



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

“Isaiah 11”

Preached by Daniel Grothe

December 7, 2025

Summary

Have someone in your group read the following summary aloud.

Pastor Daniel preached from Isaiah 11 about God's ability to bring new life from devastation. Using the metaphor of a shoot growing from a dead stump, he explained how God can restore what has been cut down in our lives. He emphasized that even when life feels reduced to nothing - whether through our own mistakes or others' failures - God specializes in bringing hope and new purpose from our places of greatest pain. He shared stories of a man named Rob, who created a YouTube channel helping millions after being abandoned by his father, and Tony, who went from prison to preaching the gospel. The message concluded with the promise that our areas of greatest pain can become sources of our greatest passion.

Key Passages

- ☐ Isaiah 11:1-2
- ☐ Isaiah 11:6-9
- ☐ Psalm 1:3
- ☐ Genesis 50:20

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own

Heavenly Father, as we gather today to study Your Word, we ask that You open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us. Help us to be receptive to Your Spirit's leading and to see how Your truth applies to our lives. We pray that You would speak to each person here according to their specific needs and circumstances. Give us ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts that are willing to be transformed by Your love. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**

Getting Going

Allow time for each member to answer the following questions before moving on.

What's your favorite tree or outdoor space where you like to spend time, and what makes it special to you?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. How does the metaphor of a shoot growing from a dead stump speak to situations in your own life where you've experienced loss or devastation?
2. What does it mean to you that 'in the kingdom of God, there are no justs' - that everyone is eternally important regardless of their occupation or status?
3. Rob's story showed how abandonment led to a ministry helping millions. How might God be preparing to use your past pain for future purpose?
4. What does it look like practically to 'buy God a little time' when you're in a season of waiting for restoration?
5. How can our places of greatest pain become sources of our greatest passion for ministry and helping others?
6. What 'shoots of hope' have you seen God bring up in your life or in the lives of people around you?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your everyday life

This week, identify one area of your life that feels like a 'stump' - something that has been cut down or feels dead. Spend time in prayer asking God to show you how He might want to bring new life from this situation. Consider how your past pain or struggles might be preparation for helping others who face similar challenges.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

- God specializes in bringing new life from dead situations - shoots can grow from stumps.
- When life gets cut down, patience and faithfulness allow us to see God's restoration over time
- Our places of greatest pain can become sources of our greatest passion and ministry.
- In God's kingdom, everyone is eternally important regardless of their background or circumstances.
- The peace of Christ can transform relationships that seem impossible to reconcile.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close your time in prayer, using the words below or your own.

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the shoot that came up from the stump of Jesse, bringing hope to a broken world. We pray that You would help us trust You in our seasons of waiting and restoration. Give us patience when our lives feel cut down, and help us to see how You want to use our pain for Your purposes. May we be people who rally to You as our banner of hope, and may Your peace transform the broken relationships and situations in our lives. Help us to remember that You are the God who brings beauty from ashes and life from death. In Your precious name we pray, **Amen**.