



FIFTH SUNDAY

WITH DR. BRUCE MAIN

INTRO: Most biblical scholars agree that Isaiah is a composite work, meaning it was written by different people at different times. The first main section (chapters 1–39) details how Israel and other people groups have fallen away from God. In chapters 40–55, we learn that God is sovereign and gracious to humanity even when we make major mistakes. God’s love seeks us out time and time again, inviting us to embrace a new story for our lives.

1. What does the word *sovereign* mean to you? Is it just another religious term or is it personal? Is it comforting or scary?

READ Isaiah 40:28–31

1. Why does Isaiah 40 use contrasting language so much, like strength vs. powerless?
2. Look at verses 30–31. What word signals the turning point of the passage? (see v. 31)
What does it look like to wait for the Lord?
3. What other Bible passages or stories remind you of Isaiah 40?

SERMON QUESTIONS:

1. Describe a recent event when you saw God’s redemption in action.
2. What’s the difference between deliverance and consolation? Is there one?
3. What does redemption and grace look like in your daily life? What’s one action you can take to give or receive God’s love more readily?

OUTRO: In many ways, Isaiah 40 reads like a psalm of comfort. It is full of hopeful imagery and describes not only God’s sovereignty, but how God uses divine sovereignty to deliver humanity from its own pain and suffering. Isaiah 40 is a new song for a new day. It reminds us that with God, our story is never quite over. In Him, we can overcome all things.

PRAY TOGETHER.

(Pray that you might pay attention to the way God is rewriting your story.)