

Isaiah 55:1-9 (NASB)

"You there! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
And you who have no money come, buy and eat.
Come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without cost.

²Why do you spend money for what is not bread,
And your wages for what does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good,
And delight yourself in abundance.

³Incline your ear and come to Me.

Listen, that you may live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
According to the faithful mercies ^[6]shown to David.

⁴Behold, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
A leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵Behold, you will call a nation you do not know,
And a nation which does not know you will run to you,
Because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel;
For He has glorified you."

⁶Seek the Lord while He may be found;
Call upon Him while He is near.

⁷Let the wicked abandon his way,
And the unrighteous person his thoughts;
And let him return to the Lord,
And He will have compassion on him,
And to our God,
For He will abundantly pardon.

⁸"For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord.

⁹"For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways
And My thoughts than your thoughts.

For Reflection and Prayer:

Was there a word, phrase or image which caught your attention you as you listened to or slowly read the text? Quietly savor this with Jesus.

Notice any felt sense that seems to emerge as you linger with this passage. It might come as a bodily feeling, emotion, metaphor, picture, gesture or sound. See if you can describe it and simply be with it with patient curiosity. Be open to whatever more might emerge.

Perhaps you might want to draw, color or journal your conversation.

As the time of prayer comes to a close, share some quiet moments with Jesus, simply resting safely in his presence.

Isaiah 55:1-9 (The Voice)

Eternal One: If you are thirsty, come here;
come, there's water *for all*.

Whoever is *poor and penniless* can still
come and buy *the food I sell*.

There's no cost—here, have some food, *hearty and delicious*,
and beverages, *pure and good*.

² I don't understand why you spend your money for things that don't nourish
or work so hard for what leaves you empty.

Attend to Me and eat what is good;
enjoy the richest, *most delectable* of things.

³ Listen closely, and come *even* closer. My words will give life,
for I will make a covenant with you that cannot be broken, *a promise*
Of My enduring *presence and* support like I gave to David.^[a]

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander among the
nations.

⁵ Now you will issue a call to nations *from all over the world*—
people whom you do not know and who do not know you.

They will come running, because of *Me*, your God
because the Eternal, the Holy One of Israel, has made you beautiful.

⁶ *So turn your attention and* seek the Eternal One while it is still possible;
call on Him while He is nearby.

⁷ Let those who are busy plotting violence and doing wrong
stop *right now*, turn, and do right.

Let them turn *back* to the Eternal so they can experience His compassion.

God will excuse our past wrongs. Our God's forgiveness is inexhaustible.

Eternal One: ⁸ My intentions are not *always* yours,
and I do not go about things as you do.

⁹ My thoughts and My ways are above and beyond you,
just as heaven is far from your reach here on earth.