

## ICEBREAKER

Christmas is almost here! Using your hands, on a scale from 1 - 10, how frustrating your calendar is right now.

## TEXT

Isaiah 53:1-6

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How often do you use the phrase "I'm fine"?  
Does it seem like you say it more this time of the year and why?
2. When tensions arise, which of the following are you most likely to do: ignore the tension, lie about it or try to do something good to make up for creating said tension?
3. What's a past tension you have had with God? Or maybe there's a tension between you and God right now that you might want to share.
4. How do you feel after a preconceived notion doesn't turn out the way you thought it would? How does that create tension in your life? For example, the Jews thought Jesus was coming to save them from political and military oppression.
5. After hearing Jeremy explain the root words in Isaiah 53:5 [pierced & punishment, crushed & humbled, wound & to cut deeply], do you look at this verse differently now? Does it make you stop and think about what Jesus actually went through to bring you peace?
6. Have you ever confused conviction and peace? What's the difference between the two?

## NEXT STEPS

Jeremy said, "A sin against the eternal God requires an eternal sacrifice." So good news: Jesus is that sacrifice! Jesus took our punishment and our beating and our death upon the cross. The tension you feel between you and God is sin, but Jesus went to the cross as a sacrifice for your sin. We can have peace this Christmas season despite the business, the chaos and all the tensions that arise because Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophesy in verse 5, "...the punishment that brought us peace was on him..."

## HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

