

The Gospel According to Isaiah: Trusting God in Difficult Times

Discussion Questions for Isaiah 7:1-16

Open It

To whom do people tend to turn when they face difficult circumstances?

What is one of the most frightening pieces of news you've ever received?

Explore It

What two nations united against Judah during the kingship of Ahaz? (7:1)

How was the morale of Judah affected when they heard about the alliance of Aram and Israel? (7:2)

What word of encouragement did God send via Isaiah and his son? (7:3-9)

What did God mean when He said, "the head of Damascus is only Rezin" and "the head of Samaria is only Remaliah's son"? (7:8-9)

What did God invite Ahaz to do in order to reassure himself? (7:10-11)

How did Ahaz respond to the invitation to ask God for a sign? (7:12)

How did God react to Ahaz's refusal to ask for a sign? (7:13)

What sign was promised by God, even though Ahaz had not asked? (7:14-15)

What was Isaiah's specific prediction regarding Ahaz's enemies? (7:16)

What country would be used by God to punish both Judah and its enemies? (7:17-20)

In what concrete ways would Judah lose its status as a land of rich, productive agriculture? (7:21-25)

Get It

What are some of your first instincts when you are overwhelmed by fear?

What makes it hard or easy to accept a promise that seems to contradict the facts you see before you?

What are some examples of how God accommodates our fears and weaknesses?

In what ways can you, and can you not, be harmed by another human being?

What can we learn about God from the fact that He gave a sign that wasn't even requested?

Apply It

What fear do you need to surrender to God in order not to be controlled by it?

For what recent act of concern and faithfulness can you thank God today?