



Sermon Discussion Questions

For small group leaders or for a whole small group to use

"Rebellion, Repentance, and the Greatest Invitation" (Isaiah 1) September 13, 2026 – Drew Hunter

Sermon Overview

Main Idea

The book of Isaiah helps us grasp the story of the Bible, shows us Jesus, leads us to trust God in all of life's circumstances, shows us how to live as the church, shows us our mission, and sets our hope on the new creation to come. In chapter 1, we see that our sin is our deepest problem and it is far worse than we know. Being cleansed by God is our only solution. Isaiah calls us to listen to God as he tells us about our rebellion, repentance, and restoration.

Sermon Outline

1. Rebellion: God's People Have Forsaken Him (vs 1-9)
2. Repentance: Mere Religion Makes Things Worse (vs 10-20)
3. Restoration: The Future God Alone Can Bring (vs 21-31)

Quotations:

"The awareness of sin used to be our shadow. Christians hated sin, feared it, fled from it, grieved over it. Some of our grandparents agonized over their sins... but the shadow has dimmed." – Cornelius Plantinga

"Till sin be bitter, Christ will not be sweet" – Thomas Watson

Discussion Questions

Read the Scripture Text (if the text is shorter, consider reading it together several times).

Initial Engagement

- What is the main idea of the text, or what did the sermon focus on? (See above to review the main point)
- What insight from the text or sermon stood out to you most, and why? (Encourage several people to share)

Deeper Reflection on the Meaning and Implications

1. Rebellion → How do you define sin? What are ways we tend to rationalize, minimize, or justify our sinful behavior? How are rebellion and foolishness related? How does God view our sin? What happened to Israel because of their rebellion (vs 4-8)? What have been some consequences of your sinful behavior?
2. Repentance → Israel used religious activities to cover up their lack of sincerity and rebellion. What "religious activities" can we sometimes do to try and gain credit with God? What does true repentance look like? What Scriptures can help renew our minds to delight in God and live for His glory?
3. Restoration → How will God deal with the rebellious (vs 24, 28)? What is our only hope to be saved from God's wrath? What does God saving a remnant and restoring His people tell us about His heart? Spend some time in prayer, confessing any sin that needs to be confessed and praising God for His great mercy?

Final Response

- What is one thing you want to remember or do in light of this sermon or discussion?