

nations. Old alliances collapse as the ancient Semitic empires fall. But God provides a new empire to cradle His chosen people's rebirth. Persia—a virtual non-entity in Isaiah's day—would be their new home, and Cyrus—who's grandfather was yet unborn—would be their protector.

And through Isaiah we have received some of Scripture's most cherished passages. He gave to king Ahaz, a cynical unbeliever, the sign of the virgin-born Emmanuel, hope of the nations (Isaiah 7:10-17). In the shadow of Assyrian destruction, shines the promise that, "to us a child is born, to us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6).

Isaiah 53:5 preaches the Gospel 700 years before Christ: "He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." In light of this sacrifice, the prophet extends the invitation: *Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food* (Isaiah 55:1-2).

God's Word is a feast, so as you read through Isaiah this month, enjoy its delicacies. As the prophet weaves his way through judgment and comfort, tragedy and hope, denunciation and promise, note the final triumph of hope. Sinful humans must descend into hope, as our failures usher in God's victory.

We serve an amazing God!

Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** Pray that we as a church will exalt Jesus Christ to first place as individuals and as a local body.
- **Local Outreach:** Walk for Life this month
- **Missions:** Akaki Kale Heywet Church and School: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Need to pray with someone?

It is our privilege to pray for you personally. Share your prayer requests

- By email at prayer@northpointcorona.org
- By phone, at 951.734.1335
- On a Response Card in the pew during the worship service

Prayer Team members are available after every worship service.



prayer life!

Bible Reading Plan and Prayer Guide

(Year TWO) October 2019

Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth. —Hosea 6:3

As Certain as the Dawn

We serve an audacious God.

Isaiah, the prince of the prophets, prophesied as God's people tipped downward on their headlong descent into spiritual and political collapse. On his watch, the once proud people, so blessed of God and respected among the nations, became subjected to Assyria. Judah, in the south, kept its territory and a measure of dignity as a vassal state, while her more corrupt sister in the north was scattered to the four winds.

At this dismal juncture, the Lord of all nations speaks up. His people may have failed, but He hasn't. The Lord's people have fallen, but God is still Lord of all. And He uses Isaiah to proclaim His plan for His people and for their conquerors.

Assyria, the mighty conqueror, will answer for their cruelty. Syria (chapter 17), Moab (chapter 15), Tyre and Sidon (chapter 23), neighbors who seduced God's people into spiritual adultery and abominable idolatrous practices, will be reduced to ruins. Egypt (chapters 19-20), that fickle ally and unreliable support, will be hauled away captive, while Babylon (chapter 21), which hasn't yet risen to power, will fall, never to rise again.

And Israel and Judah, God's destitute people will learn what it means to wait on the Lord. God will never let His blessings be co-opted for human purposes, but His promises never fail. Through centuries of captivity, subjugation, and dispersion God's people will wait, as God works out His plan despite their failures, until ultimately He proves that "they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength" (Isaiah 40:31).

In Isaiah's prophetic vision, God presides over—and predicts 200 years before the fact—a fundamental shift in the order of

Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year TWO)

October 2019

Sunday: Church & Ministry	Monday: Home & Family	Tuesday: School or Job	Wednesday: Neighbors & Community	Thursday: Nation	Friday: World & Kingdom	Saturday: Praise for God's Blessings
		1) Read: Isaiah 17 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to help people you know of with their concerns and to reveal His love to them.	2) Read: Isaiah 18 <i>Pray for ...</i> The checkers, stockers, & baggers you see regularly at the grocery store, that God will save them and bless them in Christ Jesus.	3) Read: Isaiah 19 <i>Pray for ...</i> Revival of the Church & a renewed desire in America for holiness, purity, righteousness, & boldness in spreading the Gospel.	4) Read: Isaiah 20 <i>Pray for ...</i> Boldness and protection for Christians in the Muslim world. Ask God to enable them to be strong in their faith.	5) Read: Isaiah 21 <i>Thank God for ...</i> Life, God's first and most essential gift. Ask His blessing on today's Walk for Life and ask Him to bring the ravages of abortion to an end.
6) Read: Isaiah 22 <i>Pray for ...</i> Craig and Mike as they travel to train trainers in the Bible & theology to equip the church & its leaders to do the work of ministry & build itself up in love.	7) Read: Isaiah 23 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your in-laws or families of your friends. May they love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul, mind, & strength & their neighbor as themselves.	8) Read: Isaiah 24 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to use you to reveal Himself to your friends and colleagues. Ask for opportunities, words, & boldness for sharing the Gospel with them.	9) Read: Isaiah 25 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to be exalted in Home Gardens. May many people come to know Him in that part of Corona.	10) Read: Isaiah 26 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to protect marriage in our land and lead us to reject laws and practices that undermine Christian marriage and the family.	11) Read: Isaiah 27 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to raise up a new generation of missionaries from around the world to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth.	12) Read: Isaiah 28 <i>Rejoice evermore!</i> By God's grace, your name is written in the book of life.
13) Read: Isaiah 29 <i>Pray for ...</i> Bob Brown, Ministry Assistant, Communications. May God give him & his wife power for ministry, protection from sin, growth in grace, & guidance in life.	14) Read: Isaiah 30 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christian character to develop in everyone in your home (Galatians 5:22-23).	15) Read: Isaiah 31 <i>Pray for ...</i> The colleagues you have the most difficulty with. May they see the love of Christ in you and hear of His love from you.	16) Read: Isaiah 32 <i>Pray for ...</i> Ways to connect with & reach your neighbors as they visit during Halloween. Ask God to show you how to use this opportunity.	17) Read: Isaiah 33 <i>Pray for ...</i> The spread of the Gospel and the study of God's Word among the people serving in the three branches of our government.	18) Read: Isaiah 34 <i>Pray for ...</i> The persecuted Church throughout the world. May their testimony of Jesus Christ win their persecutors to Him.	19) Read: Isaiah 35 <i>Thank God for ...</i> The bounty of harvest and His daily provision. Ask God to use Northpoint to lead our neighbors to Christ.
20) Read: Isaiah 36 <i>Pray for ...</i> Chelsae Grant, Ministry Assistant, Special Needs to demonstrate in her work the love of God and the intrinsic value of every person to whom God gives life	21) Read: Isaiah 37 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Pray to be filled with God's love, to receive love from Him & return it to Him. We love Him, because He loved us first. He enables us to keep the first & greatest commandment.	22) Read: Isaiah 38 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> The second commandment is like the first. Ask God to create in your heart a love for your "neighbor," those around you, so He can use you to make them His.	23) Read: Isaiah 39 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Pray for the joy of the Lord to be your strength & an example of how sweet it is to be loved by such a wonderful God & receive the blessings we enjoy day after day.	24) Read: Isaiah 40 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Ask God to you view the people you interact with each day as image bearers of God, whose eternal destiny depends on their response to His love.	25) Read: Isaiah 41 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Ask God to give us a vision for His kingdom, so we take part in His plan to win people from every nation, kindred, and tribe to Jesus Christ.	26) Read: Isaiah 42 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Ask God to direct your heart to specific individuals to reach out to with concrete examples of His love and clear expressions of the Gospel.
27) Read: Isaiah 43 <i>Pray for ...</i> Andria Brucks, Ministry Associate, Finance. Ask God for special grace in working with the church's finances, so we honor Him & serve His kingdom with what He provides.	28) Read: Isaiah 44 <i>Pray for ...</i> Ask God to build your home. "Unless the Lord builds a house, those who build it labor in vain" (Psalm 127:1).	29) Read: Isaiah 45 <i>Pray for ...</i> A world-wide Reformation of God's Church that will bring the Biblical proclamation of Christ's atonement to the ends of the earth.	30) Read: Isaiah 46 <i>Pray for ...</i> Those you know who serve in the military: May they know Christ and His love and show it to others. Seek God's care & protection for them and their families.	31) Read: Isaiah 47 <i>Pray for ...</i> A multiracial & multi-national revival in the American Church, so we love God with all our heart, soul, & strength & our neighbors as ourselves.	<i>I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. ... The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! —Psalm 34:4, 7-8</i>	