

***Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further***  
***International Bible Lessons***

**Isaiah 61:1-4 & 8-11**  
**Sunday, September 25, 2016**  
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

**Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further**

**1. Name one way that Jesus helps the oppressed today?**

Some people feel oppressed by guilt and unforgiven sins that keep them from doing all that they could be doing for God and others. When they trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and believe what the Bible teaches about His death on the cross for them making their forgiveness and cleansing from sin possible, Jesus will free them from guilt and empower and lead them to serve God and others His way.

**2. Name one way that Jesus helps those who mourn today?**

When people near death or face the death of someone they love, Jesus can help them as they mourn because He has risen from the dead and has prepared a place in heaven for all who love and follow Him. Where He is they will be, and He is personally with all who mourn and trust in Him.

**3. What does the LORD love and hate? What is He going to do because of what He loves and hate?**

The LORD loves justice and hates robbery and wrongdoing. Because the LORD is faithful, He will reward His people and make an everlasting covenant with them, which He has done through Jesus the Messiah. See Isaiah 61:8.

**4. What are some of the ways the prophecy of Isaiah in these verses have been fulfilled?**

Jesus fulfilled Isaiah 61:1-3 when He came and preached on earth.

Jerusalem has been destroyed several times and rebuilt, with Jews living in Jerusalem today (Isaiah 61:4).

Jesus made an everlasting covenant in His blood during the Last Supper and by His death for God's people on the cross (Isaiah 61:8).

Unlike many of the tribes around them, the Jews are still known among the nations and appear to be blessed today (Isaiah 61:9).

Christians delight in the LORD as Isaiah experienced and foretold, and Christians are clothed as the LORD promised (Isaiah 61:10-11).

**5. As a Christian, how has the Lord clothed you?**

For your answer, consider Isaiah 61:10 and what you know from the New Testament.

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