

A Heart of Compassion

Isaiah 58:6-12

Neil Trainer

May 28, 2017



NOTES

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Isaiah 58:6-12

Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- When you encounter someone begging at an intersection or freeway off-ramp, what thoughts go through your mind? How do you feel toward that person? What are ways that you typically respond?
- What are the most serious concerns you have about giving to help the poor? What could alleviate those concerns and cause you to give more? How could your small group or church help with this?
- Read Isaiah 58:6-12. In your own words, summarize what the LORD is asking of his people. What will be the results if they obey the LORD's commands?
- Isaiah 58:6 challenges the people to address injustice, inhumanity, and inequality. How are these evils seen in our community as well as in our nation and world today? Give specific examples.
- How are God's people addressing these evils? How might you support this work both financially and otherwise?
- Isaiah 58:7 lists ways to serve individuals in need. Which of these are you already doing and/or which do you feel called by God to do?
- Read Proverbs 21:13. How might helping the needy and receiving answers to prayer be connected? (Cf. Isa. 58:9-10)
- Conclude with prayer. Ask God to help you see (rather than overlook) the poor and needy you personally encounter or see reported upon in the news. Pray that God will help you see them as He sees them, and that your heart will be filled with the compassion for them that fills God's heart. Ask God to direct you to an individual or ministry with whom you can "spend yourself" (Isa. 58:10) on behalf of the hungry and oppressed, and to grow your heart through your giving.

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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