

# TREES OF LIFE

**GO FURTHER | MARCH 27 | THE MESSIAH TREE**

## START TALKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- HOW IS YOUR MARCH MADNESS BRACKET DOING?
- IF YOU COULD PICK ONE SEASON TO LIVE IN FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE (SPRING, SUMMER, WINTER, OR FALL), WHICH WOULD IT BE AND WHY?

## START THINKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Share what you know, if anything, of Isaiah's story
- Read Isaiah 1:2-3. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Israel has worshipped God and something else. What are the things we worship today besides God in our own lives?
- Read Isaiah 3:4-5. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Poor leadership and people oppressing each other are the consequences of Israel's actions. How do you see people oppressing and insulting each other today? What should be the Christian response to those acts?

## START SHARING | CHOOSE A QUESTION TO CREATE OPENNESS.

- Read Isaiah 11:1. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- God plans to save Israel from themselves through the Messiah. Read Isaiah 52:2-6 for a description of the Messiah.
- What words or phrases stand out to you?
- What does this passage say the Messiah will look like? What will the Messiah do?
- How does Jesus fit into this passage about the Messiah?
- We worship the God who suffers, with us and for us.
- How have you seen God meet you in the suffering and grief in your own life?

## START PRAYING | BE BOLD AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Loving God, we thank you that you do not leave us in our sin and brokenness but enter our pain, redeem it and force something good to come from it. We look forward to the day when peace will reign; suffering will be no more; death will be defeated. As we look to that day, may we do all that we can, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to work for peace and to eliminate suffering wherever we find it. It is in the resurrected name of Jesus we pray together, Amen.

## START DOING | COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- For more on Isaiah, check out this 7-day reading plan: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/27268-real-hope-finding-hope-in-isaiah>