

EVERY NATION CAMPUS

from

DARKNESS

to

LIGHT

DAY 1

LEADERS CONFERENCE DEVOTIONAL

SPIRITUAL MIGRATION: FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

ISAIAH 40:10-11

Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Have you ever experienced a major life transition that required big adjustments for you?

- Nope, not yet.
- Yes, I have.

If you answered YES, which of the following did you experience?

- Moved to a new country / city / town / province
- Transferred to another school
- Shifted to another course
- Death of a loved one
- Others:

**How have you been coping with these major adjustments?
What difficulties did you experience and what helped you face them?**

This devotional workbook is about a journey, a story of migration from one kingdom to another. It's a journey that you and I had taken once in our lives when we surrendered our lives to Jesus—a decision that resulted not just in a change in our habits or lifestyle, but a change in our identity, citizenship, and destiny.

I. THE REIGN OF DARKNESS

READ: ISAIAH 1-3

At this point in Israel's history, the nation of Israel had already been divided into two: the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Despite this setup, the two kingdoms were enjoying a time of peace and prosperity because of a treaty between their kings.

Yet all was not well beneath the surface. The entire book of Isaiah tells us about these two kingdoms' idolatry, wickedness, and unfaithfulness to God, which is why they experienced God's wrath and judgment against their sins. Isaiah, speaking on God's behalf, pronounced God's judgment over the nation and warned about impending invasions by their enemies.

True enough, God's judgment came to pass. The two nations were conquered by Assyria and Babylon, and their people were scattered and exiled in enemy territories.

Because of their wickedness and idolatry, they were plunged into the valley of the shadow of death—an era in their history marked by death, violence, hopelessness, and despair.

In the same way, we used to be a people who dwelt in deep darkness because of our disobedience. Our hearts were darkened by sin. Our lifestyles were marked by our sinful desires. We were children of wrath in the kingdom of darkness.

READ: EPHESIANS 2:1-3

Recall your life before you knew Christ. How will you describe your life back then?

Based on your personal experience, what are the consequences of sin? How does sin affect you and other people?



II. THE BREAKING OF DAWN

READ: ISAIAH 40

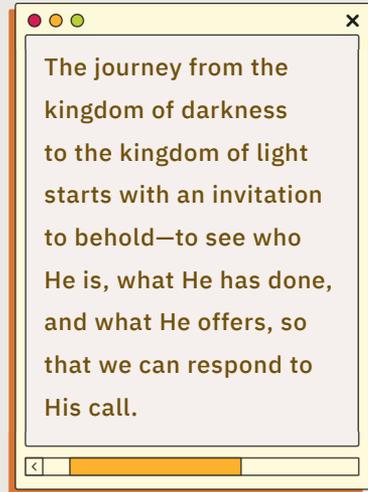
Chapter 40 is a pivotal moment in the book of Isaiah. After pronouncing a string of judgments against their sin, God began speaking tenderly to His children. Despite their sin and disobedience, God has heard their cry and He invited them to behold (Isaiah 40:10).

This is God’s way of saying, *“Don’t miss out on this! Make sure you get this!”*

In the midst of their despair, God announces, “Behold your God!”

Light shone through. The long night is over. Behold your God who will rescue you from your enemies and will carry you in His arms.

The journey from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light starts with an invitation to *behold*—to see who He is, what He has done, and what He offers, so that we can respond to His call.



Have you ever experienced any of the following?

- Felt extremely anxious or depressed
- Worried about financial provision
- Abandoned by people I love
- Experienced serious illness
- Lost a loved one
- Others:

How did God come through for you during these trying times?

God did not just save us from the troubles of this world. Ultimately, He saved us from eternal damnation through Jesus Christ when we put our hope in Him.

Recall the time when you received Jesus Christ as your Savior and surrendered to His Lordship. Where and how did it happen?



III. FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

READ: COLOSSIANS 1:13–14

More than 700 years later, the apostle Paul emphasized how Jesus Christ made our transition from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light possible. The Messiah that the Israelites were hoping for finally came—not to defeat their foreign enemies, but to defeat the enemy of our souls; not to restore the kingdom of Israel, but to establish the kingdom of God.

This is the good news of the kingdom: God rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of His Son, Jesus Christ.

TRUE OR FALSE. Read the Bible verses below and check if the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- _____ **2 Corinthians 5:17.** God has turned me into a new creation. My old life is gone.
- _____ **Ephesians 2:1–5.** I was dead in sin, but God gave me life through Christ.
- _____ **Philippians 3:20.** I have a new citizenship. I am now a citizen of God’s kingdom.

Once we grasp what this is about, it ministers to our deepest spiritual condition. We become people with a willing spirit to leave the life of despair under the kingdom of darkness, and we now give our allegiance to our King.

God’s kingdom empowers His people to pursue unimaginable possibilities and a creative future through the Holy Spirit.

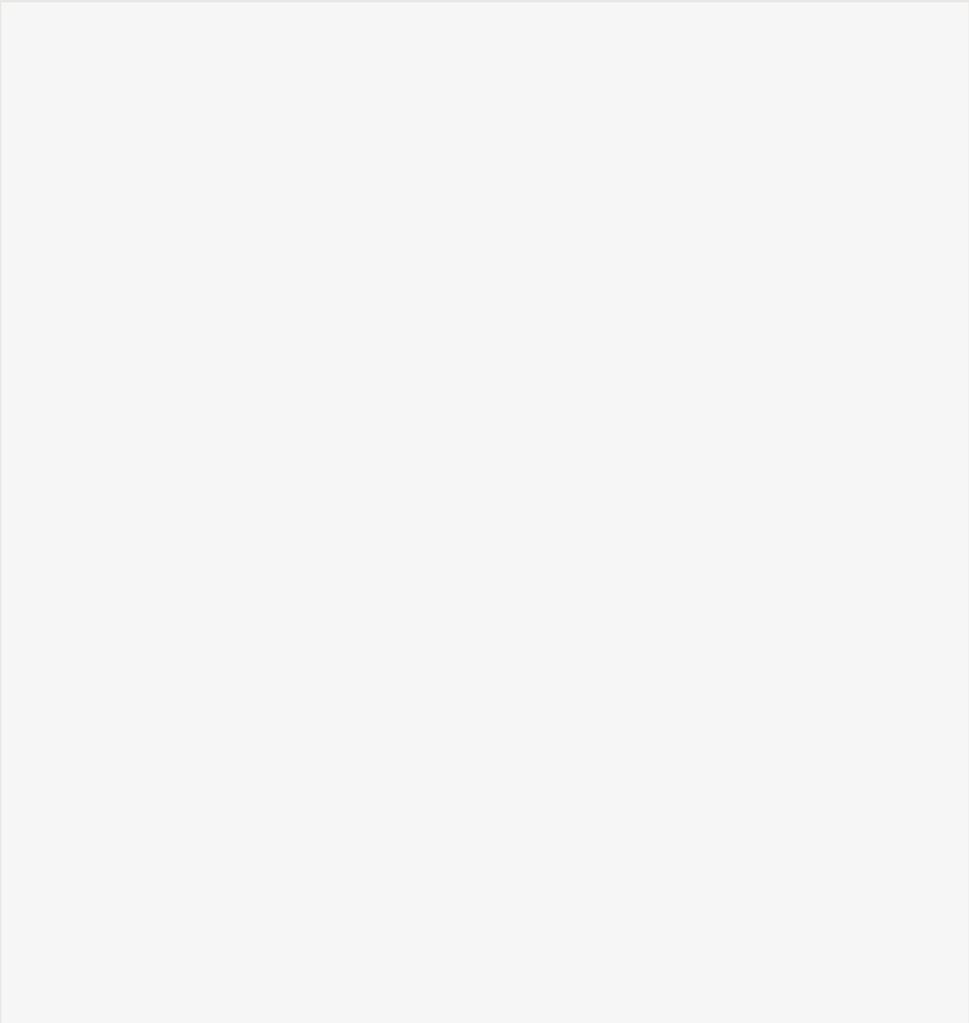


PRAYER

We started this journal talking about transitions. In the next few days, we will study the new things that come with our journey of faith, the challenges they bring, and the truth that will set us free.

- ▶ Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart every day as you prepare for the Conference.
- ▶ Pray for a humble and contrite heart before God, ready to receive His mercy and grace.

Write your prayer below:





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