Week 1: Bethlehem Style

Daily Devotional

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1**: **Isaiah 9:6**

For to us a child is born,
    to us a son is given,
    and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
    Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

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**Day 2: Luke 1:32-33**

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

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**Day 3: Luke 2:14**

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
    and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

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**Day 4: John 14:16-17**

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

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**Day 5: Judges 13:18**

He replied, “Why do you ask my name? It is beyond understanding.”

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Discussion Questions:

**1.** Read Isaiah 9:1-7. In verse 6, Isaiah lists several names for the coming Child: “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” What do each of these Names reveal about the character of the Messiah?

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**2.**  Which of these names, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, resonates most with you, and why?

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**3.** How have you personally experienced the Messiah as Wonderful Counselor? Mighty God? Everlasting Father? Prince of Peace? Share your stories with your LifeGroup.

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**4.** As we prepare for the birth of Christ, how can you intentionally focus on the meaning of Advent this week to deepen your relationship with God?

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**5.** As we reflect on Isaiah 9:1-7, how can we pray for a deeper understanding of the Messiah’s role in our lives and in the world? Also, take some time with your LifeGroup to pray for each other this Advent season.

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