

GOD'S PLAN (part of the whole story series pt. 5)

Divine Direction

Key Scriptures

¹⁸ Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.¹⁹ For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. As soon as he hears it, he answers you.²⁰ And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher.²¹ And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.²² Then you will defile your carved idols overlaid with silver and your gold-plated metal images. You will scatter them as unclean things. You will say to them, "Be gone!" **Isaiah 30:18-22**

*If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. **James 1:5***

*"Ah, stubborn children," declares the Lord, **who carry out a plan, but not mine**, and who make **an alliance,** but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin; **2** who set out to go down to Egypt, **without asking for my direction**, to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt! **3** Therefore shall the protection of Pharaoh turn to your shame, and **the shelter in the shadow of Egypt to your humiliation.** **Isaiah 30:1-3***

*"They tell the seers, "Stop seeing visions!" They tell the prophets, "**Don't tell us what is right.** Tell us nice things. **Tell us lies.**" **Isaiah 30:10***

*There is a way that seems right to a man, but **its end is the way to death.** **Proverbs 14:12***

²¹ Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "**This is the way; walk in it.**" **Isaiah 30:21**

⁶ Jesus said to him, "**I am the way**, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **John 14:6**

*Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, **who leads you in the way you should go.**" **Isaiah 48:17***

*In all your ways acknowledge him, and **he will make straight your paths.** **Proverbs 3:6***

*Your word **is a lamp to my feet** and **a light to my path.** **Psalms 119:105***

²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, **with reverence and awe,** ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire. **Hebrews 12:28-29**

TALK IT OVER

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What are some of the major turning points in your life where a change of direction led you to where you are now? How did God intercede in the situation? How would your life be different if that change of direction never occurred?

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- In the time between chapter 30 and chapter 37, much has happened, including the Assyrian invasion and victory over parts of Judah and an exchange of messages between King Hezekiah of Judah and the King of Assyria. Finally, after all seemed hopeless, King Hezekiah finds himself before God. With that context in mind, Read Isaiah Chapter 30:1-3, Isaiah 37:14-20, and 37:36-38.
- What was the change of direction in King Hezekiah's heart between chapter 30 and chapter 37? What was the result?

Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- What lesson or Biblical truth was most impactful to you from Sunday? How and why?
- Which "Damaging Detour" from Isaiah 30 are you most likely to take in your daily life? The "Save Myself Detour" modeled in Isaiah 30:1-3 or the "Tell Me Lies Detour" from Isaiah 30:10?
- Read Isaiah 30:21. What change in direction is God leading you to?

Start Praying. Pray this prayer in your own words over the person next to you!

Holy, holy, holy Father in Heaven, we praise you! We praise you! We praise you! Thank you for being an active Father. You are many things, but absent is not one of them! You walk through life with us and give us divine direction. Please increase our ability to recognize the sound of your voice guiding us to the left and to the right. In Jesus' name, amen!

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Memorize Isaiah 30:21. Use this powerful text to help your spirit battle your flesh when you're tempted to walk in ways you know are contrary to God's ways.
- Share what God is doing in your life, changing your direction or otherwise with a friend or family member this week. Tip: say something like, "I'd love to tell you what God is doing in my life...(insert the change of direction recent or months in the making here).

Find out more by checking out the series "GOD'S PLAN" at www.myrestore.church