

BELONG

Starter Questions: What's the best news you've gotten lately? Ask your students if they would like to share their highs and lows from the week.

Become Challenge Check-In: Last week, you were challenged to intentionally be a godly friend by encouraging someone, giving wise advice, having an honest conversation in love, or helping a friend take a step toward Jesus. How did that go?

BELIEVE

Scripture: Isaiah 52:7-10

Main Idea: God sends His people to share His good news.

Focus Question: Who can I share the good news of Jesus with?

Context:

Isaiah is one of the **books of prophecy**. A prophet was someone God called to speak His message to His people. Prophets sometimes warned people about sin and judgment, but they also reminded people of God's promises and pointed to what He would do in the future.

Isaiah was a prophet to **Judah**, the southern kingdom, about 700 years before Jesus. God's people had repeatedly turned away from Him, and Isaiah warned that their rebellion would bring judgment. He also looked ahead to a time when the people of Judah would be conquered and taken from their land into exile in Babylon.

But Isaiah also delivered messages of **hope**. God had not abandoned His people or forgotten His promises. In the chapters leading up to Isaiah 52, Isaiah points ahead to God's rescue and restoration of His people and ultimately to the Savior God would send.

Summary:

Isaiah pictured a messenger running across the mountains with **good news** for God's people. The message was one of peace and salvation: **God reigns!** God had not forgotten His people. He would comfort His people, redeem them, and restore them.

The good news was too important to keep quiet. Isaiah described watchmen celebrating together and the ruins of Jerusalem breaking into joyful praise because God was rescuing His people.

But God's salvation would not remain something only Israel would see. Isaiah said that God would reveal His power before **all the nations**, and "**all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God**" (Isaiah 52:10). God's plan to save would reach far beyond one city or one nation.

Read Isaiah 52:7

→ **Bible Study Tip:** Repeated words and ideas can help you see what a writer wants you to notice. **Circle every word or phrase Isaiah uses to describe the messenger's message.**

- What words or phrases does Isaiah use to describe the message? What do they tell you about the news being announced? (*Isaiah calls it good news and says the messenger announces peace, brings news of good things, and proclaims salvation. This isn't ordinary information. The messenger is announcing what God has done to rescue His people.*)

- Why do you think Isaiah describes the feet of the person bringing the message as “beautiful”? *(There is nothing especially beautiful about the messenger’s feet. They are “beautiful” because of the message they carry. When news is this good, the arrival of the person bringing it is something to celebrate.)*

Read Isaiah 52:8–9

- Underline the words that describe how people respond to the news. What caused them to respond this way? *(The watchmen “shout” and “rejoice together,” and Jerusalem is told to “be joyful” and “rejoice together.” Their joy is connected to what God has done. He had comforted His people and redeemed Jerusalem.)*
- Why might someone who has heard the Gospel many times stop responding to it like it is really good news? *(The more familiar something becomes, the easier it can be to take it for granted. We can know the facts about Jesus without stopping to remember the seriousness of our sin, how much we need rescue, and what Jesus has done to save us.)*

Read Isaiah 52:10

- Notice when the writer’s focus gets bigger or smaller. Box the words that show who will see what God has done. How does the focus change from verses 7–9 to verse 10? *(The focus expands from God’s people to “all the nations” and “all the ends of the earth.” God’s salvation is good news for people everywhere, not just one nation, culture, or part of the world.)*

Read Romans 10:13–15

- Look at the chain of questions Paul asks. What is the good news people need to hear, and what has to happen for them to hear it? *(The good news is that Jesus died for our sins and rose again so that everyone who trusts in Him can be saved. But people need to hear that message, which means someone has to tell them. Paul quotes Isaiah 52:7 and says God sends people to proclaim this good news so others can hear and believe.)*
- Missions can take us across the world, but it can also take us across the room. Who has God already placed in your life who needs to hear the good news of Jesus? *(Encourage students to think specifically about friends, teammates, classmates, neighbors, or family members who may not know Jesus. We don’t have to wait until we are older or travel somewhere far away to take part in God’s mission. We can share the good news with the people God has placed around us right now.)*

BECOME

Circle of Impact Challenge: Think of one person in your circle who may not know Jesus. Pray for that person by name this week, and ask God to give you an opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with them. When an opportunity comes, be willing to take it. **Also pray for missionaries around the world who are sharing this same good news with people who need to hear it.**