

Sermon Discussion Guide - In That Day — Isaiah 11:1–10

View Sermon Here:

What's something you are anticipating?

Isaiah speaks to a people drifting from God. Their spiritual heritage was rich, their rituals were intact, but their hearts were distant. The nation faced corruption, drifting faith, foreign threats, and growing hopelessness.

- Where have you experienced seasons of “drift” in your own spiritual life?
- Why is “naming reality” difficult for leaders—or even for us personally?

Isaiah uses a powerful image: a shoot growing out of a dead stump. God brings new life where everything looks cut down.

- Where in your life—or in our church, community, or world—do things feel like a “stump”?
- What might new shoots of life look like in those places?

Isaiah promises a leader filled with the Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, and the fear of the Lord.

- Which of the qualities in verse 2 stands out most to you? Why?
- How do we see these qualities in Jesus' life and ministry?
- What would it look like for us to reflect this Spirit-filled posture?

Isaiah emphasizes God's heart for the poor, marginalized, and powerless—and His opposition to corruption and abuse of power.

- Why do you think justice for the poor is so central in Scripture?
- What is one way we could embody God's heart for the vulnerable?

Isaiah paints a picture: wolves and lambs at peace, children safe, harm removed, conflict ended. This is God's ultimate future—and a glimpse of what His kingdom is meant to bring even now.

- How does Isaiah's vision confront the reality of violence, conflict, and division in our world?
- Where do you long for peace in your own life or relationships?
- What would it look like to be people of peace in a world that feels increasingly divided?

Isaiah ends by saying the Root of Jesse will be a banner for all peoples—the nations will gather to Him.

- What does it mean for Jesus to be a “banner” the nations rally to?
- How do you see God drawing people to Himself today?
- How might we participate in the mission of God during Advent?

Closing Questions:

Where are you feeling a little “stumpy” right now and what would it mean to trust God for a new shoot of hope?

What is one way you can embody His kingdom—hope, justice, or peace—in the week ahead?