

A Light to the Nations

There are times in life when we feel like God is far away, maybe we question whether he's even listening. But no matter how far away from him we feel, God assures us that he remembers his people. The prophet Isaiah's description of the servant's mission to be a light to the nations assures us of God's mercy, grace, and eternal love. Then God shares just how secure we are in his care and reveals what he really wants to give all his covenant people.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What do you think of when you hear the phrase “a light to the nations?”
- During Lent, how much do you think about the bigger picture - what Christ did for the world - in addition to what Christ did for you personally? What part do you think the bigger picture plays in preparing our hearts for Easter?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [A Light to the Nations](#)

READ [Isaiah 49](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In what ways do you see yourself, fellow Christians, and your church community participating in the servant's mission to be a light to the nations? Where do you see this mission challenged by an insider/outsider perspective?
- Why is it so radical to believe that God is intimately involved in our lives, that he cares so much for us that he would inscribe our names on the palms of his hands and pierce the hands of Christ to save us?
- In segment 3, host Scott Hoezee talks about God as the great reverser. Where do you see evidence of God, the great reverser when you reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross during Lent? Where do you see evidence of reversal happening during Jesus' earthly ministry?
- Waiting for the Lord to do his work can be challenging for us. How does it bring you comfort, reassurance, or encouragement to be reminded in [Isaiah 49](#) that there are no unimportant people to God and that God elevates the lowly to do great things?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[John 1:1-14](#), [John 8:12](#), [Genesis 12:1-3](#), [Psalm 113:5-9](#)

CONCLUSION

During their *Groundwork* discussion, hosts Dave Bast and Scott Hoezee focus on these sections of [Isaiah 49](#): verses [5-7](#), [13-18](#), and [22-23](#). Reread these verses and allow these verses from Isaiah 49 to guide you as you remember and reflect on the work of Jesus Christ, his journey to the cross, and the big picture of his mission. Use the verses as the basis for writing a Lenten prayer that helps you prepare your heart to celebrate Christ's resurrection.

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