

Wednesday

Read: Isaiah 65:20 *Long life for the people*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why do you think God is promising to give us long lives?*
2. *How long would you like to live, if you were in good physical and mental health?*

Prayer Focus Compassionate God, you want to relieve us of the heartbreak of loss. Jesus showed us to have hope even in death, and how to live so that we help bring life to others.

Thursday

Read: Isaiah 65:21-23 *Abundant life for the people*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Does this vision of life seem too good to be true? Why?*
2. *What might need to happen to make even one of these promises into a reality?*

Prayer Focus We hear your encouraging message as a way to see our way out of despair and so we choose to live in the hope that says You are still God and there is good in the world you have made and are making. May we live to share more life according to your will, our Lifegiver.

Friday

Read: Isaiah 65:24-25 *God's peace and healing*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What changes do we need to make to help create God's vision on earth?*
2. *Give thanks today for a God who promises good and invites us to be a part of bringing it to life.*

Prayer Focus We commit once more to share your vision of hope, your words of comfort, your acts of love, and your resources to help bring about your new heaven and new earth, not just for us, but for all of your creation.

Restoration

Pastor's message: *Isaiah 65:17-25; Our God is the God of restoration and recreation. Our labor in Christ will never be in vain.*

Message Notes:

Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *What is the most encouraging thing anyone said to you this week?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: *Isaiah 65:17-25*

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)



RESTORATION

November 13, 2022

Monday

Read: Isaiah 65:17 What God has planned

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What would it look like for God to create a new earth?*
2. *Do we have to forget the past in order to move forward?*

Prayer Focus Creator of All, it's difficult to look at the way the world is right now and not feel despair. But we hear your promises once again, of life renewed, of a world that is not what we see now. Grant us hope to hold onto those promises, no matter what.

Tuesday

Read: Isaiah 65:18-19 Joy in Jerusalem

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Is it difficult to hear this promise in the light of where we are today?*
2. *How would you live as God's delight?*

Prayer Focus You are the agent of joy, you are the creator of peace and healing, God. We know we have to be part of this present world, yet we want to see this new Jerusalem, this new us. Help us find this new creation, to see what you are doing right now to make things new.