

**Study Questions for O Come, Immanuel: Hark! The Herald!**

Read Isaiah 61:1-11

God’s Story

1. In Isaiah 61:1-3, the prophet says that God’s Spirit is on him for a purpose. What is that purpose, according to the passage?
2. Isaiah 61:4-6 speaks of activities of the people restored in verses 61:1-3. What will the restored people be doing?
3. Isaiah 61:7 speaks to the reversal of fortune for those who God restores. What is the sign of this reversal of fortune according to the verse?
4. Isaiah 61:8-9 presents a promise by God. What’s the promise?
5. The prophet expresses strong emotions in 61:10-11. What emotions does he express?

My Story

1. Jesus preaches his first sermon with a reference to Isaiah 61:1-3. Look up Luke 4:14-30. What’s the message Jesus presented with this text? How was it received?
2. As Christians, we are restored people by grace. Reflecting on Isaiah 61:4-6, what do you think God desires of his restored people?
3. Have you ever experienced a reversal of fortune? What were the circumstances? What was the outcome? How might God have played a role in the reversal of your fortune?
4. What promises has God made to you? In what ways are these promises consistent with the promises God made to Israel as mentioned in Isaiah 61:8-9.
5. When you think of the grace of God in your life, what strong emotions does it evoke. How do you express those emotions?

