

The Power of Relationship to Restore & Renovate Us.

"You'll use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again."

- Isaiah 58:12 - The Message

- Restoration of our soul comes when we begin our relationship with God through His Son Jesus. Restoration of our heart and mind continues because of this secure attached relationship.
- So much Christian teaching tends to focus on right beliefs and right choices as the key to personal growth but biblical evidence and modern brain science show that our *character is shaped more by whom we love than what we believe.*
- The Book of Isaiah will help us see how the promise of salvation would come through the Messiah. But in addition to bringing pardon for sin, intimate relationship with Jesus renovates us wholly—mind, will, and emotion.
- This study is about showing how we can train our brains to relate to God based on a joyful, mutual connection with Jesus which will lead to emotional, relational, and spiritual maturity.

Title: ATTACHMENT LOVE – TRANSFORMATION OF OUR CHARACTER.

ISAIAH: THE MASTERPIECE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

- 1. <u>SALVATION</u> → The keynote of Isaiah is "salvation." Isaiah's name means "Jehovah saves." Isaiah was a prophet to Judah. The record of the captivities of Israel (the Northern Kingdom and Judah (the Southern Kingdom) is found in II Kings 17-1-23; 24:11-25:21.
- 2. TWO MESSAGES JUDGMENT & HOPE → Isaiah is a miniature Bible in structure. It has 66 chapters, just as the Bible has 66 books. There are two divisions: Chapters 1-39 (like the Old Testament) and Chapters 40-66 (27 chapters like the New Testament). Message #1 is God's case against the Jews because of their sin. Message #2 is the hope of the coming Messiah "A voice is calling, clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness; make smooth in the desert a highway for our God (40:3).
- 3. EXPOSE SIN & CALL FOR REPENTANCE → Isaiah was a man of royal blood. He was a young aristocrat from a princely line. He was brought ups in the court and had high standing with the people of Jerusalem. His training was of the best. He died in the reign of Manasseh, an evil king, at the age of 120. Isaiah laid bare the sins of his people and called them to repent and turn to God. His message is summarized in 4 words:
 - 1. Rebellion "Ah, sinful nation" (1:2-4; 10-15, 21-23).
 - 2. Retribution "You will be devoured" (1:5-8, 15, 20, 28).
 - 3. Repentance "If you are willing and obedient" (1:16-19, 27).
 - 4. Restoration "Zion will be redeemed" (1:9, 18, 24-31).
- **FORGIVENESS** → Isaiah denounced Judah's hypocrisy (1:15). He told them of forgiveness if they would repent, but promised them a sword if they continued in their rebellion against God.

RESTORED: ATTACHMENT LOVE--CHARACTER OF CHRIST.

- 1. TRANSFORMATION → Knowing how the brain learns character can transform how we teach ourselves and others how to be our True Self and what being a Christian is. Quote by Dallas Willard.
- 2. What it means to believe in Jesus:
 - 1. Dialogue with God about everything,
 - 2. Do nothing out of fear,
 - 3. Love people deeply.
- 3. SECURE & JOYFUL ATTACHMENTS → Designed to build and sustain loving relationships with the people God has placed in your life. The science of the brain and character formation can help us thrive and become part of a model of life joyful, godly maturity. God is described in over 200 times in the Old Testament as being "hesed", a quality God also desires from us (Hosea 6:6). The Hebrew word "hesed" is translated as "devoted," "faithful," and "unchanging love."
- 4. ATTACHMENT LOVE → In the human brain, identity and character are formed by who we love. Attachments are powerful and long lasting. Salvation through a new, loving attachment to God changes our identities would be a relational way to understand our salvation—we are both saved and transformed through attachment love from, to, and with God. Attachment to God is meant to replace the will as the mechanism of salvation and transformation.



- 1. Describe how love was expressed and experienced in your home as you were growing up?
- 2. Where do you experience love now?
- 3. How do you express love?