

The Messiah in Isaiah

Materials:

- Sheets of writing paper; one per group
- Writing utensils
- Bibles; one per group

Use the appendix on page XX of the Student Text (page XX of the Parish Catechist Manual) to review briefly how to look up Bible citations. Split students into groups and have each group look up one of the bold citations below. Write the citations on the board.

Look up these verses in your Bibles. Then use your knowledge of the New Testament to figure out what the verse is foretelling about the Messiah. Provide students three to five minutes to find the verses and discuss them. Then have each group share their conclusions.

Isaiah 53:5: “He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.”

- ***What event is the verse foretelling?*** (*Jesus’ suffering.*)
- Jesus was wounded to save us from sin. By His wounds and His Death on the Cross, we are healed.
- ***What key words or phrases from the passage tell us this?*** (“*He was wounded for our transgressions [sins]*” and “*with his stripes [wounds] we are healed.*”)

Isaiah 50:6: “I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I hid not my face from shame and spitting.”

- ***What does this verse foretell about Jesus the Messiah?*** (*His scourging and being mocked.*)
- Jesus’ back was whipped, and He was mocked during His Passion.
- ***What key words or phrases from the passage tell us this?*** (“*Back to those who struck me*” and “*shame and spitting.*”)

Isaiah 42:1: “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him, he will bring forth justice to the nations.”

- ***What does this verse foretell about Jesus?*** (*Answers may include that He is the Messiah, the chosen one of God, and that God’s Spirit is upon Him.*)
- God chose Jesus and sent His Holy Spirit to anoint Him as the Messiah.
- ***What key words or phrases from the passage tell us this?*** (“*My chosen, in whom my soul delights*” and “*have put my Spirit upon him.*”)

The prophets tell us about the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who was promised to come.