

BIBLE PASSAGE

6 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us.

The government will rest on his shoulders.

And he will be called:

Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God,

Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

7 His government and its peace will never end.

He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity.

The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

Isaiah 9:6-7 (NLT)

As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

21 And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

22 All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

23 "Look! The virgin will conceive a child!

She will give birth to a son,

and they will call him Immanuel,

which means 'God is with us.'"

Matthew 1:20-23 (NLT)

KEY TAKE-AWAYS



If you want to rewatch the sermon, go to manheimbic.org/sermon.

On the sermon page search for accompanying video to this discussion prompt by looking at the title or the date displayed on the front.

To connect with a small group or host a small group, please contact the Faith Formation office at faith@manheimbic.org

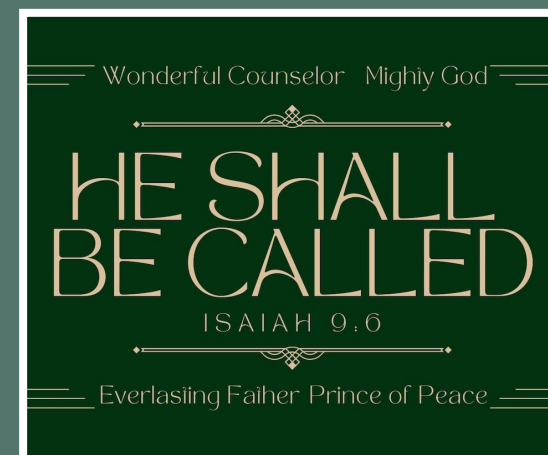
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November 28, 2021

ADVENT WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

SERMON-BASED DISCUSSION



All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals, and to prayer.
Acts 2:42 (NLT)



FAITH FORMATION
connect. grow. lead.



At Manheim BIC we strive to initiate and nurture a growing relationship with Christ.

For your time together:

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. After a long week of all kind of things, just let everyone arrive.

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - Ask: How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's Word. Use the discussion points. Learn from each others insight. Encourage and challenge each other to live a godly life.

Ask: What is God teaching us today?

Clarify

Make sure that everyone knows what's next. Next in your life with God. Next up within the group. Next in general. Have an applicable mission for the week.

Celebrate

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God. - Ask: What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

GROUP DISCUSSION & LIFE CHALLENGE

Use these notes as discussion prompt for your group, or in your personal time with God.

A **DVENT.** Translated this means: **ANTICIPATING JESUS' COMING.** There is much reason for anticipating His coming, four of which are mentioned in Isaiah 9:6 (see Bible passage). Today's sermon will help us focus on Jesus as the **Wonderful Counselor.**

Pastor Bryce mentioned five practical ways we can experience Jesus as the Wonderful Counselor.

1. Because He is with us

With his coming, Jesus ushered in a season of HIS presence in this world. How does it make you *feel* to know that Jesus is WITH you? Here are a few words you could use: Comforted. Strengthened. Happy. Accompanied. In the space below, add your own words:

2. Because He is the Prince of Peace

Being with Jesus should create an aftertaste of peace in our life. What aspect of Jesus, or attribute, instills *Peace* in you? Look up some names of God. Think of some Bible verses. Now write down how Jesus brings *Peace* to you personally.

3. Because He is predictably faithful

We expect the mail-man to bring the mail. What do you expect of Jesus? This season, what would be one *non-material gift* that you expect of Jesus? Peace over an upcoming situation. Guidance in solving a problem. Serenity in a worrisome surrounding. Share your expectations with your group or friends. Now write down one or two of these "gifts" you expect.

4. Because He has provided tools for our help

Second Timothy 3:16 mentions: Teaching, rebuking, correcting, training in righteousness. Let's make these tools practical here. Think through the questions below, and write the answer in a journal. They might well become your new *new-years-resolutions* - with Jesus' help.

- In what area of your life do you need to listen to Jesus the teacher? What do you need to learn?
- In what area is Jesus pointing out wrong in your life? What needs to change?
- In what ways can this change take place? What is the correct thing to do?
- In what ways can you make it a daily habit to train yourself of doing things the right way, God's way?

5. Because His thought are higher than ours

Since WONDERFUL literally means "to marvelous for words to express", let's not try to find new words for describing God. I encourage you instead to look up 2-3 worship songs or hymns. Lyric that talks about how wonderful God is. Sing these hymns and worship songs, or use YouTube, Pandora, or Spotify to look for these songs with the lyrics. Now sing along as you praise God!