



Sermon Discussion Guide
Knowing God: God is Present
Sunday, August 1, 2021
Based on Pastor Alex's Message

Introduction

We're concluding a three week series of messages called *Knowing God*. Who is God really, and how can we know Him better so we can let Him change our lives? To explore this, we're looking into the book of Isaiah in the Bible. In this third lesson, we learn that we should fully embrace God's nearness.

To watch this week's sermon before your group discussion, go to www.journeyoffaith.com/messages

Share Your Story

1. When have you felt most alone?

Hear God's Story

2. Read Isaiah 8:19-22. What's Isaiah saying here? And, what here can you relate to?
3. Read Isaiah 9:1-7.
 - a. How does this contrast what we just read in 8:19-22?
 - b. What can we learn about God here?
 - c. How does Jesus being called the "Prince of Peace" (9:6) impact your life?
4. Read Isaiah 61:1-3. Jesus read this during His earthly ministry and told everyone it was about Him (Luke 4:18-19).
 - a. How can hearing about Jesus' mission in the world and in your life impact the feelings of loneliness and despair that we can sometimes have?
5. In the sermon we were challenged to practice the awareness of God's nearness, by: 1. Read a chapter of the Bible at the same time every day; 2. Set alerts on your phone and remind yourself of things that are true (ex. "God is here and He loves me"); and 3. Ask a close friend to support you as you practice.
 - a. What are you going to do this week to better practice your awareness of God's nearness?

Pray

6. Spend a few minutes in prayer as a group praying for what we've discussed, being sure to give God praise in addition to bringing your requests to Him. (How this is specifically done will be the group's decision.)

For questions about this curriculum, contact Pastor Matthew Jensen at matthew.jensen@journeyoffaith.com