

RADIANT

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL



To understand what it means to be liberated by Jesus from enslavement to sin and how we can live in our new found freedom.

ICE BREAKER



What's your favorite Christmas carol?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Isaiah 9:4

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: The coming of Christ brings liberty to enslaved sinners.

Key Question: Who does Jesus free us from?

1. Jesus frees us from the burden of sin.
2. Jesus crushes the pain of Satan's accusation.
3. Jesus defeats the tyrant of death.

DISCUSSION



- Isaiah chapter 9 both announces the coming Messiah (Jesus) and brings hope to Israel as they wait for the one who would save them (also called Advent). How can we relate to the Israelites as we live in the Advent of Jesus' return and the full restoration of creation? What scriptures can encourage us as we wait?

- In Isaiah 9:4, symbols of power and authority are listed as being used against God's plan instead of for God's purposes. How does the yoke of the world compare to the yoke of Jesus (read Matthew 11:28-30)? How can we remind ourselves that freedom is not being without a yoke but being yoked to Christ?
- The daily accusations and lies Satan feeds us can be compared to the “rod of the oppressor” referenced in Isaiah 9:4. How have you experienced the pain of Satan’s accusations, and what does it look like to find freedom from them in Christ? Remember, there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1, 33-34)!
- Read Judges 6:1-10 to understand Isaiah's reference of Midian. Why do you think Isaiah uses this story as a reminder and encouragement? How does looking back at what God has brought you “out of” help you understand his Grace and Power more fully?

LIFE APPLICATION



This week’s passage speaks of the freedom we have from sin because of Jesus. As a group, come up with ideas for ways you can remind yourselves of this freedom and use your testimony of God’s deliverance to encourage others.

Jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


