



SDG Discussion Guide

All is Well: The Growing Stump

November 28, 2021

To begin:

What do you like most about coming home after being away for a long time?

Before you proceed:

Pray and ask God to enlighten you to show you where he has been at work and present in your past week through events, places, and people. Ask Him to enliven and guide your group now in your reading and discussion.

1. Read aloud **Isaiah 11**. What stands out to you in the text? What impressions, curiosities, and questions arise as you ponder it now?
2. Whereas the mighty tree of Assyria was destroyed (10:33-4), what will happen to the roots of Jesse (Israel)? How is this "Branch" different from that mentioned in 4:2?
3. What will his reign be like (vv 3b-5; compare Is 9:6-7; contrast Is 1:17-23 and Is 5:12-23)?
4. Verses 6-9 figuratively portray the peaceable kingdom. What types of people or situations may Isaiah have in mind here (see 19:23-25)? What does this scene tell you about human relationships under the rule of this King? About the cause and extent of his reign?
5. The New Testament interprets the "Branch" as the Messiah, Jesus (see Ro 15:12; Rev 5:5). What stories, teachings, or sayings about Jesus come to mind as you consider the qualities described in verses 2-5? Which of these qualities of Jesus has particularly made a difference in your life?
6. Do you see yourself at this time more like a wolf or a lamb, and who do you imagine as your opposite in this regard? What does it mean for the two of you that God does not change wolves into sheep, or vice versa, but transforms them so they can not only live in peace with one another but give glory to God?
7. As it flows from your discussion, pray as led by the Spirit.

*The discussion questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).