

Session 4
The Servant Justifies Many
Isaiah 53:11b–12
Leader's Guide
(Video 24 minutes)

Complete PowerPoint presentation available: email request to gellul@sbcglobal.net

Warm up questions pre-video: (15 minutes)

- ❖ If the opposite of peace is not the lack of war but chaos and formlessness, who or what does God say through Isaiah is the cause of this lack of peace that the Servant has come to restore?
 - The nations (Isaiah 40:17).
 - The leaders of the nations (Isaiah 40:23).
 - Decay of societal morals and values.
 - Governmental laws and regulations that oppose God's law.
 - Media campaigns targeting Christ's church and Christians
- ❖ From our previous discussions, when Scripture uses terms like "we" and "us" what do these words point us to today?
 - Through these words we are brought into the drama and the narrative of the story.
 - We know that due to our sin we too are exiled from God.
 - Every human being is east of Eden, being far away from home with God.
 - Every person needs the atonement that this servant offers.

Read: Ephesians 2:8–9

Question 125 of Luther's Small Catechism

- ❖ From our previous discussions, why is it important for Christ our Lord to be both our priest and our sacrifice?
 - Everything is a complete work and gift from God.
 - Our Lord has done it all for us.
 - Our Lord's full grace

Read: Questions 139 & 140 of Luther's Small Catechism

John 3:16–18

Isaiah 52:14–15 uses the term "many" in regards to "Many will be astonished at the Lord's servant" and "the Lord's servant will sprinkle many."

- ❖ Is Isaiah pointing us to certain people who were appointed or predestined to know the servant and live in his saving grace, or to something else?
 - Everyone, whether they know it or not, is included in what this servant has done.
 - Those who choose to live in unbelief choose also to live in darkness and away from our Lord. They, by their choosing, never know our Lord's love or what Christ, God's servant, has done for them.

Read: Isaiah 53:11b–12

Post-video follow up question: (15 minutes)

The servant of the Lord did not align himself with the things of beauty of the world, but with the rejected, the marginalized, and the ugly, sinful people of the world.

Read: Hebrews 4:15–16

- ❖ Knowing all this about the Lord's servant, why is it important to know that Christ suffered not in majesty and beauty but in rejection for all the ugly sinful people?
 - We and the entire world are the many sinful and ugly Christ our Lord came to redeem.
 - The Lord's servant goes into the depths of ugliness for us.
 - Jesus came to be our intercessor, to take our place upon the cross, and die the death that we deserved.

Read: Acts 2:22–23

Romans 4:22–25

2 Corinthians 5:21

Question 145 of Luther's Small Catechism

- ❖ What truths are important for Christians, knowing that the will of God the Father is, and always has been, our Lord's plan of salvation?
 - Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
 - God the Father accepted Christ's sacrifice for the reconciliation of the world.
 - The resurrection of Jesus Christ is God the Father's justification of his Son.
 - All believers in Christ will be saved by Christ's life, death, and resurrection.
 - The sacrifice of God's Son for the forgiveness of our sins was always the plan and the will of God the Father.

Read: Philippians 2:5–11

Isaiah 53:12

- ❖ How does the "therefore" in Philippians 2:9 point us back to the Lord's servant in Isaiah?
 - The resurrection "therefore" of Paul in Philippians echoes the "therefore" of God's word through Isaiah in Isaiah 53:12.
 - The promised servant of the Lord in Isaiah is the risen and ascended Christ who came as our priest, prophet, and king.
 - Our Lord who was the sacrifice for all of our sins.

Read: Luke 22:37

Matthew 8:14–17

- ❖ The readings from Luke and Matthew refer directly to the book of Isaiah. What was the purpose of these connections for the audience of these writings?
 - The words of the Lord of the Old Testament are for Christ's church today.
 - The Lord's servant described in Isaiah is the Christ who came, died, and will come again.
 - Christ came for the healing of the physical, not leaving our world broken when he comes back again.