How relevant is the question in 53:1 today? Is it still being asked? Do many people believe in the Gospel today? Did they believe in Jesus' message? Why were there great numbers but few real faithful followers? What is Jesus' explanation of this in John 6:26? What is His recommendation to the crowd in John 6:27?

How do you feel standing next to Jesus? Does his humility made your pride look bad? Has his simplicity made your materialism seem greedy? Does his submission to the Father make you look disgracefully disobedient? How are you responding to the vast difference between you and Jesus? People either run to him for help and change, or they run from him in flat rejection. What is your response?

Rejection isn’t just shaking your fist at heaven, it could be just a failure to listen to God. What kind of noise in your life is squelching out God’s voice?

Although his appearance didn’t seem to be the strong arm of God, how did Jesus demonstrate divine strength in his life and ministry on earth?

Look at Isaiah 53-2. What does a little shoot look like compared to a majestic tree? Why might Jesus be described as a little plant in a dry ground? What incidents in Jesus’ life foster this description?

Who despised Jesus during His birth and ministry? List some examples below:

How was Jesus a ‘man of sorrows’ during His life on earth?

Reflect on the Gospels and consider several sorrows of Christ. Reflect on your own personal story of the Christian life and consider the sorrows you have endured.

Look at Philippians 3:10 and talk about what the “fellowship of His suffering” means.
What did the situation leading to the cross show about how people viewed Jesus? What did it show about the disciples when they all turned away from Him? Have you ever turned away from Christ, after becoming a Christian? What brought you back to Him? What reasons for people turning away from Christ have you heard? Do you see yourself included in the phrase of Isaiah 53:6, “All of us like sheep have gone astray?” Explain.

Isaiah 53:4-6 gives God’s description of people. What are people like? What is every human’s true nature? How do your friends, family or co-workers respond to the idea that people are naturally sinful? How do people respond when you use the word sin, instead of mistake? Would you call yourself a rebel at heart? Are you bent on having your own way in life? Some people don’t look rebellious on the outside, but their hearts are far from God. Their rebellion is evidenced simply by the fact that they have tuned God out. He has no say in their life. If that’s you, isn’t it time to turn from your rebellion and trust in the One who can bring you peace?

Look up John 1:10-11. How did the Jews respond to the incarnation of the Servant, Jesus?

How does our society today demonstrate rebellion towards God? What evidences do you see around you?

List the verbs in 53:4-6 which describe Christ’s suffering. Look up the definitions for those verbs and meditate on what Christ went through for you.

The last portion of 53:4 suggests that some people misinterpret why Jesus died. What is the reason mentioned? From 53:5, what would you say is the reason for the Servant’s suffering?

The truth is Jesus died because of our sins. Do you believe Jesus died for your sins? If so, when did this first occur? If not, why do you hesitate? Is it related to whether you see yourself as a stray sheep?

This One who suffered for us shows what love is all about. Because of His sacrifice, love has been spread forth throughout the world. How has His love directly affected your life? Your marriage? Your responses to others?

Jesus came to a world of rebellious people who rejected him and out of great love he died for them. The fact is, he died for us too. He took the punishment for sin that we deserved. He bore our griefs, pains, and sorrows so that we wouldn’t have to. Are you tired of the shame, guilt and pain of sin. Are you ready to release that heart burden and receive new life? If so, than by faith receive Christ’s free gift of salvation. Repent of your sins and believe the Gospel (the good news that Jesus died for your sins and rose from the dead to offer life and forgiveness). Today, if you hear his voice don’t harden your heart. Believe and receive Him.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

1. Look up John 1:10-11. How did the Jews respond to the incarnation of the Servant, Jesus?
2. How does our society today demonstrate rebellion towards God? What evidences do you see around you?
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5. The truth is Jesus died because of our sins. Do you believe Jesus died for your sins? If so, when did this first occur? If not, why do you hesitate? Is it related to whether you see yourself as a stray sheep?
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