

# Family Table Talk

**Opportunity**  
Christian Fellowship

for the week of **December 10, 2017**

Read it . . .

Discuss and apply the truth of God's Word as a family.

**Isaiah 61:1-4**  
**8-11**

## Release for Captives

Seven hundred years before Jesus was born, Isaiah the prophet told the people of Judea about God's plans for the future; God's plan to send a special messenger. The Jews called that messenger the Messiah.

But the person Isaiah told the Jews about was different than just a regular king. He would be a special kind of ruler. He would fix all the things broken in the world.

One hundred years after Isaiah's time, Judea was conquered by Babylon. Then they were

conquered by Persia, then Greece, and by Jesus' time Judea was conquered by Rome. All these nations treated the Jews brutally. So by Jesus' time the Jews were anxious and impatient for the Messiah to show up.

They thought the Messiah would be a warrior who would conquer all Judea's enemies like they had been conquered. But, as you read the Bible this week, what kind of person do you think the Messiah was supposed to be? What kind of things was He supposed to do?

### Sunday

Read Isaiah 61:1-4

Jesus read this prophecy (see Luke 4:16-21) in His home town. What does it say about what God wants Jesus to do. What are we, as followers of Jesus, supposed to do?

### Monday

Read Isaiah 61:8-11

What do you learn about God in these verses?

### Tuesday

Read Psalm 126

What amazing things has the Lord done for you? Christmas is the perfect time for sharing and remembering.

### Wednesday

Read John 1:6-8,19-28

When John the Baptist first appeared, a lot of people thought he was the Messiah everyone was waiting for. What did John have to say about that idea?

### Thursday

Read John 1:6-8,19-28

Christmas Movie Night! Snuggle up and put on "A Charlie Brown Christmas". What do the different kids (and Snoopy) think Christmas means?

### Friday

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

What does the word "always" mean? What does the word "never" mean? Those are "extreme" words. What other "extreme" words are in these verses?

#### **Memory Verse: Isaiah 61:1**

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

#### **Coming Up Next Week:**

Who Me?