

Christmas Devotional

Lesson Theme: “Ancient Christmas Promises: Fulfilled!”

Scripture: Select Passages from Isaiah and Matthew

Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6 *“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given...and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*

Teachers/Parents: These last several weeks we have been working our way through the Old Testament studying promises that God had made to Eve, Abraham, and David. Today we connected all of these promises together as they were fulfilled in the first coming of Jesus Christ. Has anyone ever made a promise to you, but you had to wait a very long time for its fulfillment? Talk about that experience and how it made you feel.

Discussion Questions:

- 1) **Read Isaiah 9:6.** In class we spent some time talking through these titles given to the promised Messiah and Rescuer. Which one stands out to you as the most marvelous and why?
- 2) **Read Matthew 1:21** which tells us what Jesus Christ came to do when he entered the world at Christmas. See also **1 Timothy 1:15**. What was His mission?
- 3) **Read John 1:1-3 and then John 1:14.** Reread these verses again, but then replace all instances of “the Word” with Jesus. Stop and consider what this really means. Jesus is God and yet became man. The Creator became a creature. The infinite became finite. Immanuel: God came to dwell with us (**Matthew 1:23**). This is what happened at the very first Christmas. How does this prove that God truly does love mankind and desires to save us?
- 4) In class we often referred to Jesus as the God-man. Can you think of any reasons why it was important for the Savior to be both God and man? Checkout gotquestions.org/virgin-birth.html for some thoughts on this.
- 5) **Read Luke 2:1-7** which gives us more detail on how Jesus came (and remember He is the God-man). These are the humblest of circumstances and yet this is how our great God and Savior entered the world. Why do you think the God-man came this way instead of with ceremony and splendor, which He would have deserved?
- 6) Think about a gift that you have received for Christmas that you have cherished and treasured. Do you treasure Jesus like this? Is there someone else that you can share Jesus with this Christmas?