



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE:

6/16/2019

DISCUSSION DATE:

6/23/2019

TEXT:

ISAIAH 40:1-31

I. THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD (VSS.12-17)

A. His omnipotence (vs. 12)

B. His omniscience (vss. 13-14)

C. His independence and self-sufficiency (vss. 15-17)

D. His sovereignty (vss. 21-24)

II. THE ALTERNATIVES (VSS. 18-20)

A. Idolatry in the Old Testament (vss. 19-20)

B. Idolatry today

1. Self can be an idol.

2. Relatives, loved ones, and friends can be idols.

3. Money and material can be idols.

4. Appetites, passions, and desires can be idols.

III. APPLICATION OF TRUTH

FOR CONFERENCING

- (Read Isaiah 40:1-2)** Isaiah chapters 40-66 are called the "Book of Comfort." Why is that? When will Israel's comfort finally come?
- Read Isaiah 40:12-17)** What attribute of God is described in verse 12, in verses 13-14, and in verses 15-17? What attribute of God is described in verses 21-24?

3. A proper view of God is only seen in the Creative Work of God, the Word of God, and the Character of God. Through what false lenses do men inappropriately view God, and what false views about God do some conclude? How does man treat a god of his own imagination? If one has a proper (biblical) view of God, how will it impact him and how will he “treat” God?
4. What does it mean to say that God is self-sustaining and self-sufficient?
5. What do verses 21-24 say about the powerful nations and rulers of the world?
6. **(Read Daniel 4:34-36)** When coming to his senses after God’s humiliation of the great and powerful emperor Nebuchadnezzar, what did he recognize about the One True Living God? What did that new understanding lead him to do?
7. **(Read Isaiah 40:19-20)** How did Israel create alternatives to God? To what did they liken God? In essence then, what was their idolatry?
8. **(Read John 5:20-23)** According to Jesus what is idolatry? What can be concluded about any belief in God that does not include a belief of and a submission to Jesus?
9. How would you define or describe idolatry today? What kinds of things can become idols in our lives today?
10. **(Read Luke 9:23-26)** Why does Jesus demand self-denial to be His disciple? **(Read Luke 14:26)** Although it is hyperbole, why does Jesus talk of hating all else in order to be His disciple? Why must one hate his own life to be a disciple of Jesus?
11. **(Read Philippians 3:19)** According to the verse, what other “things” become idols for man?
12. **(Read Isaiah 40:27-31)** Why should we never feel that God somehow does not see our cares and difficulties or is preoccupied with other things than to empower us to persevere and make progress in the life of faith?