

Not Alone: God's Relentless Pursuit

Group Discussion Guide | June 28

Series overview and leader instructions

“Not Alone” is an 11-week journey through the Old Testament, tracing God’s desire to dwell with His people and His faithful work to bring redemption. Through every season—deliverance, provision, rebellion, exile, and restoration—we see one unified story of grace, pointing to Jesus and the promise of God dwelling with His people forever.

The sermons in this series will take a fly-over, covering multiple chapters—and sometimes multiple books—in a single sermon. You may find that some people in your group may be unfamiliar with these stories and benefit from some additional context.

We recommend incorporating videos from The Bible Project books of the Bible overview videos as needed. As the leader, you can decide whether to watch the videos as a group or send them out in your group chat or via email for people to watch on their own, or some combination of the two.

For this week, because we’re covering all the prophets, we’re pointing you to just one of them: Isaiah.

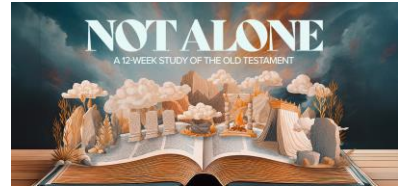
- [Isaiah \(Part 1\)](#)
- [Isaiah \(Part 2\)](#)

As always, use the group discussion guide below in the way that works best for *your* group. Linger on questions that yield fruitful discussion. Break into pairs or smaller groups for conversation or keep the discussion in the larger group. You know your group! Use this guide as a template but make it your own.

Opening reflection question (10 minutes).

Begin your time together by inviting people to share their answers to the following:

- What new ideas did you learn from the Bible Project video(s)? What stood out to you?



- On Sunday, Emerson talked about how the prophets brought God's Word to God's people via both their words and their actions. What's the strangest way someone has tried to get your attention?

Discuss the sermon and the prophets (45 minutes).

- What stood out or challenged you from the sermon?
- What did you previously think about the books of the prophets? Has anything changed in light of what you've learned?

In the sermon, Emerson pointed out the three main messages of the prophets: accusation, repentance, and judgment/hope. Those messages were unique in their delivery, but in large part, people resisted them.

- Why do you think we are resistant to God's word?
- Can you think of a time when God's Word confronted you and you noticed resistance in yourself?
- What is the difference between God's conviction and shame or condemnation?
- Where might God's Word be lovingly telling you the truth right now?

Three specific accusations Emerson described are idolatry, injustice, and false alliances. Spend just a moment or two with each of these questions.

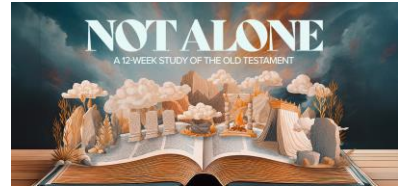
- Idolatry: What do I look to for life, security, comfort, identity, or control?
- Injustice: Where has love of neighbor become too theoretical or distant?
- False alliances: Where do I run for safety before I run to God?

The goal of God's confrontation is not to push us away from Him, but to call us back to Him. **Read Isaiah 30:15-18.**

- In hearing God tell the truth about your sin, do you notice Him inviting you back to Him?
- Do you believe in your heart that He longs to be gracious to you – to show you compassion?

It's easy to read the accusation of the prophets and focus on where our own lives are deserving of accusation. But here is where the message of the prophets brings hope – they point to the reality that a Savior was coming and is here. **Read Romans 3:21-26.**

- What does this passage mean when it says that the law and the prophets testify to the righteousness we receive through faith in Christ?



- Describe the hope you have today and for the future because of the hope of Christ.

Closing prayer (10 minutes).

As we move into our prayer time, read these promises:

- Isaiah 11:6
- Isaiah 35:1
- Zechariah 14:8-9
- Micah 4:3
- Isaiah 26:19

Spend a moment in silence, reflecting on these promises. Which one do you most long for now? Thank God for the hope we have because he reigns. Then share requests with the group and finish in prayer.