

Christmas Gifts

Isaiah 41:21-42:13

Review:

1. We worship what we think is worthy of our time and attention, and we all tend to focus more on God's gifts than on God.
2. But however good God's gifts may be, none of them can make sense out of our lives, and none of them can tell us what will happen in the future.
3. In contrast, God is truly powerful, totally in control of everything that has happened or will happen.
4. Isaiah said that the Servant of God, would bring justice to the world, but in a gentle way.
5. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy in the way He was born, and by bringing justice through His sacrifice on the cross.

Go Further: Read Luke 1:39-45, 3:18-20, 7:17-23

1. Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, was expecting her baby to be born. What was the baby's reaction when Mary came to visit Elizabeth?
2. When Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, what did she say about Mary, and how did she describe Mary's baby?
3. Elizabeth's baby would grow up to be John the Baptist. Why did Herod put John in prison?
4. When John heard about the miracles Jesus was doing, what did he send two of his disciples to ask Jesus? Why do you think John asked Jesus this question?
5. In order to answer this question, what did Jesus do in verse 21? How is this similar to what Isaiah prophesied the Messiah would do in 41:7?

Apply:

1. What are some of God's gifts you are tempted to think will give your life purpose or meaning?
2. Isaiah never saw the Messiah he predicted, and John died in prison, hearing about Jesus' miracles but not seeing them. How are you having to wait for Jesus to take action in your life? What does John's story tell us about God's timing?