

day 1: Day One (Isaiah 40: 1-11) God is absolutely sufficient. In this passage we understand several truths about God. For instance, he is a comforting God who speaks tenderly. But we also understand that he is a God who comes with power and might. “He tends his flock like a shepherd”, but the “grass withers and the flowers fall because the breath of the Lord blows on them.” As you think about your life, what characteristics of God would most encourage you today?

day 2: (Isaiah 40: 1-11, Luke 4: 1-13, Hebrews 2:14-18) Ever been in the desert? There is nothing quite so desolate and intimidating. The scriptures use this word as an image for struggle and testing, sometimes even suffering. Let me ask you again, have you ever been in that kind of desert? Jesus’ temptations take place in the desert. Be sure you read all of the passages listed above. Does Jesus know what it’s like to be in the desert? Can he help you when you are there?

day 3: (Isaiah 40: 1-5, Luke 2: 1-20) “And the glory of the Lord will be revealed...” As Isaiah prophesied about the deliverance from exile, he was teaching us about the glory of the Lord. How fitting that on the day that the true glory of God, his Son Jesus, was born, the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” Is the Lord’s glory revealed in your life? Is Jesus showing in your words and actions? Make a list of a few ways this is happening.

day 4: (Isaiah 40: 1-5) Again today consider yesterday’s devotional, but add to it this emphasis, “...and all mankind together will see it.” Someone once said, “Your talk, talks and your walk, talks. But your walk talks louder than your talk, talks.” Have you been reminded lately that people are watching you? Especially if you are a Christian, they are watching your walk and your talk. If you glorify the Lord or not, someone is watching.

day 5: (Isaiah 40: 1-11) The power of your testimony. Isaiah talks about it in verses 9-11. Most importantly today, he says to go up on a high mountain, lift up our voices and shout. He reminds us that mountains or not, we must be bold. Sometimes actually talking about the Lord is most difficult, but we must. We are ministers, each of us, and we all have the responsibility of sharing our testimony that the world may know. What is one simple way that you could testify today with words?

day 6: (Isaiah 40: 11, Matthew 6: 25-34, Matthew 10:30-31) “...He carries them close to his heart...” Are you one of these lambs? Yes, you are. The Lord carries you close to his heart. Even the hairs on your head are numbered and the Lord knows all about you. He loves you that much. He wants to be with you so much. Good job working through these devotions this week. Our loving Lord is pleased when we seek Him.

Prepare the Way for the Lord

Sunday, December 7, 2008

Isaiah 40: 1-11

	<u>OLD TESTAMENT</u>	<u>NEW TESTAMENT</u>	<u>TODAY</u>
“A Voice”	Isaiah was the voice to declare God’s deliverance from exile.	John the Baptist declared Jesus as the Messiah.	We are the Voice.
“In the Desert”	Exile	John went to the desert to fulfill Isaiah’s prophecy.	Sometimes we are still in the desert.
“Prepare the Way for the Lord”	God who delivered Israel from Egypt can deliver from exile.	John declared that God’s deliverer is Jesus.	God will bring deliverance through the Church.
“The Glory of the Lord”	Exiles return to Jerusalem.	Jesus reveals the Glory of the Lord.	The Glory of the Lord is revealed in us.