

VANTAGE POINT: THE PROPHET ISAIAH AND JESUS

December 14, 2014 - Pastor Derwin L. Gray

• Open in prayer.

- Five Characteristics (Worship, Connect, Serve, Give, Invite)
 - o One of the Five Characteristics of a Transformer is Invite. "Through the power of Christ in us, we live an inviting life. Wherever we are, we realize that every human being matters to God, and we look for ways to invite people in our spheres of influence into relationship with Him".
 - o During this Christmas season, many of us see this as a time to celebrate the birth of Christ with friends and family. But for some, it's a difficult season for those who have lost loved ones or feel alone.
 - o As Transformers, let's look for opportunities to love those around us who are having a difficult time during this season. What a great way for us to be the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus as we celebrate His birth!

Read Isaiah 53:1-12

- o We're going to look at two vantage points: Isaiah the prophet and Jesus as a young man.
 - 1. Isaiah was a prophet who wrote about things in his own time as well as things to come. He wrote these words 700 years before Jesus was born.
 - 2. Jesus, God's Son during His early years as He read what Isaiah had to say in this Scripture passage.
- o As you go through this study guide, consider what Jesus, as a young man, thought as He read and studied Isaiah 53.
- This Christmas: See Jesus as your Messiah who experienced your rejection and sorrows.
- Read and discuss Isaiah 53:2b-3.
 - o Pastor Derwin said, "If we don't allow Jesus to assume our rejection and suffering we'll take our rejection and suffering to everyone we come in contact with along our journey."
 - o What does that mean for you? (Hint: Hurt people hurt people)
 - o The world needs "wounded healers". In what area of life can you be a wounded healer in the life of someone else?
 - o Thought: Consider ways in which you can be a part of TC Care in being a wounded healer. Check out TC Care at www.transformationchurch.tc/connect/tccare
- This Christmas: See Jesus as the One who carried your sins.
- Read and discuss each section of Isaiah 53:4-6.
 - o As you read and discuss this scripture, consider these two statements:
 - 1. God the Father turned His back on Jesus and His face towards us.
 - 2. God's love for you has nothing to do with what you've done but everything to do with what Jesus has done for you.
- This Christmas: Read and trust the Bible.
- Read Isaiah 53:9
 - o The Bible is God's redemptive story for mankind through His Son Jesus!
 - o Jesus lived the perfect life so that we don't have to...because He knew we couldn't.
 - o Go to www.youversion.com or to your app store and download the Bible on your phone, computer or tablet.
 - o What are some practical ways you can incorporate reading God's Word into your life?
 - o Share how reading God's Word has encouraged you, challenged you or transformed you.
- This Christmas: See and celebrate Jesus' victory.
- Read and discuss Isaiah 53:10-12.
 - o As you read this scripture, consider these things:
 - o God the Father allowed what happened to Jesus His Son because He knew what it would mean for us. Discuss that scripture in light of being a parent.
 - o When you and I realize that God is satisfied with us because of what Jesus did for us and does in and through us...we are transformed! How does that affect you?
 - o When we believe that God made us righteous, we become righteous...not because of what we do but because of what Jesus has done for us! How does that change the way we view our lives—past, present, and future?
- Soul-tattoo: Celebrate Communion!

CALENDAR

Christmas Eve Services