

“Jesus Foretold”

A Personal and Small Group Experience

Since this is the week a Christmas my hunch is that if you are looking at this study you are doing it alone or with your family. That’s good!

This is a laid back rather contemplative look at the “who” of this Jesus that we celebrate. The Prophet Isaiah will be our guide. Of the many prophecies whose fulfillment is attributed to Jesus there are two prophecies that rise to the top for me and tell me some powerful things about Jesus! These prophecies use the power of names to present Jesus to us—to draw us into deep relationship with Him. Names as “descriptors and vision statements of one’s future” were probably more relevant in previous times than today but we can still benefit. Isaiah uses the “names” of this “one coming from God” to draw us to believe in Him.

As you go through these two sections of scripture take it really, really slow!

*In **Isaiah 7:14** try to really contemplate the reality that literally “God is with Us”, “God is with you” in Jesus. Notice how ?Isaiah mentions a “virgin” will give birth—in other words this child would be fathered in a radically unnatural way!*

*Then go to **Isaiah 9:1-7**. Verses 1-5 set the stage of context and then the heart of the prophecy is verses 6-7.*

*Walk through these for “names” for Jesus and receive all God has for you from the revelation that Jesus is your **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace!***

What does this Jesus who is all this for me mean to me today?

Enjoy embracing this JESUS as you contemplate and then respond to Him in prayer, praise, worship and life!

The History of Jesus...begins!

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - December 18-24

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart and offload your heart of stifling, burdens, guilt, worry etc.!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention. As you read and reread keep asking God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?” “How are You inviting me to respond? Keep talking it over with Him—chew!
- 4) Pray (and journal) everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!

Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday: Matthew 1:18-25

Tuesday: Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday: Luke 1:39-56

Thursday: Luke 1:57-66

Friday: Luke 2:1-7

Saturday: Luke 2:8-20