

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AAdv4x2016

Text: Isaiah 7:10-17

10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11 Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. 12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. 13 Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

17 The Lord will bring on you and on your people and on your ancestral house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

Primary Expressed Intelligence - {MWD} Math {D2} People

Word - I, Eye - I/S, Math - I, Body - I/S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	<p>A virgin shall conceive... what is that word? Young woman; someone sexually inexperienced? Does it really matter?</p> <p>The Word comes as a child who can be received and cannot hurt us; a Word that does not make us afraid. I am prepared for the anger of God; I believe that God has a right to wrath. What is so amazing is that when God does come among us, whatever God’s hurt or indignation, God comes not with violence, but</p>	<p>Fred Gaiser WP: “The word of God is not a simple prediction that will "come true" in a latter day or an equation to be solved to get one final answer - it is a living word that kills and makes alive in every generation, always needing to be proclaimed anew, always carrying both continuity and surprise.” (See also Math)</p>	<p>Assemble some Words of God from this passage that are both offer joyful living and warnings of consequences. Display them as you read this passage and refer to them as you preach.</p>

	<p>as a child, vulnerable to our further hurt that we might receive rather than fear him.</p> <p>John Vannorsdall, <i>Dimly Burning Wicks: Reflections on the Gospel After a Time Away</i> (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1982)</p>		
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p>	<p>I will give you a sign...</p>	<p>Todd Weir at Blooming Cactus has a great story about seeking a sign from God! 3rd paragraph down http://bloomingcactus.tyepad.com/bloomingcactus/2010/12/isaiah-710-16-god-with-us.html</p> <p>Fred Gaiser speaks of the double edged sword that is the coming of God - we don't know whether to laugh or cry.</p>	<p>Make a double sided sign. On one side write - "God is coming! Beware!" and on the other "God is coming! Rejoice!" Hold either side up as you preach on the coming of God. (See also, Word)</p> <p>Place a crib, bassinet, or cradle next to the pulpit. Perhaps also a baby bottle and a baby's cup and dish. (Immanuel being weaned...)</p>
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>	<p>Vss 15-16 knows how to refuse evil and choose good -- this is, connected with the curds and honey part, supposed to suggest that the child will be weaned, so just a few years, and all will be well; but an awful lot of people do a poor job of refusing evil and choosing good well into adulthood :-/</p>	<p>Ahaz had already made a decision to trust Assyria against Israel and Syria. To receive a sign from God might mean to acknowledge that he had made a poor choice. (Would that politicians were able to admit such things!!!!!!)</p> <p>In two years time, Ahaz, what you dread will be ashes. ~Isaiah</p>	<p>The logical choice for Ahaz is to trust YHWH -- IF you believe that YHWH is more powerful than humans.</p> <p>In times of uncertainty and fear, just how logical is trust?</p> <p>What does it take to trust something that seems to have no basis in logic?</p>
<p>Body - Kinesthetic</p>	<p>Immanuel = God, with us</p> <p>What difference does it make to think that God is <i>right here</i>? Does it give reassurance? Does it give one pause? (self smart)</p>	<p>"God with his skin on" - Delmer Chilton</p> <p>John Ortberg makes the case that "The central promise in the Bible is not 'I will forgive you,' although of course that promise is there. It is not the promise of life after</p>	<p>Because not being alone is a desperate need of humans addressed by "God-with-us," invite congregants to remind themselves they are not alone by holding someone else's hand or putting a hand on someone's shoulder while the service</p>

		death, although we are offered that as well. The most frequent promise in the Bible is 'I will be with you.' ” (See also People)	continues.
Musical		You Are Mine David Haas The chorus, particularly	
Natural			
People - Interpersonal		This scene sort of feels like Yoda and Ben trying to convince Luke not to go confront Vader in The Empire Strikes Back , and he's just not having it.	
Self - Intrapersonal	This text centers around trust. The sign God gives is a child named Immanuel. That's it.	Todd Weir (same link): Matthew was trying to show God's faithfulness over time, that what Jesus lived and did on earth was the fulfillment of the hopes of ancient prophets. We all want a sense that God is with us in some meaningful way.	The sign is less about identity and much more about timing. The timing is about what is happening right now in one's life. God, with us. What does that mean for you, now?