

# Sermon Study Questions

**Sunday, May 31, 2026**

1. Read Isaiah 41:21-42:9
2. How would define idolatry? How would you identify idols that might be cropping up in your heart?
3. What is the challenge the Lord makes to the idols? What is His verdict about idols and what should you take from that verdict?
4. In ch.42 we are introduced to the Servant of the Lord. Later on in ch.42 this Servant will be contrasted with another servant who is blind and deaf. Who is the Servant we are introduced to in v.1-4, and how do you know who it is?
5. The focus of the Servant's mission is to bring forth justice in the earth. What does Isaiah mean by *justice*? How will He accomplish His mission and bring forth this justice?
6. We know this justice will come to fruition in the consummation, but how does the Servant's mission impact this world in the here and now?
7. We are also told of the manner in which the Servant of the Lord will carry out His mission, saying, "He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice" (v.2-3). What does this tell you about the Servant of the Lord? What does it say to you about the way you should engage with and minister to others?

8. In commissioning the Servant for this mission, the Lord says to Him, "I will give you a covenant for the people." What does that mean?

9. In v.6-7 the Lord says of His Servant that He will give Him as, "a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness." What is this speaking of? How does He do this?

10. Pray!

### **Reading of Law: Ephesians 4:1-3**

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

### **Prayer of Confession:**

Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. You are the Great King over all creation, and you are a loving Father to your people. We come before you now and confess our sins to you, that we fail to walk in a manner that you call us to, but daily fall short of your glory. You have called us to walk with all humility and gentleness, but we have been harsh, boastful, and self-exalting, both in our words and in our actions. You call us to be patient, bearing with one another in love, and yet we are often irritable and intolerant of the weaknesses and quirks in others. You call us to be eager in our efforts to maintain unity and peace in your church, but due to our pride and our frustration with those who may be difficult for us to love we don't pursue this command as we ought, and in doing so we do damage to the well-being of your bride whom you love and have purchased with the blood of your Son. Father, we confess that in all of these ways we have sinned against you. We ask that you would please forgive us and look upon Christ and His atoning work on our behalf and apply to us the merits of what He has done for us in His life, death, and resurrection. For we come before you in His name, and we ask this for His sake, Amen.

### **Assurance of Forgiveness: Romans 5:6-10**

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die--

<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if <sup>a</sup>while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

## Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 38

### Q.103. What does God require in the fourth commandment?

A. In the first place, God wills that the ministry of the Gospel and schools be maintained, and that I, especially on the day of rest, diligently attend church to learn the Word of God, to use the holy sacraments, to call publicly upon the Lord, and to give Christian alms. In the second place, that all the days of my life I rest from my evil works, allow the Lord to work in me by His Spirit, and thus begin in this life the everlasting Sabbath.

[1] [Tit. 1:5](#); [1 Tim. 3:14–15](#); [4:13–14](#); [5:17](#); [1 Cor. 9:11](#), [13–14](#). [2] [2 Tim. 2:2](#), [15](#); [Ps. 40:10–11](#); [68:26](#); [Acts 2:42](#), [46](#). [3] [1 Cor. 14:19](#), [29](#), [31](#). [4] [1 Cor. 11:33](#). [5] [1 Tim. 2:1–2](#), [8–10](#); [1 Cor. 14:16](#). [6] [1 Cor. 16:2](#). [7] [Isa. 66:23](#); \*[Gal. 6:6](#); \*[Acts 20:7](#); [Heb. 4:9–10](#).

### NT Reading: Matthew 9:12-23

He went on from there and entered their synagogue. <sup>10</sup> And a man was there with a withered hand. And they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"-- so that they might accuse him. <sup>11</sup> He said to them, "Which one of you who has a sheep, if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not take hold of it and lift it out? <sup>12</sup> Of how much more value is a man than a sheep! So <sup>b</sup>it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." <sup>13</sup> Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And the man stretched it out, and it was restored, healthy like the other. <sup>14</sup> But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. <sup>15</sup> Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all <sup>16</sup> and ordered them not to make him known. <sup>17</sup> This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: <sup>18</sup> "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup> He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; <sup>20</sup> a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; <sup>21</sup> and in his name the Gentiles will hope." <sup>22</sup> Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. <sup>23</sup> And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?"