

Hope in a stump?
For the week of December 2 – 8

Prayer: That we might accept the Lordship of Christ our King

Day 1: Isaiah 6:1 – 13

Four questions to ponder:

- What surprising parts do you read in this passage?
- What words in this passage also appear in Isaiah 11?
- Is this a hopeful passage or not? Why?

Day 2: Isaiah 7:1 – 17

Two questions to ponder:

- How does reading the entire passage differ than how we normally read this passage?
- In this passage Isaiah is instructed to give his children names, one of which is Immanuel. What do these names signal to King Ahaz?

Day 3: Isaiah 9:1 – 17

Two questions to ponder:

NOTE: the focus on the hope brought by a child

- How do the promises about the son balance the judgment of God against Israel?
- What is the significance of the repeated phrase (v.12, 17)?

Day 4: Isaiah 10:5 – 23

Three questions to ponder:

- How does the stump image appear in this passage?
- How does God use Assyria to judge Israel?
- What is a remnant? Why is it critical to faith?

Day 5: Isaiah 11:1 – 16

Three questions to ponder:

NOTE AGAIN: the hopeful presence of a child.

- How does this text bring hope and expectation for Israel?
- How do you understand verses 6-9 to be true? Is this literal? Figurative? Expectant?

Further Reflection: Where are places in today's world where you see shoots of God's grace in the midst of a stump?