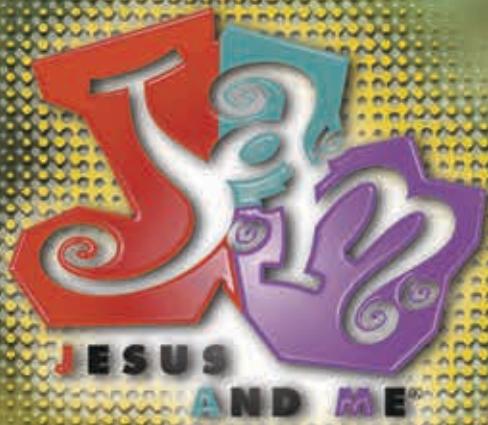


JUNE • JULY • AUGUST 2022



Partners in a New Creation

JAM TIME

Hello Jammers!

We are so excited for you to learn more about the character of God and Jesus' work in the world. We also learn about the reward of heaven—a real place. Our life on Earth is not in vain, and it can have a beautiful end—eternal life with Jesus! In the book of Isaiah, God predicts Babylon's fall and Israel's deliverance. These events were evidence of God's power at work in the world. Where do you see God at work in your life? How has God restored you? In these passages, we witness God's righteous anger toward His people. What are your thoughts about God's anger? Are you angry about the same things? What does it mean to you that Jesus is called the Word? How have

you seen and felt the healing, saving, and resurrection power of Jesus in your life? Jesus is still at work in our world in these ways. In this quarter we get a glimpse of heaven and all its glorious design. What are your thoughts regarding heaven? How does your life reflect what you believe about heaven? The great news is that you can look forward to a place that is beyond our imagination if you stay in Christ. Ask your teacher how you can make heaven your eternal home. We love you, and we are praying for you!

In Christ,
Mrs. Antoinette "Toni" Mosley
J.A.M. (*Jesus And Me*®) Editor

Nowhere to Run. Nowhere to Hide.



Clint quickly closed his tablet. He heard Mom coming up the stairs. "Hey, Clint. Are you busy? I'm heading out to run some errands. Do you want to come along? We can get ice cream while we're out," she said.

Clint stammered, "No, I'm fine. I'll just stay here. I'm reading on my tablet." *I know I'm not exactly reading, but Mom wouldn't know the difference.* His heart raced as he thought of how easily he had lied. How easily the lies and secrets seemed to come recently.

"Suit yourself," said Mom. "I'd sure enjoy your company." When Clint heard Mom's car leave the garage, he opened the tablet again. *I hope Andre and Mike are still on.* Clint pulled a folded scrap of paper from his pocket with Andre's password and a reminder to *up* his age to 14. Clint's new friends recently invited him to their video group chat.

"It's nothing *really* bad but be sure your parents don't snoop around on the site. It's just for us guys," Andre had warned. "OK?"

"Sure," Clint promised.

Later that evening...

Clint joined his parents for evening devotions before their Friday family game night. Dad joked around for a bit before opening his Bible to Isaiah 47:10. Clint squirmed as Dad read the Bible. Usually this was a fun time. Tonight, he felt sad. Dad said, "This verse really spoke to me earlier this week. God showed me how I want our company to make money so badly, I'd do anything to show a profit at work. This verse says that we can't hide *anything* from God. Money can be an idol. My attitude and actions became sins. I don't want to work like this anymore, so I asked God to forgive me."

Clint listened to Dad. He whispered a prayer to God. *I'm so sorry. Ever since I tried to get Andre and Mike to be my friends, I've been pulling away from You. I'm sorry. No more hiding. Please forgive me, too. Help me.*

Later that evening, Clint told Mom and Dad he needed to talk with them. He wanted their help also.

In My Heart

*"You have trusted in your wickedness and have said, 'No one sees me'"
(from Isaiah 47:10, NIV).*

WORD!

Isaiah 47:10–15, NIV—You have trusted in your wickedness and have said, 'No one sees me.' Your wisdom and knowledge mislead you when you say to yourself, 'I am, and there is none besides me.' **11** Disaster will come upon you, and you will not know how to conjure it away. A calamity will fall upon you that you cannot ward off with a ransom; a catastrophe you cannot foresee will suddenly come upon you. **12** "Keep on, then, with your magic spells and with your many sorceries, which you have labored at since childhood. Perhaps you will succeed, perhaps you will cause terror. **13** All the counsel you have received has only worn you out! Let your astrologers come forward, those stargazers who make predictions month by month, let them save you from what is coming upon you. **14** Surely they are like stubble; the fire will burn them up. They cannot even save themselves from the power of the flame. These are not coals for warmth; this is not a fire to sit by. **15** That is all they are to you—these you have dealt with and labored with since childhood. All of them go on in their error; there is not one that can save you.

SIDE BAR

God Foretells Destruction

God sent Isaiah as a prophet to the Israelites and people of Babylon. He told them of their sin. He told them they trusted in their own intelligence, astrologers, sorcerers, and people who made predictions. No matter how much the people tried, though, they could not hide their actions from God. Any person or idol separating them from worshiping the one supreme God would lead to their destruction! They needed to worship God alone. No matter how hard they tried, they could not hide their sinful ways from God. Worshiping anything besides God leads to destruction.

Nothing Hidden — I will...

A—Avoid anything separating me from God.
V—Vigorously pray and seek God daily.
O—Obey God's Word and godly counsel.
I—Invite God to shine His light and show me my hidden sins.
D—Determine to turn from any evil practice and worship God alone.

I will avoid destruction.

GOT IT!

A. No Help

Use WORD! to help you answer the following questions:

1. What did the people trust in according to verse 10? _____

2. What is the result of trusting anything except God? _____

3. Who were the people trusting according to verses 12 and 13? _____

4. Whom can the people from verses 12 and 13 *not* save? _____

Fill in the missing words:

"_____ have _____ in your _____ and have _____, '_____'" (from Isaiah 47:10, NIV).

B. It's Tempting

1. Break into small groups.
2. Brainstorm how youth today worship false gods or do activities not pleasing to God. Decide with your group: What is the temptation? How can you avoid (or get out of) that situation?
3. Share your ideas with the other groups.

JAM SESSION

Nowhere to Run. Nowhere to Hide.

You know God's ways are best. You also know you can't talk your way out of trouble with God. In today's passage, God spoke to the people through the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah's description sounds familiar today. *Do you ever trust in yourself and in your way of doing things? Do you ever try to hide what you are doing from parents, friends, or even God?* Isaiah was blunt. He said God would bring disaster on the people for turning to anyone or anything besides Him. Magic spells, astrology, horoscopes, predictions, and even trusting in your own knowledge and wisdom will mislead you. There is no one greater than God. *How do you feel when you have turned away from God?* God knows. God welcomes you back when you repent and ask His forgiveness.

In today's story, Clint faced a choice. *Would he be honest with himself, his parents, and God? What would you do?*

JAM ON IT!

Now, It's Your Turn!

This week pay attention to your attitudes and activities. Are there times when you catch yourself hiding something from your parents or God? Repentance is an ongoing and necessary part of a relationship with God. What can you do today and every day to be honest with God?

LAST JAM

I will choose to be honest with God in everything I do!

QUESTIONS FOR CLASS

Use this space to write down questions you have about this lesson.

Hope for the World



Tia nudged Andrew and said, "I know the teachers will choose you. You're a true leader — just what the school's community board needs. You'll be able to convince everyone about your ideas for the youth center." Andrew and Tia watched from the bleachers as teachers, school board members, and community leaders took seats onstage. The city's mayor stepped to the podium.

"Students, as you know we are forming a council to help improve our city's youth programs. We'll have representatives from every local school. Your teachers and our city council carefully reviewed all the suggestions. We interviewed adults in the neighborhood for their input.

"This wasn't an easy choice. We looked for a student with leadership qualities. We also want someone with the ability to encourage others, be a team player, and follow through with ideas. We need a hard worker, a *servant-heart*, if I can explain it that way. This student must also be willing to do the challenging work as well as lead others. Servant-heart work might not be noticed by many people, but this person will lead by example.

"We talked with a number of students. We learned one girl's vision as she told us about many of you. When we talked with teachers and community leaders we heard more about this student. For this reason, we believe Tia Arthur will be a great community leader," said the mayor.

Tia felt her face turn hot as students quickly looked at her and applauded. Andrew grinned broadly and whispered, "You have my vote, too! I'd be happy to help you."

Later that day, Tia and Andrew saw Pastor Snelling at church youth group. "I heard about your new job, Tia. The council made a fine choice. We're all here to help you. I'll be praying for you. God will use you as a light in our community. The council might have thought they were just adding a worker, but we know God is adding a light!"

In My Heart

"I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth"
(from Isaiah 49:6, NIV).

WORD!

Isaiah 49:1–11, NIV—Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. **2** He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. **3** He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." **4** But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God." **5** And now the LORD says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—**6** he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." **7** This is what the LORD says—the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." **8** This is what the LORD says: "In the time of my favor I will answer you, and in the day of salvation I will help you; I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people, to restore the land and to reassign its desolate inheritances, **9** to say to the captives, 'Come out,' and to those in darkness, 'Be free!' They will feed beside the roads and find pasture on every barren hill. **10** They will neither

hunger nor thirst, nor will the desert heat or the sun beat down on them. He who has compassion on them will guide them and lead them beside springs of water. **11** I will turn all my mountains into roads, and my highways will be raised up.

SIDE BAR

God Foretells of Redemption

Isaiah described true security as coming from God. He said the Savior would come in the form of a servant. People of Israel expected a redeemer. They looked for a person to bring hope and freedom. They did not anticipate one coming as a servant, to be rejected and suffer for their nation. A "day of salvation" for all people meant not only the Israelites would be redeemed, but God's light of redemption brought hope for the entire world (Isaiah 49:8). Security cannot come from this world. Eternal security only comes through God's servant, Jesus Christ.

True Security

S—Security
E—Enters hearts
C—Centered in Christ,
U—Understanding that God wants *all* people to know Him,
R—Relies on God's plan for redemption,
I—Illumines light, breaking through darkness
T—Transforming lives through love's salvation
Y—Your hope. Your future.

GOT IT!

A. True Light

Use WORD! to help you fill in the blanks with this activity.

" _____ will also _____
_____ a _____ for
the Gentiles, that _____
_____ may _____ to
the _____ of the _____"
(from Isaiah 49:6, NIV).

B. I Am a Light

"Shine a Light" by Elevation Worship encourages *YOU* to shine your light in the world. How will you do it? Listen to the music and work with Jammers to think of as

many ways as possible to shine *your* light in the world. Put your ideas on classroom posters.

JAM SESSION

Hope for the World

Tia recognized leadership qualities in her outgoing friend Andrew. Community leaders recognized Tia's gifts. They looked at Tia's heart for service and how she encouraged others. They saw something in Tia's life that she hadn't seen in herself. In Isaiah's prophecy, God speaks in first person. He uses the word *I*. Before birth, God planned Jesus with all the qualities of a Savior. Yet, Isaiah's writings show that those qualities are not what many people might expect. The Savior says He is a servant. His reward and strength come from God. He is a light to *all* nations. All who accept the Redeemer become lights also as He shines through their lives. God opened doors for Tia to shine His light in her community. *Recall a time when you knew God was shining His light through you. How did you feel?*

JAM ON IT!

My Security Badge

Your security is in the Lord. You represent God. Determine this week to live as a Jammer with *authority*. Know that you are called to be *light*. Know that your *strength* to serve comes from God alone. Praise God for using you. Honor God by living for Him. Imagine wearing a badge so everyone knows you represent God.

LAST JAM

I will live for a higher purpose — God's purpose!

QUESTIONS FOR CLASS

Use this space to write down questions you have about this lesson.
