



EXPLORE THE BIBLE[®]

Session 4: God Reigns
Suggested Week of Use: September 27, 2020
Core Passage: Isaiah 23:8-18

News Story Summary

A poll conducted by the American Psychological Association shows that 83 percent of Americans are stressed out by their view of the future. That 83 percent is well above a 2018 poll which showed 69 percent were concerned about the country's future. The COVID-19 pandemic, economy, and recent protests fuel these concerns.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the term “More Than 80% of Americans Report Nation’s Future Is Significant Source of Stress, Survey Says”.)

Focus Attention

To supplement the Respond idea under Focus Attention, after the group has categorized their concerns, share the information from the survey. Note the concerns shared that are also identified as sources for concern in the survey. Complete the step by summarizing the information found in the first paragraph on the opening page of the session in the Personal Study Guide or Daily Discipleship Guide as suggested in the Transition idea.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Review idea under Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of the concerns they identified and the survey results shared at the beginning of the group time. Then direct their attention to the summary statement under the title of the session (God controls the rise and fall of nations and powers). Ask: *How do the truths we examined today bring us peace and hope in our world today?* Complete the step as written.