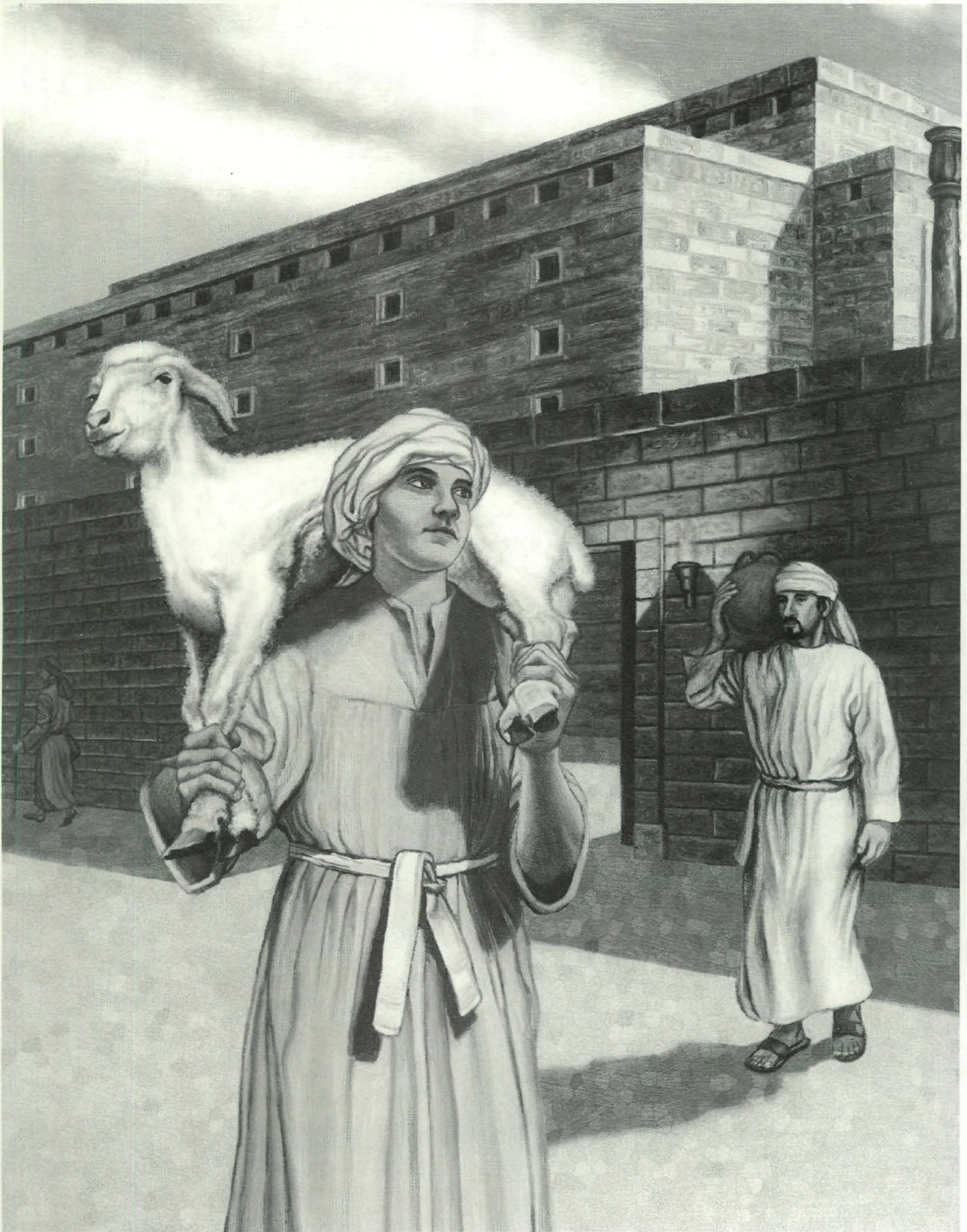
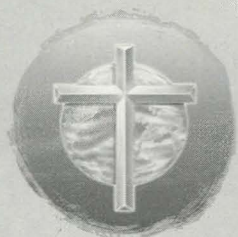


# Study Guide





# LifeLight Expands

LifeLight

Available NOW!

- |                          |                  |  |               |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|---------------|
| * The Bible: An Overview | **Minor Prophets | Romans, Pt. 1                          | * James/Jude  |
| Genesis, Pt. 1           | **Daniel         | Romans, Pt. 2                          | * 1 & 2 Peter |
| Genesis, Pt. 2           | Matthew, Pt. 1   | **1 Corinthians                        | 1 John        |
| Exodus, Pt. 1            | Matthew, Pt. 2   | **2 Corinthians                        | * Revelation  |
| Exodus, Pt. 2            | **Luke, Pt. 1    | * Timothy/Titus/Philemon               |               |
| **Life of David          | **Luke, Pt. 2    | * Galatians/Philippians/<br>Colossians |               |
| **Selected Psalms        | John, Pt. 1      | Ephesians/1 & 2 Thessa-<br>lonians     |               |
| * Proverbs               | John, Pt. 2      | Hebrews                                |               |
| Isaiah, Pt. 1            | Acts, Pt. 1      |  |               |
| Isaiah, Pt. 2            | Acts, Pt. 2      |  |               |

## LifeLight Foundations

- |            |                |            |                |
|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| * Prophecy | * Bible Feasts | * Miracles | * Law & Gospel |
|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|

\* all-new LifeLight material    \*\* does not include the Enrichment Magazine

## LifeLight Release Schedule

### 2006 RELEASES

- |                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| * LifeLight—Joshua              | July    |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Baptism | October |

### 2007 RELEASES

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| LifeLight—1 Corinthians                            | January |
| LifeLight—2 Corinthians                            | April   |
| * LifeLight—Judges                                 | July    |
| * LifeLight Foundations—<br>Between the Testaments | October |

### 2008 RELEASES

- |                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| LifeLight—Luke, Pt. 1              | January |
| LifeLight—Luke, Pt. 2              | April   |
| * LifeLight—Ruth/Esther            | July    |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Triune God | October |

### 2009 RELEASES

- |                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| LifeLight—Minor Prophets         | January |
| LifeLight—Daniel                 | April   |
| * LifeLight—Mark                 | July    |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Ministry | October |

### 2010 RELEASES

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| LifeLight—Life of David                           | January |
| LifeLight—Selected Psalms                         | April   |
| * LifeLight—Ecclesiastes/Song of Songs            | July    |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Creation/<br>New Creation | October |

### Other Future Studies:

- 1, 2, & 3 John
- Job
- Wilderness Wanderings (Lev., Num. & Deut.)
- Ezra, Nehemiah

This helpful resource is also available:  
Intro Kit

## God's Judgment and Grace Validated in History

Distribute before session 1 for use in session 1.  
Use enrichment magazine pp. 2.

### Isaiah 34–39

#### Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study at home and at the week's assembly.

#### Hymn

I am trusting You, Lord Jesus,  
Trusting only You;  
Trusting You for full salvation,  
Free and true.

I am trusting You for pardon;  
At Your feet I bow,  
For Your grace and tender mercy  
Trusting now.

I am trusting You for cleansing  
In the crimson flood;  
Trusting You to make me holy  
By Your blood.

I am trusting You to guide me;  
You alone shall lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying  
All my need.

Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79, alt.

#### Prayer

Almighty and holy God, I bow in humility before You. You are the source of all history. To You alone belong all times and seasons. Your dealing with humankind and Your justice is beyond question. Guard me in all that challenges my trust in Your love and mercy. Strengthen my trust in my Savior, Jesus Christ, so that on Judgment Day I may stand secure in the sure forgiveness He won for me on Calvary's cross. Help me, gracious Lord, to be ready and greet with joy the day of the coming of Jesus, when He will bring to completion Your plan for this present world. Amen.

#### Digging Deep My Personal Study for Week 1

#### Day 1 • Read Isaiah 34–35

1. "The LORD is enraged against all the nations" (v. 2). Yet, surely, some nations are more humane than others. Why is God "enraged against all"? (See Romans 1:18–19; 3:9–12.)

2. Reread Isaiah 34:4. Many predictive prophecies in the Old Testament refer to events soon to happen, while others refer to what will happen in the distant future. When will the destruction described in this verse occur? (See Matthew 24:29–31 and 2 Peter 3:1–13.)

3. Are you ready for judgment by God? Explain how you would respond if such judgment comes tomorrow. (Meditate on Luke 21:25–28, especially v. 28.)

4. **Challenge question.** The people of Edom were descendants of Esau, Jacob's (Israel's) brother (Genesis 25:23–30; 27:39–40). Why is Edom (vv. 6–17) singled out for such disaster—the people and even the land itself? (See Amos 1:11; Ezekiel 35:5–6.)

5. Chapter 35 paints a contrasting picture to chapter 34. To what two doctrines of Scripture, which are the key to understanding Scripture, might chapters 34 and 35 be compared? (See John 1:17; Romans 1:16.)

6. *For personal reflection. Sharing optional.* Think about a time when Isaiah 35:3–4 described an experience in your life. How did God help you? As you remember, thank Him again for His deliverance.

7. Reread Isaiah 35:8–10. Part of this predictive promise could refer to those who would return to Jerusalem after the captivity. But what words in verses 9–10 allow us to apply the promise to ourselves?

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**Day 2 • Read Isaiah 36**

8. Apparently, Hezekiah had no intention of surrendering. What words of the Assyrian field commander (vv. 4–20) tell you of this?

9. Judah had a covenant relationship with Assyria, whereby Judah would pay tribute to Assyria each year in order to be at peace with them. This relationship also limited Judah’s relationship with other nations. In what way was Hezekiah rebelling (v. 5) against Sennacherib? (See 2 Kings 17:3–5; also 18:7, 14–16.)

10. **Challenge question.** The Assyrian field commander says (v. 7): “But if you say to me, ‘We trust in the LORD our God,’ is it not He whose high places and altars Hezekiah has removed?”

a. How does the question show that the field commander did not understand the true God or His will? (See Deuteronomy 12:2–6; 1 Kings 12:26–30.)

b. Why did Hezekiah depend on the true God? (See 2 Kings 18:3–7.)

11. Why do you think Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah asked the Assyrian field commander to speak in Aramaic (Isaiah 36:11; see also vv. 16–17)?

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**Day 3 • Read Isaiah 37:1–20**

12. What words of Hezekiah in verse 3 show his concern that they may not have the strength to hold out?

## Comfort, Comfort My People!

*Distribute before session 2 for use in session 2.*

*Use enrichment magazine pp. 9.*

### Isaiah 40:1–44:23

#### Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study at home and at the week's assembly.

#### Hymn

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe so far,  
His grace will see me home.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail  
And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail  
In heaven's joy and peace.

John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

#### Prayer

Gracious, omnipotent Lord, You hold in Your hand the destiny of every nation and every person. We marvel at Your great love and concern for Your people. We humbly acknowledge our sinfulness in forgetting Your almighty power and grace. We confess that all too often we have looked elsewhere for help. Forgive us. Help us at all times to remember Your wonderful promises. Then, looking to You, we will rejoice and sing Your praises before all. Amen.

#### Digging Deep

#### My Personal Study for Week 2

#### Day 1 • Read Isaiah 40

1. Read again verses 1–5. Some people say that the message in verses 1–2 pertains only to the exiles returning from Babylon. What is there in verses 3–5 that shows this message has meaning beyond the return from captivity? (See Luke 3:4–6; 2 Corinthians 4:6.)

2. In verses 6–8, the temporary state of being human, and of human powers and ability, is contrasted to the permanence of God's Word. Give some examples from your life or the life of Christians in general that illustrate how we often are tempted to ignore this truth.

3. *For personal reflection. Sharing optional.* When in your life have the words or images of verses 10–11 been especially comforting to you?

4. In verses 21–31, God asserts His power, authority, and control over all creation. In what way is the claim by some modern scientists for how things began different from the concept of a loving and caring Creator?

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## Day 2 • Read Isaiah 41

5. In verses 1–4, God declares it is He who will raise up Cyrus (see 41:25; 44:28; 45:1) and give him the power to be a great conqueror. God works through the wickedness of people and events to shape them toward His good purposes!

a. Read verses 5–7. When faced with the overwhelming victories of Cyrus, the people looked for new idols to help and protect them. When faced with modern-world conquerors, to what does the modern world look?

b. What determines whether these are idols or not?

6. Verses 8–16 contain God’s promise that Israel will in the end triumph over all its enemies. Final blessings are predicted in verses 17–20. Read verse 20. What message is there for you, when you have triumphed over your adversities?

7. Read verses 22–23 and 28–29. Many times, also in recent history, an individual has predicted that certain things would happen, but the prediction proved to be false. God never “misses.” Who or what things do people look to today for predictions of future events? Then comment on this practice. (Consider Deuteronomy 18:10–12.)

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## Day 3 • Read Isaiah 42

8. In Isaiah 41:8–9, the words “My servant” refer to Israel. To what (or whom) does “My servant” in Isaiah 42:1 refer? Before answering, read verses 1–2. Then read Isaiah 61:1–3 and Luke 4:18–21.

9. **Challenge question.** Read Mark 9:21–24; John 14:5–9; and John 20:27–29. How do these passages show the fulfillment of the prophecy in Isaiah 42:3?

10. Read Isaiah 42:5–9. Isaiah describes Israel as “a covenant” for Israelites and Gentiles. In what ways is Christ a better servant than the nation of Israel? (See Hebrews 3:2–6 and 8:6–9.)

11. Read Isaiah 42:10–12 and Lamentations 3:22–23. Why should we “sing to the LORD a new song”?

12. In verses 19–25, God complains that the people have paid no attention and did not learn from what He sent them. In what way should we take to heart even the hard things God allows in our lives? (See