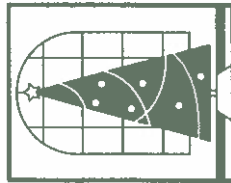


Deck The Halls: Countdown to Christmas

Christmas is celebrating
Jesus, God's greatest gift.



MEMORY VERSE

"A child will be born to us. A son
will be given to us. He will rule
over us. And he will be called
Wonderful Adviser and Mighty
God. He will also be called
Father Who Lives Forever and
Prince Who Brings Peace."

Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Bible Story

Jesus Is Promised
Micah 5:2, Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 7:14-15

What are you hoping for?



Weekly Cues

Preteen

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, make a
promise to do something with or for
them—and make sure you fulfill it.



Meal Time

At a meal this week, have everyone at the
table answer this question: "What are you
hoping for in your life right now?"



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: "What is
something you love that God made?"



Bed Time

Pray for each other: "God, help us to have
hope that You are always at work—even
if it's a small amount. Thank You for the
ways You have been faithful in the past.
When we remember, it helps us have hope
for both now and the future."



PARENT CUE

Download the free Parent Cue app
AVAILABLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



Journaling lines for the question 'WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR?'. The page contains 18 horizontal dotted lines for writing.



Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

Watch this week's episode of
The So & So Show by going to:

<https://bit.ly/PreteenSundaysatHome>

2. You learned:

Even if you already saw it at church,
feel free to check it out again!

3. You'd like to know:

Day 2

Read Isaiah 9:6-7

As you read through Isaiah 9:6-7, put a star next to the descriptions of the prophesied Savior below that jump out at you—things that you have experienced as you trust Jesus and that give you hope.

- Wonderful Adviser (Counselor)
- Mighty God
- Father Who Lives Forever (Everlasting Father)
- Prince Who Brings Peace (Prince of Peace)
- Limitless authority
- Never-ending peace
- Fair and right ruler

Jot down a phrase or word next to the descriptions you starred explaining how you have experienced Jesus in that way. Hold on to this paper because you will use it tomorrow!



Day 4

Take the Day 1 Devo page with you and head out to interview a couple of friends or family members.

Ask each person this question: **What are you hoping for?** (in regards to something challenging or unknown) Then scan the paper together and find a description of Jesus that matches the problem that you've been having. (For example, maybe your friend is hoping that they can stop fighting with their brother or sister . . . then the description of Jesus as the Prince of Peace may bring comfort to your friend!)

Find another friend or family member and repeat the same exercise. Hopefully everyone you talk to will leave the conversation feeling more hopeful because of God's faithfulness!

Day 3

Look back at the descriptions of Jesus in the list from yesterday.

Isn't it amazing to think that God shared all these things about Jesus to the prophet Isaiah long before Jesus was born—and Jesus fulfilled each and every one! That shows us just how faithful God is and how **you can have hope because God is faithful**. Fill in the blanks below with one of the descriptions you starred yesterday. Then take a few minutes to pray and thank God for being faithful and giving us hope!

Dear God, thank You for sending us

Jesus, the Savior You promised. The way you fulfilled every prophesy

when You sent Jesus shows me that

I can have hope! I am especially

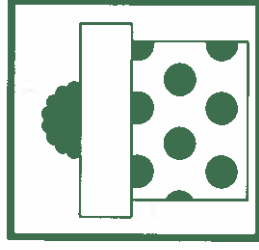
thankful for how You showed

me You are a [or that you offer]

_____ when

You _____ I love

You. In Jesus' Name, I pray. **Amen.**



Day 5

Yesterday, you asked other people what they were hoping for.

Today, it's time to ask yourself the same question. **What are you hoping for?**

Maybe it's a passing grade in school or that your family won't have to move.

Or perhaps it's for everyone in your family to get along at Christmas. Write whatever it is down here: (a)

Now write down the characteristic of Jesus from Isaiah 9:6-7 that gives you hope in that situation: (b)

Place this sheet somewhere you'll see it each day—and when you do, talk to God about (a) and then thank Jesus for being (b).

Even if things don't turn out exactly as you hope, leaning into who Jesus is and His faithfulness will help you make it through the hard times!

**“A child will be born to us.
A son will be given to us.”**

Isaiah 9:6, NIrV

**“A child will be born to us.
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Isaiah 9:6, NIrV

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Isaiah 9:6, NIrV

**“A child will be born to us.
A son will be given to us.”**

Isaiah 9:6, NIrV

What to Do:

Print double-sided on cardstock and cut out, one bookmark for each kid.

“Bible Bookmarks” Activity Page, NIrV

December 2023, Week 1, Small Group K-1

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A child

will be

born

to us.

A son

will be

given

to

us

Isaiah 9:6a,
NirV

What to Do:

Print on cardstock and cut apart, two sets for each Small Group.

"Memory Verse Phrases" Activity Page, NirV

December 2023, Week 1, Small Group 2-3

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1. God told Isaiah that Jesus was coming. *(true)*
2. Everything was going great for the nation of Israel when God spoke to the prophets Micah and Isaiah. *(False—it was a dark time, people felt no hope, etc.)*
3. Isaiah didn't tell anyone that Jesus was coming. *(False—Isaiah told God's people that a rescuer was coming.)*
4. The prophets told God's people that Jesus would bring war. *(False—the prophets shared that Jesus would bring peace.)*
5. Isaiah wrote that the peace Jesus would bring would end. *(False—he wrote that the peace Jesus would bring would never end.)*
6. God promised that this king would be born to a young woman and would be named Immanuel. *(true)*
7. Isaiah was the only prophet God spoke to about Jesus. *(False—God spoke to many prophets about the rescuer to come, including Micah.)*
8. Micah prophesized that God would send a king to be born in the little town of Bethlehem. *(true)*
9. God keeps promises. *(true)*
10. Isaiah's and Micah's messages can bring hope to us today. *(true)*
11. Jesus is weaker than any earthly king. *(False—Jesus is stronger than any earthly king.)*
12. When people turned from God, the world was broken. *(true)*
13. When Jesus laid down His life for us and rose again, He made peace between people and God. *(true)*

Micah 5:2:

"Bethlehem Ephrathah, you might not be
an important town in the nation of Judah.

But out of you *will* come for me

a ruler over Israel.

His family line goes back

to the early years of your nation.

It goes all the way back

to days of long ago."

Isaiah 9:6-7:

A child will be born to us.

A son will be given to us.

He will rule over us.

And **he will be called**

Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God.

He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever

and Prince Who Brings Peace.

There *will* be **no limit** to how great his authority is.

The **peace he brings will never end.**

He *will* **rule on David's throne**

and over his kingdom.

He *will* make **the kingdom strong and secure.**

His **rule will be based on what's fair and right.**

It *will* **last forever.**

The LORD's great love *will* **make sure that happens.**

He rules over all.

Isaiah 7:14-15:

The **Lord himself will give you a sign.** The virgin is going to have a baby. **She will give birth to a son.** And **he will be called Immanuel.** **He will still be very young** when he can decide between right and wrong.

What to Do:

Print on paper, one for each Small Group.

"God's Promises" Activity Page, NIV

December 2023, Week 1, Preteen Small Group

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