

"Christmas Restoration"

Isaiah 65:17-25

1. God Wants to Restore Your _____

- Isaiah 65:16-17, 19

2. God Will Restore Your _____

- Isaiah 65:20, 22

3. God Restores Your _____

- Isaiah 65:23-24; Genesis 3:15; Ephesians 2:12-13;
Romans 3:23, 5:1



Talking it over (use this for discussion around your community group):

- Have someone at your table read through the passage for today.
- Look at the list of promises that the Lord will do, from that passage. Which ones apply to now, and which ones apply to someday in heaven?
- Is the "Jerusalem" described in that passage a literal place, a figurative place, or both? Explain your answers.
- Reread verses 16-17. In what way does this describe how God deals with our own personal pasts?
- Have you experienced some event in your past that was difficult to get beyond? Can you share that with the group? How did you get past it, if you did? Please share that with your group, too—it might help someone at your table who is struggling to get past something.
- Reread verse 20. Death results in broken dreams of what could have been. We grieve over the loss of any kind of hope or dream or preferred future. How does this verse speak to that loss?
- Have you experienced a loss of some relationship? What happened? Did it get resolved? If so, how? If not, why not? Does God want to help restore that relationship, if possible? How do you think he might do so?

Digging Deeper (if you still have time, or for further study later, go through these questions):

- Given that Christmas reminds many people of the loss of a loved one, or of their own loneliness, how does Christmas help them?
- Have someone read Genesis 3:15. What is this talking about, and how does it relate to what Jesus has done for us?
- Read Romans 3:23. In what ways does this describe broken relationships? How does this break in a primary relationship effect all of our other relationships?
- Read Romans 5:1. How is this tied to the Christmas event? How does this restoration of a primary relationship effect our other relationships? Has this happened for you? Describe how and when. If not, might you consider it?
- Re-read through your notes. Review the main points and read the Scripture references that are provided for you.**