



Questions for further study

1st December 2024

Isaiah 9:2

The Promise of Light

Leaders: If possible, have a candle ready on a table in front of you, and some matches to light it later on.

1. What negative associations do you equate with darkness? Where do people in our world look for light?
2. As we saw last week, God's promises are set in stone. The tense of this verse can be translated as "has" (NIV) or "will" (NLT). How can we explain the seeming dichotomy that both are true?
3. 700 years passed between Isaiah's prophecy of light and its fulfilment. During that time, the Jewish people endured 400 years of silence when there were no further messages or prophecies from God. We may not have to wait quite as long, but how do we trust God's word in the waiting?
4. What practical steps can we take to reposition ourselves when we find ourselves in spiritual darkness? (*Try to think of specific things other than 'pray' and 'read the Bible' – as valid as they are.*)
5. Spend some time meditating on the promise of light. If you are able, turn all the lights off for a moment and sit in darkness. How does the absence of light make you feel? Strike a match or other source of flame. This is God's promise of light. Use it to light the candle in front of you. Think about how bright it is in the surrounding darkness. Share your thoughts with each other.
6. We are told to let our light shine before others. How can you do that this week? Pray for specific people who you will meet who don't yet know Jesus.