



His name shall be called...

Wonderful Counselor

Week of November 29, 2020 / Isaiah 9:1-7

Memorize.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Open.

Why did your parents choose to give you the name they did? What did it mean to them?

Have you ever been given a nickname? What does it reveal or reflect about you?

Study.

If you happened to hear Pastor Jim's message on Sunday, what stood out to you? What questions do you have?

Read Isaiah 9:1-7.

The southern kingdom, Judah, and the city of Jerusalem (in Judah) were under occupation and oppression by the Assyrians (2 Kings 15:29). They were also living in the gloom of spiritual rebellion against God (see chapters 1-8). What sources of gloom, anguish and darkness are affecting people today?

Read Matthew 4:12-17. What "great light" has been seen by people in darkness in Isaiah 9:2? What other changes for the kingdom of Judah are foretold in Isaiah 9:1-4?

Read Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Luke 2:10-11; John 3:16-17. What does it mean to you that Jesus was born "to" us and "given" to us?

The name "Wonderful" (9:6) means "beyond understanding." (Judges 13:1-20, esp. verses 17-18). When you reflect on all that Jesus did in his life and ministry, and how people responded to him, in what specific ways does "beyond understanding" apply to Jesus Christ?

The name "Counselor" simply means "one who advises, instructs, gives counsel". When you combine the names and call him "Wonderful Counselor," what picture emerges (Mark 1:21-22. Matthew 24:35) about who Jesus is?

What additional questions do you have about the name, "Wonderful Counselor" in Isaiah 9:1-7?

What changes do you hope God will bring about in your life in 2021? Why? How can this group pray for you?