**Worship** (His Love Endures Forever) (Lesson 5)

*(Planting of Praise) Isaiah 61:1-11*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

READ: Isaiah 61:1-11

1. There are two distinct voices in this passage, the anointed servant (or the prophet) and the Lord who sends the sends the servant. How would you summarize in a sentence the heart of what each one says? (try saying it as if you were the person speaking).
2. The first speaker says he has something for various groups of suffering people: the poor, the brokenhearted, the captives, the prisoners (or the blind), the mourners and those who despair. In what way do you identify with one of these groups?
3. What seems to be the Lord’s purpose in commissioning this servant?
4. What promises does the Lord’s servant (and then the Lord) make to those whom he lifts up, heals, sets free and comforts?
5. How does what the servant brings these suffering people transform them into “oaks of righteousness”, and what does this title imply (v.3)?
6. When have you seen someone Jesus healed, provided for or set free become a “display of his splendor” to others?
7. How does the Lord want his people to be seen by the rest of the world (vv.8-9)?

How do you reconcile the reality that Christians experience sadness, struggle and tragedy with the state that all who see God’s people will say they are blessed?

1. Why is being “arrayed in a robe of righteousness” cause for such jubilant (v.10)?
2. From what you see in this passage, what do you think is the relationship between righteousness and praise.
3. What clothes from your old life, (clothes that have nothing to do with salvation or righteousness) are you trying to hold unto?

How might you envision these clothes in a way that will encourage you to get rid of them?

1. What does your worshiping community (church, fellowship or study group) need from God to become a stronger, healthier planting that displays his righteousness and splendor?

*Ask God to rid you of your old clothes and increase your comfort wearing his garments of salvation and praise. Pray also about your response to the final question*.

***Now or Later***

Find a contemporary example of each of the suffering groups mentioned in Isaiah 61:1-3. The example may be one person or a collective group, someone you know personally or only know of, people in your city or people in another region or country. How might you bring to these people good news, bandages and healing, freedom, the Lord’s favor, comfort, provision, or beauty, gladness and praise? If you only have time or resources for one person or group, choose one, find a way to reach them this week, and watch righteousness and praise spring up!

***NEXT LESSON***:

**Worship: His Love Endures Forever**

***All to Jesus –* READ: Luke 20:20-26, 45-47; 21:1-4**