

God Gives Encouraging Words

God gives us counsel in all we do. Isaiah, being a respected prophet of God, wrote to God's chosen people. He wrote and spoke to the kings of Israel and Judah. He has a lot of experience to offer us. God's Word is always applicable. It may seem more difficult today to understand exactly HOW God wants us to follow His instructions, but the prophet Isaiah can help.

VBS "20-20 Vision"
Meeting to be determined

Please listen...

Isaiah 25:1 "Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise Your name, for You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth." God has always planned to do wonderful things for us...and He still does! He is faithful and true to all His promises. Isaiah's counsel to us is to remain faithful to God because He is faithful to us. God is truth. We must remain in the truth of God's word even when our "socialization" with one another is being limited by the circumstances of the day.

Isaiah 26:4 says "Trust in the LORD forever, For in GOD the LORD, we have an everlasting Rock." God is our strength. Yes, we can depend on each other for strength, but ultimately God is our source of strength. We encourage one another to stay faithful to God! If we were all alone on this earth, God would still expect us to trust in Him for EVERYTHING! Our circumstances really and truly do not matter all that much. Will we do so?

In Isaiah 26:8 "Yes, in the way of Your judgments, O LORD, we have waited for You; The desire of our soul is for Your name And for the remembrance of You." This "tidbit of counsel" for us is to wait on the Lord. In verse 9, he says to "seek God early." It may seem like we've waited long enough. We would like life to "get back to normal" and most assuredly we would like to meet together again as a congregation of God's people! Be patient. God has wonderful things in store for us. What will God do for us if we wait? Isaiah 28:5 and 12 "In that day the LORD of Hosts will be for a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty to the remnant of His people." "...You may cause the weary to rest"; and, 'This is the refreshing...'" Can you hear it? God promises rest and refreshing to those who obediently wait on Him. When we get to meet again, and interact again safely, it will be refreshing to our souls. Right?

Isaiah 29:19 "The humble also shall increase their joy in the Lord..." Isaiah is telling us to remain humble and God will give us joy. Isaiah 29:23 "...they will hallow My name, and hallow the Holy One of Jacob, and fear the God of Israel." As we acknowledge that God is omnipotent and also has a plan for us, we can be in awe of what He does for us everyday. We know many reasons to praise Him and rejoice during challenges. Go ahead...name a few!

Isaiah 28:23-28 talks about how the planter plants and then comes the harvest as God designed. Then he concludes in verse 29, "This also comes from the Lord of Hosts, who is wonderful in counsel and excellent in guidance." How are we to be guided by God?

God tells us through the words of Isaiah to praise Him and remain faithful to Him. Seek His truth and always trust Him. Depend on Him for strength and earnestly desire Him. If we are patient and wait on Him, He will give us rest, provide refreshing, and inculcate joy. Remember, He is the source of our salvation and He is planning wonderful things for us!

Isaiah writes... (30:18) "Therefore the LORD will wait, that He

*A day well spent includes
communication with God...
He speaks through His Word.*

may be gracious to you; And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; Blessed are all those who wait for Him." Are we listening?

Bday/Anniv Lunch: ...when we can!

Bible Study: Consider your study of God's Word (see **2 Timothy 2:15**)

Take time to learn Scripture today...

NMCCH: collecting aluminum foil and kitchen trash bags (pick up is later...)

* —THANK YOU for reading this!