



WOODLAND HEIGHTS

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Christmas Unwrapped Series Part #4 – What Child is This?

Small Group Discussion Guide on Isaiah 9:6-7

Woodland Heights Christian Church Core Value Connection

This sermon on Isaiah 9:6-7 aligns with the core value of **Biblical Worldview** at Woodland Heights Christian Church. We believe that it is critical to develop a Biblical Worldview in life. It is necessary that the looking glass in which we view the world, society, politics, and justice be a biblical one. A Biblical worldview will produce hope, life, justice, action, and victorious living in the life of a believer. (Romans 12:2)

The sermon's call to ask, "What Child is This?" – discovering Him as the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace who brings light into darkness and hope to a hurting world – echoes the heart of a Biblical Worldview: living lives that carry the Gospel beyond our comfort zones. This message challenges us to deepen our Biblical living beyond Sunday gatherings, aligning with our church's mission to "Reach, Teach, and Serve others for the Cause of Christ" as we train disciples who glorify God by stepping out from empty traditions, turning personal discoveries of the Messiah into bold witness, and expecting heaven to break through as we take the good news of the promised King to the nations.

Section #1 – ENCOUNTER

"Observing God's Word"

I Imagine a nation shrouded in gloom – war on the horizon, corrupt leaders failing, spiritual darkness suffocating hope – yet a prophet declares a Child will burst forth, not as decoration but as deliverance. Suddenly, perspective shifts; despair fades as the heart anchors in the unchanging promise of a King whose reign brings justice, righteousness, and unending peace. In Isaiah 9:6-7, the narrative's raw encounter echoes like a divine whisper, reminding us that God's promises endure forever, turning questions about an empty holiday into a powerful act of mission. Let's dive into this passage and discover how God invites us to experience the transformative power of obedience in our own lives.

Let's start our study by anchoring ourselves in Scripture. Read Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV) as a group, family, or an individual, letting God's Word sink in. Picture the scene: Isaiah prophesying to a people in darkness, announcing a Child who will change everything, calling God's people to respond to His faithfulness with expectant obedience.

Core Questions

- What do you notice about the words and instructions of Isaiah regarding the prophecy of this Child and His kingdom in this passage? Why is this relevant?

- What are key words, phrases, or themes that grab your attention in this text?

Section #2 – EXPLORE

“Understanding the Passage and Sermon”

As we dig deeper into Isaiah 9:6-7, we uncover the heart of the Christmas message spoken to a people surrounded by war, corrupt leadership, and spiritual darkness. This isn't just poetry; it's God's promise of a Messiah who brings light into our confusion, power to break our chains, eternal care for His children, and peace that calms restless hearts. This passage reveals that the Child in the manger is the fullness of God's gift—the promised King whose shoulders carry the government of the world and the weight of our lives, compelling us to believe in Him, discover Him, and serve Him today.

Truth #1 – This Christmas Don't Just Admire the Child...Trust in the One Who has Come to Bring You Lasting Life

Isaiah bursts forth with the heart of the prophecy: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,” declaring that this is no ordinary baby and He will change everything as the One who delivers the world from darkness.

- In what ways does this prophecy address the fears and emptiness of Isaiah's time, and how does it speak to our own world today?
- How does recognizing the Child as the bearer of government encourage you to trust Him with the weight of your life?

Truth #2 – This Christmas Don't Just Admire the Child...Discover the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace

The names reveal His divine nature: Wonderful Counselor who speaks wisdom into confusion, Mighty God who breaks unbreakable chains, Everlasting Father who never abandons His children, and Prince of Peace who calms hearts that cannot quiet themselves.

- Which of these names resonates most with a current struggle in your life, and why?
- How do these titles transform our view of the manger from mere decoration to the treasure that fills our lives with meaning?

Truth #3 – This Christmas Don't Just Admire the Child...Serve the Unconquerable King Who Rules Forever and Brings Unending Peace

This Child, who is the coming Messiah, brings hope to a hopeless world as the King of Kings whose government and peace will have no end, fulfilling God's promise on David's throne with justice and righteousness forevermore.

- How does the promise of an eternal, unshakable kingdom give hope amid today's exhausting news and fragile futures?
- In what ways can serving this unconquerable King turn our personal faith into a witness for others still in darkness?

Section #3 – EMBRACE

“Applying God’s Word”

Go deeper into the Word of God by applying what you’ve learned to your life today. Reflect on these action steps and discuss how you can live out the truths from Isaiah 9:6-7.

Identify Areas of Emptiness

- Think of an area in your life where Christmas feels like empty wrapping—traditions without meaning, busyness without peace. Write down one specific step you can take this week to pause and ask, “What Child is This?”, like Isaiah’s people, to rewire your perspective for living out your faith this Christmas.

Discover His Name this Christmas

- Inspired by the prophecy’s revelation, start a discovery journal. Each day, note three ways the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, or Prince of Peace is interrupting your emptiness, thanking Him for His pursuit. Spend a moment in prayer, asking God to reveal how this builds expectation in your soul for reaching others.

Share the King of Kings

- Obedience renews purpose, as the sermon notes. Commit to one act of following this week that impacts lost people, such as inviting a friend to church or sharing how this Child brings lasting life. Discuss with the group how you can support each other in living this out.

Memorize and Reflect

- Memorize the sermon’s memory verse, Isaiah 9:6 (NLT): “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.” Reflect on how this transforms your view of life’s darkness and invites God’s power into your daily outreach. Share with the group how this verse challenges or inspires you.

Closing Challenge

As a group, pray for one another to experience the fullness Christ this Christmas. Sharing this message with one person who may be missing the true meaning of Christmas this year—perhaps a friend, neighbor, or coworker who feels the emptiness behind the wrapping paper. Invite them to join you for Christmas services or simply share how Jesus, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting