



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Week of December 25, 2022*

*Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.*

### **Sermon Text: Isaiah 9:1-7**

***1 But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. 3 You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. 4 For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. 6 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. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.***

### **Discussion Questions**

1. In spite of about 300 Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by Jesus as the promised Messiah, why don't more people believe He is the Christ? What is it about prophecy that may make it difficult to believe?
2. How is walking in sin similar to walking in darkness? What do you think Jesus meant when He said "*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life*"?
3. Why do you think God gave Gideon a "day of Midian" (hint: see Judges 6-7 and the story of Gideon). Has God ever given you your own day of Midian? What do you think He wanted you to learn?

4. Of the four names given to the Messiah, ***Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace***, which one means the most to you and why?
5. Why is it important for believers to understand and rejoice that God is jealous for them?