

## 5 | GROUP PRAYER

Rather than going around the group and sharing prayer requests, you might consider simply bowing your heads and taking turns praying for the things on your heart or that the Holy Spirit brings to mind.

# NEXT STEPS AFTER GROUP

## 1 | SCRIPTURE FOCUSED

- Verse to Memorize: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Passages to Read: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 | PRAYER FOCUSED

- How can you pray for people in your group this week?
- Is the Holy Spirit speaking to you about something you need to repent of and turn over to Jesus?
- How are you going to respond to this truth and put it into action?

## 3 | OTHERS FOCUSED

- Did anyone in your group share a need that you might be gifted to help with?
- Consider inviting a friend from group to meet up for a meal or a hang out time.
- Is the Holy Spirit bringing someone to mind with whom you can share the things you've learned today?

# GROUPS

## STUDY GUIDE

### Why Would I Prepare BEFORE My Lighthouse Group?

Reading, thinking, and praying about the primary passage your Lighthouse Group is studying ahead of time may be one of the most pivotal ways to make your Lighthouse Group discussions powerful and meaningful. When you do prepare beforehand, you're coming with thoughtful insights and ideas you've been wrestling through. That's different from grabbing at the most accessible thoughts in real time.

### How Do I Prepare BEFORE My Lighthouse Group?

#### 1 | PRAY

Ask God to open your eyes, mind, and spirit to His truth. Your desire is not to "get the right answer," but rather to know Him as He has revealed Himself so that you can trust and rely on Him more fully.

#### 2 | READ

Read the main passage. Consider reading the same passage in multiple versions, like ESV, NIV, AMP, and NLT. All of these can be found at [BibleGateway.com](http://BibleGateway.com). For better context, read the paragraphs before and after the study passage as well.

#### 3 | REFLECT

What does this passage teach you about God? Maybe something to praise Him for? Does this passage reveal an area of your life you should confess as sin to God? What does this passage lead you to ask God for? How does this passage point to Jesus work on the cross and out of the grave?

Think through some of the questions you'll be discussing during your Lighthouse Group time.

#### 4 | WRITE

This is when you cross over from reading into study – writing down truth that you are discovering. Write down questions that come to mind as you are reading.

We've included space on the next page of this guide for you to write down insights, questions, and more that you can bring up in your Lighthouse Group discussion time.

# PREP BEFORE GROUP

PRIMARY PASSAGE: Isaiah 42:5-9

WRITE YOUR INSIGHTS & QUESTIONS HERE:

ADDITIONAL CROSS-REFERENCES: Isaiah 9:2; 61:1-3; Matthew 11:1-6; 12:15-27; Luke 4:14-22; Acts 2:22-36; Hebrews 2:1-4

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of: September 22-28, 2025

1 | **PRAY:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your group in truth and spiritual growth.

2 | **READ** Isaiah 42:5-9

One volunteer reads the passage in the ESV or NIV. Another volunteer reads the passage in AMP or NLT.

3 | **CONSIDER SITUATIONAL/HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

God called Isaiah to proclaim His word to the people of Israel and Judah at a time of great turmoil. During his ministry, the Northern Kingdom (Israel) fell to the Assyrians, and only Judah remained of the once-mighty chosen people of God. Much of Isaiah's prophecies spoke of the coming Messiah, and for the next seven centuries, the Jews looked for the promised Redeemer to come and rescue them from whatever their dire situation was at the time.

They didn't understand that the greatest enemy was sin, and Satan was the true oppressor who kept them enslaved, the one from whom the Messiah would deliver God's people. The situation is the same today: all who, by God's grace, put their faith in Jesus as Forgiver and Leader are delivered from the power of sin and death, whatever their physical or political situation.

4 | **DISCUSSION**

## CONTENT QUESTIONS

1. Who is making these promises, and what are His credentials?
2. In vv. 6-7, who is God talking about? (See vv. 1-4 for context.)
3. Is this Redeemer sent to rescue everyone, or just the Jews?

## TRUTH QUESTIONS

1. What does God say people must do in order for Him to fulfill these promises?
2. Why does God tell His people what He's going to do before He does it?
3. What does it mean that God called the Messiah "in righteousness?"

## APPLICATION/PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. Do I believe God actually created all things as He said He did? What does really matter, anyway?
2. Was there ever a time when I was in darkness and God gave me light? If so, who caused that to happen?
3. What do I do with scriptural promises that I don't see being fulfilled in the way and the time that I think they should be?