Discussion Questions for Isaiah 40-41

Chapter 40

- The Lord begins chapter 40 by declaring that His people have served their sentence in Babylon and will now be brought home. Describe what you think it may have been like for the Israelites to have lived in the Persian kingdom for 70 years and now hear that you are free to return home.
- Verses 3-5 prophetically launch the reader toward the coming of Messiah. Why do you think the Lord chose to place those prophecies right after the prophecy of God's people being released from their Persian exile?
- What do you think the Lord was trying to communicate in verses 6-8?
- What is the Lord wanting to convey in verse 18?
- How does reading verses 25-31 affect your faith in the Lord?

Chapter 41

- Verse 10 was obviously written originally for the people of Israel. Does this promise apply to believers today? Why or why not?
- What point is God making in verse 24 about idols?