



WEEK 1 | LOOK AT ISAIAH 61:1-3

1. WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW THAT THE “SPIRIT OF THE LORD GOD IS ON US” AS WE PURSUE THIS VISION OF BEING FORERUNNERS OF THE FAITH?

2. WHAT IS “GOOD NEWS” TO A SPIRITUALLY BANKRUPT CULTURE, AND HOW DO WE COMMUNICATE IT IN A WAY THAT ACTUALLY SOUNDS LIKE GOOD NEWS?

3. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT WE CAN BRING “HEALING TO THE BROKENHEARTED” IN OUR COMMUNITIES?

4. READ JOHN 4:28-30 AND NOTICE WHAT THE WOMAN DID THAT DEMONSTRATED HER SENSE OF URGENCY.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE FOR US TO LIVE WITH A SENSE OF URGENCY, KNOWING THAT “THE YEAR OF THE LORD’S FAVOR AND THE DAY OF OUR GOD’S VENGEANCE” FACES EVERYONE?

5. WHAT ATTITUDES MUST WE ADOPT IN ORDER TO EMBRACE THIS RESPONSIBILITY OF A FORERUNNER OF THE FAITH? (PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11)



WEEK 1 | FORERUNNERS AT HOME

This week turn a family dinner into a conversation about what it means to be a forerunner of the faith. To prepare, fix a meal for everyone in your family that features at least one fruit or vegetable on every plate. As you eat, challenge your family to explain how that fruit or vegetable arrived on their plates. The most likely answer is, “well, you put it there!” But keep pressing your family to think further by saying, “Yes, I did prepare it and put it on your plate, but what about before that?”

HERE’S AN EXAMPLE OF ALL THE STEPS IT TOOK TO GET THAT FRUIT OR VEGETABLE TO YOUR FAMILY:

- It had to be bought and brought home from the store.
- A worker had to place it on a shelf or bin in the grocery store.
- Another worker had to unload it from a truck at the store.
- A truck driver had to drive it to the store.
- A company had to prepare and stock the fruit or vegetable to sell at grocery stores (for a fun look at this, look up “How It’s Made- Apple” on YouTube).
- A different truck driver, boat captain, or pilot had to deliver the food from a farm to the company.
- A farmer had to grow and package the food on a farm.

Say, “Whoa! That’s a lot of steps just to get fruits and vegetables onto our plates! Many people had to do important jobs to make sure we could enjoy this food. This is what it means to be a forerunner. A forerunner of the faith is someone who helps others experience the love and power of Jesus. Just like many people had important jobs so that this food could get to our house, our family has an important job to prepare the way for others to know how great our God is!”

READ TOGETHER LUKE 3:4B-6 (START WITH, “...PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD.”)

Finish by asking these three questions and then praying for your family to have boldness to be forerunners of the faith with your friends, in your neighborhoods, at school, and at work.

- What does our family want others to know about God?
- Why is it important to be forerunners of the faith?
- What is one thing our family could do to help other people experience the love and power of God? (you could talk about a service project, a truth you could share, a mission endeavor, etc.)