

IMPLEMENTING GOD'S WORD...

YEAR THREE | SPRING QUARTER
OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY 3

LESSON SEQUENCE

SPRING QUARTER

The **Lesson Sequence** gives the teacher an overview of the entire quarter. The central goal of the **Implementing God's Word...** curriculum is to equip youth to put the truths of Scripture together in their minds and to work in their hearts, by the help of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON ONE	Isaiah
LESSON TWO	Jeremiah
LESSON THREE	Ezekiel
LESSON FOUR	Hosea
LESSON FIVE	Joel, Obadiah
LESSON SIX	Amos
LESSON SEVEN	Jonah
LESSON EIGHT	Micah
LESSON NINE	Nahum
LESSON TEN	Habakkuk
LESSON ELEVEN	Zephaniah, Haggai
LESSON TWELVE	Zechariah
LESSON THIRTEEN	Malachi



DEDICATED TO THE YOUTH MINISTRY OF
PEAR ORCHARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

LESSON ONE --- ISAIAH

OVERVIEW

We continue our survey of the Old Testament with the Prophetic Books. Starting with the amazing Book of Isaiah, we gain insights into the why and how of Israel's sin, descent into slavery, and ultimate redemption. Isaiah prophesies during the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah--kings of Judah.

Isaiah 1-12 focus on the sin of God's people and their need for the coming Messiah. Isaiah sees a vision of God's holiness and is instantly undone by his unholiness. In this section, we also have major prophecies about Christ, especially concerning His incarnation. Jesus is the only salvation for Israel!

Isaiah 13-27 includes prophecies against other nations, including Israel. God is sovereign and judges all the nations. Isaiah 28-35 focuses solely on the nation of Israel and her sin. At the same time, the LORD tells Israel that she is still the chosen nation. By the end of this section, we are reminded that a remnant of God's people will one day be restored. Isaiah 36-39 is the next major section, briefly recapping some of Hezekiah's reign and how Judah is given a reprieve from judgment.

Isaiah 40-55 is a beautiful section on salvation and the suffering servant of God. The "servant songs" included here are pictures of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Jesus is the only redeemer of His people. He is the good news! The last section of Isaiah presents a picture of the future for God's people. It is a glorious future because of Jesus Christ!

TEACHING ENCOURAGEMENT

The Old Testament prophetic books are so often ignored, especially by our young people. But the reality is that they are so chock full of truth and incredible theology! In these books, we see our sin, our holy God, and our need for salvation. We see the idols of our hearts and our foolish natures. Our young people will especially benefit from a hearty study of the prophets. Help them to see behind some of the difficult language to hear the words of the LORD for their hearts!

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

WELCOME

Psalms 33:18-21

2-3 mins.

DRILL TIME

OT History

3-5 mins.

MIND-IN-TRAINING

Observing and Interpreting II

6-8 mins.

BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

Isaiah

30 mins.

MIND-IN-ACTION

Judgment and

Newness

3-5 mins.



WELCOME

THE **WELCOME** SERVES AS BOTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GREET YOUR STUDENTS AS WELL AS AN EFFORT TO HELP THEM GET FOCUSED.

EACH WEEK, YOU WILL BEGIN WITH A PASSAGE FROM PSALMS THAT WILL "CALL" THEM TO STUDY AND GROW IN WISDOM!

DRILL TIME GIVES YOUR YOUTH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECALL AND REHEARSE WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT IN THE PAST. THESE WILL BE QUESTIONS FROM A PREVIOUS LESSON OR FROM THE SCRIPTURES.

Greet the students. Welcome visitors. Open with prayer.

*Listen to God's Word. **Read Psalm 33:18-21.***

¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, ¹⁹ that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine. ²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. ²¹ For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

The eye of the LORD is on us as we study today!



DRILL TIME

Now, we will move on to DRILL TIME—our weekly opportunity to review what we have learned from God's Word. Are you ready?

Today's questions: *How many books are there in the Old Testament? What are the twelve historical books of the Old Testament (we have studied many of them already)? How did the Book of II Kings end?*

Call on students to answer.

Answers:

1. 39 books.
2. Joshua
Judges
Ruth
I, II Samuel
I, II Kings
- I, II Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther
3. With both Israel and Judah in captivity.

All of this history is totally true. It teaches us much about who God is and what He requires of His people. It also repeatedly shows us ourselves and our need for Christ. If you claim to be a Christian, then the Old Testament is your history too!



MIND-IN-TRAINING

Say: *Let's continue to TRAIN our minds how to THINK today. Remember that we actually do have to learn HOW to think the way God wants us to think so we can rightly understand His Word!*

We will continue to practice putting together our OBSERVATION questions with our INTERPRETATION questions. Remember that we first OBSERVE, then we interpret. Both require good questions and answers to those questions.

*We'll continue to use Psalm 23 for a couple of more weeks. **Have the students turn to Psalm 23:2.** Let's read.*

Psalm 23:2 (ESV)

² He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

*Let's observe terms. Who is the "He"? [The LORD.] What does "He" do for His sheep according to the first part of verse 2? [Makes them lie down in green pastures.] What are some good INTERPRETIVE questions to ask here? **Allow answers.** Some questions I would ask are: How does the LORD "make" us lie down? Is this coercive (against our free wills)? What does the picture of a sheep "lying down" meant to illustrate? What about the green pastures?*

*Now let's look at the second part of that verse. What's the key verb there? [Lead.] We have interesting parallel construction here, don't we? The shepherd "makes me" lie down, and the shepherd "leads me" beside still waters. What are some good INTERPRETIVE questions to ask? **Allow answers.** Again, some I have are: What's involved in the shepherd's leading the Psalmist? Why use the word "lead" instead of "drive?" Why "beside" still waters instead of "to" the still waters?*

*Now, step back and look at the verse as a whole. What is the Psalmist saying about himself, as the sheep of the shepherd? **Allow answers.***

We'll continue our practice next time!

THE **MIND-IN-TRAINING** SECTION IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOUR STUDENTS TO LEARN TO THINK.

THIS ELEMENT TEACHES A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE MIND AS WELL AS BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS.



BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

THE **BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION** TIME IS THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE WEEK'S LESSON. IT TAKES THE STUDENT ALL THROUGH GOD'S WORD, SYSTEMATICALLY TYING IT TOGETHER TO BUILD A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW.

ALL SCRIPTURE TEXT INCLUDED IN THE CURRICULUM IS FROM THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV).

THE BIBLE READING IS TAKEN IN SHORT SECTIONS, SEPARATED BY TIMES OF **DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS, AND APPLICATION POINTS.**

THIS FORMAT ALLOWS AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO STOP, THINK ABOUT AND DISCUSS WHAT IS BEING READ.

Introduction: We now enter a new section of the Old Testament, generally known as "The Prophets." Seeing both Israel and Judah hauled off to captivity leaves us with essential questions: Why did this happen to God's people? What will happen next? Will they ever be restored to God and their land again? The **PROPHETS** answer these questions and more. Today, we'll take a brief look at the prophecy of Isaiah. It is an amazingly rich theological book that is worth your in-depth study.

Let's start in Chapter 1. **Read Isaiah 1:1.**

¹ The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Discussion: Isaiah prophesied in the Southern Kingdom of Judah during the times of II Kings 16-20. His prophecy basically breaks into five different sections. Isaiah 1-12 deals with **SIN** in Judah and Judah's need for a **MESSIAH**. Judah has become extremely wicked and are judged by a holy God.

Look at Isaiah 6. **Read Isaiah 6:1-3.**

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

Discussion: This is one of many familiar passages in the Book of Isaiah. Isaiah received a vision of the holiness of the LORD and immediately was "undone" as a sinful man. God used this unholy man to deliver His holy word to His sinful people.

Go to Isaiah 7. **Read Isaiah 7:14.**

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Discussion: You probably hear this verse a lot at Christmas. The LORD showed Isaiah that His sinful people needed a Messiah. So this prophecy points to the birth of Jesus Christ, who is "God with us."

Now go to Isaiah 9. **Read Isaiah 9:6.**

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government



shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Discussion: *Does this sound familiar to you? The Messiah will be the perfect King that Judah (and you and I) so desperately need!*

Look at Isaiah 11. **Read Isaiah 11:1.**

¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

Discussion: *Here we are reminded that the Messiah would come from the lineage of King David. As God promised, a son of David will always be on the throne! Jesus is our eternal KING!*

Go to Isaiah 12. **Read Isaiah 12:2.**

² "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

Discussion: *This first section of Isaiah ends with the declaration that the LORD alone is Judah's salvation. Can you say these words along with the prophet?*

Look at Isaiah 13. **Read Isaiah 13:1.**

¹ The oracle concerning Babylon which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.

Discussion: *Isaiah 13-27 are prophecies against other nations, including Israel. God is sovereign over all people of all times! And the nations in Judah's time, including Babylon, would be judged and punished for their sins. We won't look at anymore verses in this section, but they certainly demonstrate God's wrath against sin!*

Now go to Isaiah 28. **Read Isaiah 28:16.**

¹⁶ therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.'

Discussion: *Isaiah 28-35 focuses on the nation of Israel and its sin. At the same time, the LORD speaks through Isaiah to remind Israel that they are His chosen people. This verse in Isaiah 28 is again describing Jesus Christ, the sure foundation of God's people. Whoever believes in Him will be saved!*

THIS **SIDEBAR** FOUND ON ALL PAGES IS FOR THE TEACHER TO WRITE NOTES AS HE OR SHE PREPARES THE LESSON.

OTHER TEACHING TIPS OR IMPORTANT EXEGETICAL INFORMATION MAY ALSO APPEAR ON THE SIDEBAR FROM TIME TO TIME.



Go all the way to Isaiah 35. **Read Isaiah 35:10.**

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Discussion: *By the end of this section of Isaiah, we are reminded again and again that a remnant of the LORD's shall return to the Promised Land. This is a picture of all of us who are believers. For us, Zion is not Jerusalem—but heaven!*

Summary: *Isaiah 36-39 is the next major section of this prophecy. Look briefly at them with me. By Isaiah 36, Samaria has already fallen and Israel is in captivity. Judah is given a reprieve from judgment—for now. Godly kings like Hezekiah are allowing Judah to remain in their land.*

Turn to Isaiah 40. **Read Isaiah 40:1-3.**

¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Discussion: *Isaiah 40-55 is a beautiful section on SALVATION and the suffering servant of God. The "servant songs" contained in these chapters are pictures of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. What does verse 3 remind you of? [The work of John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus.]*

Go to Chapter 43. **Read Isaiah 43:1.**

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Discussion: *More beautiful words that are often sung in many of our churches. Jesus has redeemed His people!*

Turn to Chapter 49. **Read Isaiah 49:7-8.**

⁷ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." ⁸ Thus says the LORD: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in



a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages,

Discussion: *Do you see how these words point to Christ? All who put their faith in Him are God's chosen people.*

Now go to Isaiah 52. **Read Isaiah 52:7.**

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Discussion: *We often quote this verse in reference to ministers and missionaries who preach the gospel (the good news) to us. Judah certainly needed the good news that Jesus reigns!*

Look at Chapter 55. **Read Isaiah 55:1-2.**

¹ "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Discussion: *This section on SALVATION ends with an amazing picture of grace. How much does our salvation cost? Nothing! It is free to delight in because of Jesus Christ.*

Turn to Chapter 61. **Read Isaiah 61:1-2.**

¹ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

Discussion: *Isaiah 56-66 presents a picture of the future for God's people. It is a glorious future because of Jesus Christ. He actually speaks these words in the synagogue many years in the future to announce to the world that He is the Savior of God's people.*

We'll end in Isaiah 65. **Read Isaiah 65:17-18.**

¹⁷ "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and





rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.

Conclusion: *As sad as it was for Judah to go into captivity, a new day was coming. A new day is coming for us too—where all things will be made new for all who are in Christ!*



MIND-IN-ACTION

Each week, we will end our time together with a MIND-IN-ACTION section. Often times, our minds are “Missing in Action!” It is vital you and I put what we learn from God’s Word into action so we are DOERS of the Word, and not hearers only.

So, here is my challenge to you as we close today:

Consider that there is a Day of Judgment coming.

We all tend to live like the END will never come. Israel and Judah were repeatedly warned that they would be judged for their sins. God’s Word teaches us that Jesus WILL return one day to judge all the earth. Living with the Day of Judgment in mind should change the way you live your life, right?

And the second part of my challenge is this:

Look forward to ALL things being made new in Christ!

If you have put your faith in Christ, you must also look forward to God making all things NEW. Beyond Judgment Day, the new heavens and new earth are coming where God’s people will live with the LORD forever. Living with this GOOD NEWS in mind should change the way you live right now, right?

Close in prayer.

THE MIND-IN-ACTION

SECTION IS DESIGNED TO MOVE YOUR STUDENTS TO ACTION. AS THEIR MINDS GROW IN KNOWLEDGE, THEY ARE CHALLENGED TO GROW IN WISDOM. THEY WILL NEVER TRULY LEARN IF THEY DON’T PUT WHAT THEY HAVE STUDIED INTO PASSIONATE ACTION!