



GRAB GATHER GROW

Week of December 10th

Grab this study, Gather a few people, and Grow in faith

SCRIPTURE

(read over the scripture together)

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people! says your God. Speak compassionately to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her compulsory service has ended, that her penalty has been paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins! A voice is crying out: "Clear the Lord's way in the desert! Make a level highway in the wilderness for our God! Every valley will be raised up, and every mountain and hill will be flattened. Uneven ground will become level, and rough terrain a valley plain. The Lord's glory will appear, and all humanity will see it together; the Lord's mouth has commanded it." A voice was saying: "Call out!" And another said, "What should I call out?" All flesh is grass; all its loyalty is like the flowers of the field. The grass dries up and the flower withers when the Lord's breath blows on it. Surely the people are grass. The grass dries up; the flower withers, but our God's word will exist forever.

Go up on a high mountain, messenger Zion! Raise your voice and shout, messenger Jerusalem! Raise it; don't be afraid; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" Here is the Lord God, coming with strength, with a triumphant arm, bringing his reward with him and his payment before him. Like a shepherd, God will tend the flock; he will gather lambs in his arms and lift them onto his lap. He will gently guide the nursing ewes.

DISCUSSION

Many of us spend a lot of time preparing our homes for Christmas. How have you prepared your home? How do our preparations prepare us to meet the Christ Child?

What are some of the Christmas Traditions do you hold dear?
Do they point us toward the Christ Child?

Do we participate in fellowship, welcome the stranger, read scripture? What does hospitality really look like in our churches, in our homes, in our hearts?

SERVICE

At BUMC we are using our Change for Change Offering for Heifer Project. Our Sunday School children are leading the way with this mission project. Save your change or make a special donation to Heifer Project at church.

You may also visit their web site. They have a wonderful program where you can give the gift of an animal in someone else's name. Check it out, they make great Christmas presents for those hard to shop for people in our life.

BUMC is also collecting Winter Gear for Kids and Youth. Sponsor a drive at your work or school and bring the items into church.

FAITH FIVE AT HOME THIS WEEK

Share, Read, Talk, Pray and Bless through life this week.

Each day, gather together and share each person's high and low of the day.

Read a piece of Scripture; Talk together about the scripture and how it relates to your day; Pray about your highs and lows and where God is leading you; and at the end of the day share the following blessing:

"May God help you discover the true meaning of Christmas."

SUNDAY: Isaiah 40:1-11 (Sermon Text)

MONDAY: Isaiah 40:1-2

TUESDAY: Isaiah 40:3-5

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 40:10-11

THURSDAY: Mark 1:1-3

FRIDAY: 2 Peter 3:8

SATURDAY: Isaiah 61:1-11 (Sunday's Sermon Text)