

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: December 11, 2016
Advent Week 3

Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 1:47-55, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

Theme: See

Once we have turned toward the fulfillment God intends,
we begin to be able to see the world and treat others in it in a new way.

1. What, according to Isaiah 35:1-2, will be different about the world when redemption comes?
 - a. Life will be breathed into what was dead.
 - b. The desert will turn to majesty (Lebanon), beauty (Carmel), and fertility (Sharon).
 - c. We will see the glory of the Lord.

2. What is happening in Isaiah 35:3-4 (in comparison to verse 5-7)?
 - a. They sound completely different.
 - b. In 5-7 the life has already come, but in 3-4 there is a need for strengthening and encouragement.
 - c. Verses 3-4 show how God brings hope to his people when the life that is promised has not fully come.

3. Do you have hope even when you do not yet see the promises of God being fulfilled (See also Hebrews 11:1)? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____

4. What does Isaiah 35:8-10 say about the highway that leads to Zion (The new Jerusalem...heaven)?
 - a. It will be called the Way of Holiness.
 - b. The unclean will not journey on it...
 - c. There will be protection and safety there.
 - d. Only they redeemed will walk there.

5. Is this the road that you are walking on? _____

6. Why do people walk on this road? _____

7. What should we do until the Lord comes, according to James 5:7-8? _____

8. Why does Jesus ask the crowd what they went out into the wilderness to see?
 - a. Because John wasn't particularly interesting.
 - b. Because John wasn't wearing fine clothes and didn't possess the qualities that would have normally drawn people to him.
 - c. To remind them that they were drawn to John because there was something about him that gave them hope.
 - d. To remind them that the very fact that they went to hear John meant that they believed that what they saw was not all there was.

9. What do you see when you look at the world? _____
What about when you look at people? _____