

# CHRISTMAS

AT TRADERS POINT



## MESSAGE REVIEW

For thousands of years, God's history with His people is one of rescue, faithfulness, and never forgetting. Through Isaiah, God told His people that one day, the lights would turn back on through the work of a child called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. In our darkness and moments of feeling forgotten, we too hold onto our faithful God, trusting in His creativity to fulfill His promises.

## WARM UP QUESTION

Have you experienced being forgotten to be picked up by a parent or friend or been the one to forget?

**1** **Read Isaiah 9:1-7.** The first word of verse 1 gives a hint to look back at the previous few verses. What was life like for God's people according to Isaiah 8:21-9:1? Why were they experiencing this? Which word or emotion can you identify with most right now? (Use this map for a visual of the region Isaiah mentions if helpful.)

**2** What does God say He is going to do for Israel according to verses 2-5? Having been enslaved to a few different nations by this point, how do you think the Israelite nation heard this prophecy? With the benefit of hindsight, who do we know to be the true enemy God will deliver His people from?

**3** When is it easiest for you to mistake people as the enemy rather than Satan (see also Ephesians 6:12)? Satan does his primary work by getting us to believe lies about ourselves, about others, and about God. Talk about times in your life when you've heard these lies and how you can combat them.

**4** Verses 6-7 prophesy that this victory will come through a child – a Son described by some pretty lofty names. Spend some time talking about each name. How does each one expand your view of God? What does it mean that the government will rest on His shoulders and will never end?

**5** **Read Matthew 4:12-17.** How does Matthew connect the dots for his Jewish audience from Isaiah's prophecy to Jesus (see this map for help)? What type of government/kingdom did Jesus announce? How have you experienced Jesus as a light in your darkness? How will all believers one day experience this light for good (see Revelation 21:23 and 22:5)?

## RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

*Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at [tpcc.org/dbr](http://tpcc.org/dbr). Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!*