

Beauty for Ashes: Simple But Significant
Isaiah 61, Revelation 21:18-27
October 18, 2020

WARM-UP QUESTIONS:

1. Let's start our fall series wrap-up with some positivity. What are some things you love about the culture of our country? How does it positively impact your everyday life?
2. How would you describe the culture of Evergreen-LA? Who or what has been influential in shaping and forming the culture of our church?
3. If a stranger were to come and spend time at your home, what words would they use to describe what they experienced? What would be the signs of beauty that they would see?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. We have spent the past month culling the insights of Isaiah 61. Take time to read it slowly (several times). What words or phrases have become more meaningful to you? What kind of world is God bringing forth through the power of the Spirit, through God's people?
2. The Book of Revelation presents a picture of God's future. Read the Revelation passage. How do you picture this scene in your mind? What might the nations be bringing as their splendor (beauty)?
3. In our multi-cultural context, what makes it difficult for us to appreciate and respect the beauty of other cultures? What would it take from us to do so?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Author Andy Crouch, in his book, Culture Making, presents this thought: "The only way to change culture is to make more of it." What is he inviting us to do? A mandate for culture-change can seem like a tall order - what perspectives are important or helpful to keep in mind as we take part?
2. Pastor Jason offers this closing invitation: "Every act we make in this time needs to be an act of compassion and justice, of empowerment and healing, and of love and beauty." Take some time to meditate on what acts God may be bringing to mind in your spheres of influence.