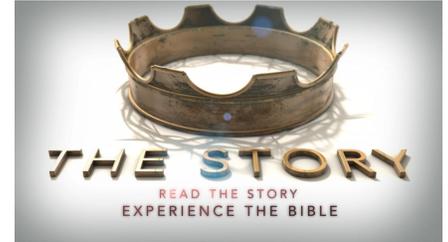


Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for June 13, 2021:
Chapter 16: The Beginning of the End



For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with CGS Community or family

- **CONNECT** *with each other*

1. What story can you tell of an amazing comeback in the face of defeat?

- **GROW** *in Christ*

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor. 10 I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11

1. King Hezekiah was one of the few kings deemed “good” in the eyes of God (2 Kings 18-19, pp. 220-224). What did Hezekiah do that was pleasing to God?
2. Why did King Hezekiah experience so many difficulties? Does obedience lead to prosperity?
3. When Hezekiah received an intimidating letter from Assyrian King Sennacherib, what was his response (2 Kings 19:14-19)? When you give a matter to God, how do you know when to wait and when to act?
4. What were some of the main themes in Isaiah’s prophecies?
5. The northern tribes fell to the Assyrians and were never reunited. If someone who was a member of those tribes asked you, “Where was God?”, how might you answer them? (pp. 219-220, 2 Kings 17:1-14)
6. Though the Southern Kingdom of Judah discovered they would one day end up prisoners of war under the fist of a foreign nation, God spoke words of hope through his prophet (Isaiah 14:1-5, Isaiah 49, pp. 226-228). What did God promise?
7. Without knowing Jesus, what conclusions might you have drawn about the coming messiah from Isaiah 53?
8. How would you summarize the message of hope in each of these passages from Isaiah?
 - Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

- Isaiah 11:6-10
- Isaiah 25:6-9
- Isaiah 35:1-7
- Isaiah 40:1-2,10-12, 28-31
- Isaiah 42:1-4
- Isaiah 43:1-2
- Isaiah 53:4-5
- Isaiah 55:1-2
- Isaiah 60:1-3
- Isaiah 63:3-5
- Isaiah 64:1-2, 8-9
- Isaiah 66:14-16

9. Isaiah foretold the rise and fall of nations. Is God still in control of world events in our day? How does that impact your prayers? Where do you place your hope? How can hope and idolatry be connected?
10. In Luke 4:16-21, Jesus claims the prophecy of Isaiah 61 as His mission statement. If we have been given the Spirit to continue Jesus' work, is this also your mission statement? Read Isaiah 61, claiming the words as your own.
11. When Jerusalem was surrounded by the Assyrian army and the situation looked hopeless, Hezekiah prayed and things changed. Is there anything going on for you that feels overwhelming or hopeless? Who might pray with you around these things?

- **SERVE** *others*

How has the division in our country over the last year brought division in your life? How might you take the initiative to bridge that division?

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing.**