

Sermon-Based Questions

March 15, 2020

Dave Gustavsen

A Time to Choose

Isaiah 41:10

Introduction:

1. This is a good time to sing (or recite) the children's song as we celebrate unity and fellowship from our various homes, realizing we are not alone:

I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

Reading (Scripture Reference):

Read Isaiah 41:10

Understanding:

Choose Faith Over Fear

2. What does God through the prophet Isaiah give as the reason we can choose faith over our natural tendency to fear (see the "I am" statements in Isaiah 41:10)?
3. What should we *not* do? What are three things God said he *will* do?

Choose Love Over Selfishness

4. From the sermon: "this is a moment when all of us are faced with some important choices. And the choices that we make will have a major impact on our lives and on the people around us." Who are the people in your life, and how are your choices impacting them right now?
5. What are some ways you can show your love to others, especially the most vulnerable people in your life?

Prayer:

Ask God to show you the **doors** that are open to you right now. Ask him to give you a new **perspective** about what's important in your life. Ask him about how you can have a more stable **foundation**. Thank him for the **gift** of time and/or new insight.

Lectio Divina:

1. Reading: Have someone from your group read the passage aloud.
2. Meditation: Spend an entire minute in complete silence, contemplating what was just read. Feel free to re-read the passage or jot down thoughts/highlight what stuck out to you.
3. Sharing: At the leader's signal, invite group members to share their insights for about 5 minutes.
4. Repeat: After the 5 minutes are over, repeat the process 2 more times. Listen/read like you haven't heard this passage before. If there are longer moments of silence, the leader can prompt discussion with the following questions:
 1. What did you hear and what seems important?
 2. What is the Holy Spirit impressing on you?
 3. What does it make you think of from your life?

Isaiah 41:10

*Do not fear, for I am with you;
Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you, surely I will help you,
Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*

Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.