

When to read?

The book of Isaiah has 66 chapters, so you will need to read about 16 chapters a week. Here is a reading guide for the month:

- Isaiah 1-16 by Saturday 8th
- Isaiah 17-32 by Saturday 15th
- Isaiah 33-48 by Saturday 22nd
- Isaiah 49-66 by Friday 28th

Memorisation suggestions

'[The blessed man's] delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night' (Psalm 1:2)

If you would like to memorise some verses or passages from Isaiah, you could consider the following suggestions:

- Isaiah 9:6-7
- Isaiah 26:3-4
- Isaiah 40:28-31
- Isaiah 53
- Isaiah 55:6-13

Reflection Meeting

Sunday 2 March at 4:30pm

March : Psalms 1-50



Isaiah



CAREY BAPTIST
CHURCH

Reading the Bible Together

February 2014

What is 'In Sync' Bible Reading?

'In Sync' encourages us to read the same Bible book through a month, and then reflect together on what we have read and learnt from God's Word. In February we are reading through the book of **Isaiah**.

Why do we do this?

There are many advantages to reading together like this, including opportunities to:

- Develop the regular habit of Bible reading
- Become more familiar with the Bible
- Encourage one another by sharing the different things we have learnt through our Bible reading
- Read the Bible with family members and friends
- Handle a whole Bible book, when often we focus on much smaller sections of the Bible in our times of study together.

'I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.' (Psalm 119:16)

Questions to consider

Reading the Bible does not have to be an intellectual study. Anyone can read the Bible and by God's grace understand it. The main thing is that we pray for God's help as we read.

Some questions to help you think over and think through what you are reading include the following:

1. What have I learnt about God and about Jesus?
2. What does this teach me about humanity and myself?
3. What has most encouraged me from this book?

4. How does this teach me to love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul and mind? (Matt 22:37-40)
5. How does this teach me to love my neighbour as myself? (Matt 22:37-40)
6. Is there anything else I should learn here to be 'equipped for every good work' (2 Tim 3:17)

Isaiah: What can we expect?

The name Isaiah means 'the LORD is salvation' and his name reflects his message.

Isaiah was a prophet who lived 700 years before the birth of Jesus. In those days, Assyria was dominant in the region. The northern kingdom of Israel would be swallowed up by Assyria in 722BC, but God would deliver the southern kingdom of Judah (Isa 37).

However, Isaiah warns of the rise of Babylon (Isa 39) and he looks ahead to exile. Isaiah predicts eventual deliverance from Babylonian rule and the restoration of Jerusalem – this prophecy is given to comfort the Lord's people.

But Isaiah looks even further into the future and writes about God's suffering servant-Messiah (Isa 40-55), who will bring salvation for the nations. The book finishes (Isa 65-66) with Isaiah writing about the creating of new heavens and a new earth.

The book of Isaiah has more specific references to the Messiah than any other Old Testament prophet, and Isaiah has been called 'the gospel prophet'. Jesus' public ministry began with reference to the fulfilment of Isaiah 61 (Luke 4:16-21).