



Small Group Curriculum

SERMON **A Time-Tested Authority: Reliability (Isaiah 40:6-8)**

DATE **September 20 2015**

Before you begin, pray that God would open your hearts and your minds to this teaching, not just for information, but for transformation.

1. Re-read **Isaiah 40:6-8**. Compare these verses with **Matthew 5:18** and **Isaiah 55:11**. What truths do you see in each?
2. Examine also **Psalms 119:89-96**. What additional characteristics do you see about the nature of God's Word in this passage? How does this encourage you further?
3. Read **Isaiah 30:8-11**. How do you see these characteristics true of our world today also? *Why* do you think the world is so persistent in trying to silence God's Word even after so many centuries of failure?
4. What are some lies you commonly hear from the world, and what truths from Scripture do you hear in return? How often are you being led by each?
5. Look now at **1 Peter 1:22-25**. Why do you think that Peter quotes Isaiah 40 in the middle of this passage? What do you think he's driving at with his listeners?
6. In the third point of the weekend's message, we learned of the reliability of God's Word as testified by our own internal witness, or its personal impact upon our lives. Can you think of a time when you saw firsthand this reliability as you were personally led to action through His written Word?
7. What are some that God is showing you that you are relying on "grass" (Isaiah 40:8)? What are the possessions, the people, and even pursuits that will prove to come to nothing?
8. Read also **Hebrews 4:12**. How can this passage encourage us both in our personal walk with the Lord, as well as our telling others about Christ?