



Series: Christmas 2025
Passage: Isaiah 61:1-11
Title: The Servant Songs, Part 5
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 1/04/2026

Discussion Starter – What are the five Servant Songs found in Isaiah? How is the person and work of the Servant described and expanded in each song? What other titles or descriptions are given to this individual throughout the Hebrew Scriptures?

Read Isaiah 61:1-3

1. Who is the individual speaking in verse 1? Who empowers Him? What is His task?
2. When Jesus references these verses in Luke 4:18-19, what claim would He be making to the knowledgeable Jew who heard Him?
3. What is meant by “the acceptable year of the Lord”, (Leviticus 25:10)? How does it apply to the role of the Servant?
 - a. What debts have been acquired by every human over the years? To whom or what are we enslaved? (John 8:34, Romans 6)
4. What is the significance of Jesus’ stopping short of His quotation in Luke, before referencing “the day of vengeance of our God”?
 - b. Who are the brokenhearted? What is the source of broken heartedness? What can you do to “heal the brokenhearted”?
5. What similarities do you recognize with the consolation and gifting in verse 3 compared to the beatitudes, (Matt 5:3-11)? How does Jesus’ ministry elevate the people?

Read Isaiah 61:4-11

6. What are the ruins mentioned in verse 4? How did the ruins come to be, (Deuteronomy 28:47-49)? Who are those who will rebuild the ruins?
7. What role will these “re-builders” hold after the former desolations are rebuilt? When did God express His desire to delegate humans as His representatives and managers, (Exodus 19:6, Genesis 1:28)?
 - c. Do you consider your relationship with Jesus to include a priestly function to those around you? What would that look like?
8. What is the “everlasting covenant” to be made with Israel (Jeremiah 31:31-34)? How does it differ from the Mosaic Covenant?
9. What is the source of joy described in verse 10-11? What joy do you find in these verses?
 - d. Where else do you find joy in your life? Is it dependent upon circumstances? How can you cultivate full and steadfast joy in your life, (John 15:11)?