



An Advent Study of Isaiah 9:6  
Christ Redeemer Church

## INTRODUCTION

Advent is what we call the weeks leading up to Christmas Day in December, and we joyfully look forward to it each year because it means that we reflect on God's covenant promises, celebrate their fulfillment in Christ, and look forward to his return.

The songs we sing are full of rich theological truths, the sermons we hear are centered on Christ's kingship, and the Scripture we read is focused on his birth.

This season, we are looking at Isaiah 9:6, specifically the four names given to Jesus Christ, the coming king: "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Each name reveals something distinct about Christ's character and this guide will provide families with discussion questions, Scripture to read, and songs to sing each week as we reflect on these four names.

As you go through this Advent guide, keep in mind that Christmas is not just about the birth of Christ — though that is the beginning of it. The birth of Christ marked the fulfillment of God's promises to us and it also establishes God's kingdom here on earth with Christ at the head of it.

God promised that he would send a king whose throne would be forever and that he would give him a kingdom that would only ever grow larger. And he not only fulfilled that promise, but all of that kingly authority was given to Christ, who told us to go out and disciple the nations, teach them to obey all his commands, and baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

At Christ Redeemer Church, we are on a mission to know Christ and to make Christ known. Let's practice this by studying the four names of Jesus from Isaiah 9:6 and respond by telling everyone that Christ is King.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Advent Song Playlist



Digital Guide



### Coloring Pages:

There are optional coloring pages to accompany each week. We encourage you to grab one per child. The hope of the coloring pages is to provide a visual clue or illustration for some of the things that you will discuss during the week. These visual aids will hopefully allow for a deeper understanding or insight to the devotion.

## WEEK 1: WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6; John 14:16-17; Colossians 2:1-3

The title “Wonderful Counselor” points us to the wisdom, insight, and comfort that Jesus offers His people. In Isaiah’s day, God’s people were all too familiar with leaders who lacked true wisdom and guidance, but here is a prophecy of a King whose counsel would be perfect. In Hebrew, “wonderful” implies something extraordinary, miraculous, and beyond comprehension. Jesus, as our Wonderful Counselor, offers divine guidance and understanding that far surpasses any human wisdom. Isaiah would later contrast the scoffing and foolishness of King Ahaz with the Lord of hosts who is “wonderful in counsel and excellent in wisdom” (Is. 28:29). In those days, kings and rulers would often acknowledge God’s wisdom and occasionally repent of sin, but what truly marked many of their failures was their inability to obey God’s wisdom. By giving Jesus the name of Wonderful Counselor, Isaiah is rightly saying that not only would Jesus’ judgement be perfect, but so would his obedience. And of course, we see that in his very life, from obedience to his parents all the way to obedience at the cross.

As Wonderful Counselor, Jesus knows us intimately, our weaknesses and struggles, and invites us to bring our burdens to Him (Matthew 11:28-30). He also promises the Holy Spirit to dwell within us, giving us wisdom and strength for life’s challenges (John 14:16-17).

Let us lean into the wise counsel of Jesus. He not only understands us perfectly but also leads us into all truth. His words bring comfort to the weary, clarity to the confused, and hope to the discouraged. Whether we face uncertainty, difficult decisions, or even anxiety, Jesus is our source of wisdom and comfort.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How does Jesus being our 'Wonderful Counselor' bring comfort and assurance in your life?

2. How can we seek Jesus' wisdom and counsel daily, especially in times of uncertainty?

3. In what areas of your life do you need to surrender to Jesus' guidance?

### **HYMNS AND SONGS:**

- "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
- "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
- "What Child Is This?"

## WEEK 2: MIGHTY GOD

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-17

Isaiah prophesies that this child, Jesus, would be called “Mighty God.” This has two meanings: 1) The word for “mighty” was commonly associated with “warrior king” and 2) it references the name of God himself. So the child was to be not only a mighty king, but God himself in human form.

God often uses irony in Scripture, and this is one of those times. A great and mighty king is delivered to Israel: a baby. After a long history of losing battles with enemy nations and being held in captivity, this king would be undefeated: a helpless child. How would God deliver his people once and for all? He would start at the beginning, with an infant.

This reveals the paradox of Christmas: the baby born in Bethlehem is none other than the powerful Creator and Sustainer of the universe. John 1:1-3 affirms that Jesus is the Word who was with God and is God, and that through him, all things were made. Jesus’ might is not only seen in creation but also in His triumph over sin, Satan, and death. Through his life, death, and resurrection, He defeated the power of sin, freeing us from the bondage that once enslaved us.

Yet the strength of this Mighty God is not like the strength of a bodybuilder lifting heavy weights, or a domineering general barking orders at his troops. Jesus used his might to serve and sacrifice, not to dominate. His strength is seen in his obedience — his willingness to bear our burdens and conquer death on our behalf. This Advent, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, let us remember that our King is mighty to save. No challenge or sin is beyond His reach. We are called to trust in His power and to find hope in the assurance that Jesus is able to redeem, heal, and restore. His might comforts us in knowing we belong to a Savior who is both able and willing to uphold us.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Why might the Israelites have been expecting an actual warrior to deliver them, rather than a baby?
  
2. How does knowing Jesus as “Mighty God” strengthen your faith and give you hope?
  
2. Why is it significant that Jesus, though mighty, chose to come humbly as a baby?

### **HYMNS AND SONGS:**

- “Angels We Have Heard on High”
- “Joy to the World”
- “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

## WEEK 3: EVERLASTING FATHER

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6; John 10:27-30; Hebrews 13:8

Jesus is called “Everlasting Father,” a title that speaks of His eternal, unchanging love and care for His people. The name “Father” here is appropriate because it reflects God’s nature as our true Father. We’re told that he is a father to the fatherless, a protector of widows, and near to the brokenhearted and poor. In other words, God does perfectly what our earthly fathers do imperfectly: he loves, cares for, and protects us.

Though Jesus is distinct from God the Father, He reveals the Father’s heart through His actions and ministry (John 14:9-11). His love is constant, protective, and enduring, a love that outlasts all earthly relationships and sustains us forever. This title assures us that Jesus is not only our Savior but also our compassionate shepherd who cares for us deeply. In John 10:28, Jesus assures His followers of their security in Him, promising that no one can snatch them from His hand.

As we draw near to Christmas, let’s reflect on the eternal care and commitment of Christ. He is our Everlasting Father who does not change with time or circumstances. His love is steadfast and dependable, offering security and belonging that the world cannot match. In an ever-changing world, we can rest in the unbreakable relationship we have with Jesus, who loves us as His own and will never abandon us.



### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Does anything from Jesus' life (miracles, parables, teachings) reflect God's fatherly love for us?
2. How does Jesus as Everlasting Father give us confidence and peace, especially in uncertain times?
3. We're told to imitate Christ, so how can we reflect Jesus' compassionate love to others?

### **HYMNS AND SONGS:**

- "O Come All Ye Faithful"
- "Silent Night"
- "His Name Is"

## WEEK 4: PRINCE OF PEACE

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6; Ephesians 2:14-18; John 14:27

The title “Prince of Peace” beautifully captures Jesus’ mission to bring reconciliation and wholeness. The Hebrew concept of peace, “shalom,” goes beyond the absence of conflict; it refers to completeness, welfare, and harmony with God and others. Jesus came to break down the wall of separation between humanity and God, as well as to unite His people. Through His sacrifice, He made peace by the blood of His cross (Colossians 1:20). His gift of peace is a lasting one, rooted in His promise to never leave or forsake us.

This name would have also been particularly comforting to the Israelites because they had constantly been at war with enemies and foreign nations seeking to take their land, and many times it was judgement for their own disobedience to God’s commands. In Is. 9:5, Isaiah describes “garments rolled in blood” being burned in a fire. Vv 4-5 are describing a battlefield, in which all the ruined things from war would be burned or thrown away. However, Isaiah is not talking about a battle that the Israelites are about to fight in, but rather a battle that has just been fought and won for them. This is the result of the Prince of Peace, who puts an end to the war.

In a world filled with turmoil and anxiety, Jesus offers us peace that guards our hearts and minds (Philippians 4:7). As we prepare for Christmas, let us consider the ways we can be agents of His peace. Let us pray for Christ’s peace to reign in our hearts, our families, and the world.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How does Jesus bring peace to our relationship with God (vertical) and with others (horizontal)?

2. What areas of your life do you need to surrender to Christ's peace?

3. How can we share Jesus' peace with those around us?

### **SONGS:**

- "O Holy Night"
- "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
- "Magnify The Lord"

## CHRISTMAS DAY – IMMANUEL, GOD WITH US

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23; John 1:14

On Christmas Day, we rejoice in the miracle of Immanuel, “God with us.” In Jesus, God entered human history, fully taking on our nature while remaining fully divine. He came not as a distant observer but as one who shares in our joys, sorrows, and struggles. In the incarnation, God’s love became tangible, reaching down to us through Christ’s birth. As John 1:14 reminds us, “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,” bringing the light of heaven into our dark world.

This day marks the fulfillment of God’s promise to send a Savior. Christ’s birth is not only a historical event but a present reality; Jesus is still “God with us.” And we are celebrating not only the birth of Christ, but the inauguration of a kingdom that will never fade away!

Unlike presidents who need votes for an election or countries that rely on their armies to protect them, this kingdom is established and upheld by Christ himself, with his resurrection being the only proof we need that he will keep his word.

All who belong to Jesus Christ also belong to his kingdom, and today we’re celebrating that with joy in our hearts and a song on our lips, and perhaps some presents under a tree.. Let’s worship Christ as king and declare that his rule and peace will never end. All glory be to Christ!

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What does it actually mean that Jesus is “Immanuel,” God with us?

2. Why is it important that Jesus shares in our sorrows and struggles? (Heb. 4:14-16)

3. How does the incarnation—God becoming man—differ from others who falsely claimed to be God (Buddha, Krishna, Allah)?

### **HYMNS AND SONGS:**

- “Joy to the World”
- “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”
- “All Glory Be to Christ”

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