

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, June 22, 2025 (Pentecost 2)

Isaiah 65:1-9

Discussion Starters

1. Chapter 65 is God's answer to the prayer offered in chapter 64. Read that chapter to get the context for God's response. What are the reasons for God's frustration with the people of Israel? How does He answer their question (64:12)?
2. This chapter addresses the idolatry of the people. Why does God object to their idolatry? In what way(s) does idolatry lead to other sins?
3. What promises are here for people who have not engaged in the practice of idolatry? What punishments will come on those who have?
4. What do you learn about prayer from this passage?
5. What does it take for God to "break through" so that you can hear Him?
6. What modern day applications can you see in this passage?

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Discussion Starters

1. According to this passage, what is the purpose of the Law?
2. How is trying to be right with God by keeping the Law like being in prison (v. 23) or having a nanny (vv. 24-25) or guardian (vv. 1-2)?
3. How did Jesus change our relationship with God? How did He change our relationship with other people?
4. What does this passage teach us about the social and cultural barriers that exist in our world today?
5. What does it mean to be God's "heir" rather than just a "slave?"

Luke 8:26-39

Discussion Starters

1. What events preceded this story, and what might the disciples be thinking as they landed in the region of the Gerasenes?
2. How did Jesus treat the demon-possessed man? How did His treatment differ from the treatment by the townspeople?
3. Why didn't Jesus allow this former demoniac to travel with Him and the disciples?
4. What did the demons fear when they encountered Jesus? If they thought that was a possibility, why did they even address Jesus in the first place?
5. Was the response of the townspeople appropriate? What does their response tell you about their priorities?
6. What is the most dramatic life transformation you have ever witnessed?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?