



FAMILY STUDY

Prophecy!

The Prophet Isaiah, thought to be the greatest of all the Prophets of the Old Testament. Isaiah's ministry lasted around fifty years, and his prophecies are quoted in the New Testament more often than any other Prophet. This book shows us a mix of both prophecies of condemnation as well as prophecies of comfort.

Say it, Play it, Pray it!

Objectives:	a. Role-play Isaiah 11:1-10 to hear the wonderful prophecy of the coming Messiah (scene 1); Role-play Isaiah 37 to see the miraculous protection of God (scene 2) b. have fun with your family
Number of Players:	Scene 1: 3 or more Narrator, Isaiah, all the people in the land Scene 2: 4 or more Narrator, Isaiah, Angel of the Lord, King Sennacherib, Hezekiah, Assyrian people Really get into your roles and have fun with this.
Length:	30 minutes or more.
Set up:	1) Assign parts to everyone. 2) While the narrator and Isaiah read the text, the crowd of people should listen and give appropriate facial expressions and act out their parts.

The Game (scene 1)

Narrator: Now Isaiah prophesied to the people in the land.

Isaiah: There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse. And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding. The Spirit of counsel and might. The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

His delight is in the fear of the Lord. And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist.

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat. The calf and the young lion and the fatling together. And a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze. Their young ones shall lie down together. And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child play by the cobra's hole. And the weaned child put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people. For the Gentiles shall seek, and His resting place shall be glorious.

The Game (scene 2)

Narrator: Sennacherib, king of Assyria, sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying

Sennacherib: Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, Saying: 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." Look! You have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them; and shall you be delivered? Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, Gozan and Haran and Rezeph, and the people of Eden who were in Telassar? Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?

Narrator: And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord. Then Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, saying:

Isaiah: O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib which he has sent to reproach the living God. Truly, Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations and their lands, and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands -- wood and stone. Therefore they destroyed them. Now therefore, O Lord our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the Lord, You alone.

Narrator: Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying,

Isaiah: Thus says the Lord God of Israel, "Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, this is the word which the Lord has spoken concerning him:

'He shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow there, Nor come before it with shield, Nor build a siege mound against it. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return; and he shall not come into this city,' says the Lord. 'For I will defend this city, to save it for My own sake and for My servant David's sake.'

Narrator: Then the angel of the Lord went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses--all dead. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh. Now it came o pass, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that his sons struck him down with the sword; and they escaped in to the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

Discussion and prayer

Have a seat with everyone facing each other and allow each person to share what they felt in their role and anything they learned from their experience. Then take some time to pray for each other, remember to thank God for all he has provided.