

Preparing Your Heart for Prayer Isaiah 63:1-14

Overview of Isaiah 62-66

62 — Isaiah calls Israel to pray

63:1-14 - Isaiah calls Israel to prepare her heart for prayer

63:15 - 64:12 — Isaiah leads Israel in prayer

65:1 - 66:24 — Isaiah tells Israel what God will do in response to her prayer

Why it is so important to prepare our hearts for prayer

Compare David's prayer in 1Samuel 23 with Saul's in 1Samuel 28.
What was the difference? David's heart was right.

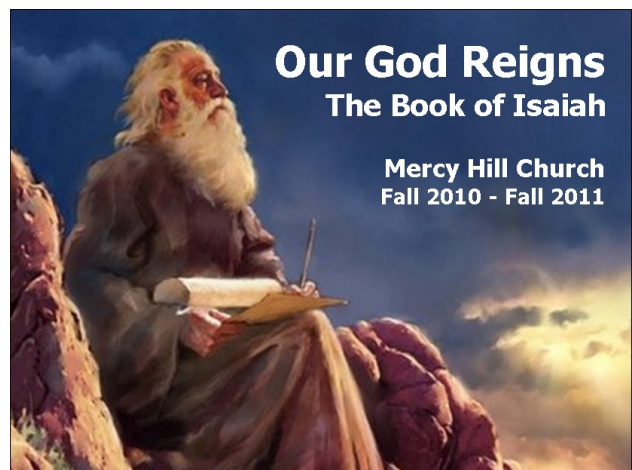
Four ways to prepare our hearts for prayer:

Strengthen your faith in God's power (1-6)

Be thankful for God's goodness (7-9)

Confess your sin before God (10)

See that God is ready to answer prayer (11-14)



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

Before studying Isaiah 63, how important was it to you to prepare your heart for prayer? How important is it now? Why?

Do you think it's OK to be angry with God? Why or why not? Is there a difference between grieving before God and being angry with Him?

Which of the heart-preparations is most important for you? Why?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

