

Isaiah 55 — Come, Listen, Live

A Free Invitation to the Thirsty (Isaiah 55:1–2)

*“Ho! Everyone who thirsts,
Come to the waters;
And you who have no money,
Come, buy and eat.
Yes, come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without price.
Why 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 let your soul delight itself in abundance.”* (Isaiah 55:1–2, NKJV)

“Ho!”: Is the translated Hebrew word *“hoy.”* It is used to draw attention to an unexpected but momentous occasion or to a hope-filled and joyous expectation

God’s side: He freely opens His table. Grace is not priced; it is provided.

Our side: We must come, listen, and receive. God does not coerce; He calls.

Personal application: Where are you spending yourself on what cannot satisfy—status, stuff, screens, or success? Your soul was made for God. Turn your ears toward Him today, and let Him fill what nothing else can reach.

An Everlasting Covenant Offered (Isaiah 55:3–5)

*“Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you—
The sure mercies of David.
Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people,
A leader and commander for the people.
Surely you shall call a nation you do not know,
And nations who do not know you shall run to you,
Because of the LORD your God,
And the Holy One of Israel;
For He has glorified you.”* (Isaiah 55:3–5, NKJV)

God’s side: He pledges *“the sure mercies of David”*—promises fulfilled in the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who rules and restores.

Our side: *“Incline your ear... come... hear.”* Life arrives where we respond to His voice.

Personal application: God is not offering you a momentary uplift but a binding relationship—an everlasting covenant in Christ. Open your Bible; open your heart; open your future to Him.

Urgency: Seek, Call, Turn (Isaiah 55:6–7)

*“Seek the LORD while He may be found,
Call upon Him while He is near.
Let the wicked forsake his way,
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;
Let him return to the LORD,
And He will have mercy on him;
And to our God,
For He will abundantly pardon.”* (Isaiah 55:6–7, NKJV)

God’s side: He draws near and promises abundant pardon.

Our side: Seek, call, forsake, return. Repentance is not self-reform; it is a real turn toward a merciful God.

Personal application: Do not delay the one decision you know you must make. Turn from the path that is stealing your joy and come home to the Lord who is ready to forgive.

God’s Higher Wisdom, Sure Word (Isaiah 55:8–11)

*“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD.
“For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts.”* (Isaiah 55:8–9, NKJV)

*“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there,
But water the earth,
And make it bring forth and bud,
That it may give seed to the sower
And bread to the eater,
So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”* (Isaiah 55:10–11, NKJV)

God’s side: His wisdom outsoars ours, and His Word is effectual—like rain that awakens hidden life.

Our side: Trust what He says even when you cannot trace what He is doing.

Personal application: Saturate your mind with Scripture. As rain draws blossoms from desert soil, God’s Word will revive what seems lifeless in you—character, hope, endurance, love.

The Fruit of Responding: Joy, Peace, and Renewal (Isaiah 55:12–13)

*“For you shall go out with joy,
And be led out with peace;
The mountains and the hills
Shall break forth into singing before you,
And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress,
And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
And it shall be to the LORD for a name,
For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”* (Isaiah 55:12–13, NKJV)

God’s side: He leads in joy and peace and brings lasting transformation—thorns exchanged for trees.

Our side: Walk in the path He opens. Joy and peace accompany obedience.

Personal application: Do not be a slave to your past and what others may remember about you. God can replace the “thorns” of cynicism, shame, and fear with sturdy, fruitful growth. Ask Him to plant what only He can grow.

Salvation Invitation

God has done everything necessary for your salvation in Jesus Christ. He invites you to come without money and without price. Christ died for your sins and rose again so you can be forgiven, reconciled, and made new.

If you are ready, call on Him now in sincere trust:

“Lord Jesus, I come to You. I turn from my sin and return to You. Thank You for dying for me and rising again. Have mercy on me and abundantly pardon. Make me Yours. Amen.”

“Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13, NKJV)

Challenge for Believers

1. Keep coming: Make space daily to “incline your ear” (Isaiah 55:3). Prioritize Scripture and prayer.
2. Keep turning: Quickly forsake thoughts and ways that drift from God (Isaiah 55:7). Repentance is a lifestyle.
3. Keep trusting: When God’s ways puzzle you, rest in His higher wisdom (Isaiah 55:8–9).
4. Keep sowing: Share God’s Word with confidence. It *“shall not return... void”* (Isaiah 55:11).
5. Keep walking: Follow the Spirit’s lead in joy and peace (Isaiah 55:12). Let God replace thorns with lasting fruit (Isaiah 55:13).