

## Small Group and Personal Bible Study

### Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6

“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

### Study Questions:

Read and compare the memory verse, Isaiah 9:6 to our scripture text this week found in Luke 1:31-33.

1. What are the similar attributes of Jesus found in both scriptures?

My thoughts are that the name Jesus (Luke 1:31) indicates that he will save his people. As the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6), he brings peace between God and man which is the salvation message. He will be great and will be called the son of the Most High (Luke 1:32) which certainly is reflected in the words a son is given and the title of Mighty God (Isaiah 9:6). He will sit on the throne (Luke 1:32) which compares to a ruler who has the government on His shoulders (Isaiah 9:6) and is reflected in a wonderful counselor (meaning an extraordinary counsel with God's judgments). And finally we see He will reign and His kingdom will last forever (Luke 1:33). In Isaiah 9:6 we see Him called Everlasting Father. I think it is beautiful how God used first His prophet Isaiah to give us a grasp of Jesus and then once again used an angel to proclaim it again. Today, in our hearts the Spirit testifies to this through His Word.

2. As you reflect on the message of Luke 1:31-33, can you see the entire message of God spoken in these three simple verses? In your own words, write out the message of God as you see it in Luke 1:31-33.

*My own words written as if spoken directly from God;*

I am going to send my own son to the world. I want you to give him the name Jesus so all will know his purpose is to save the world. He will be above all and will be known as my one and only son. He will be victorious and I will give Him the throne above all thrones. He will reign from this day forward forever and ever over the Kingdom of Heaven and Earth.

3. Based upon Luke 1:31-33 and your own paraphrased understanding, what are three things you learn and know about the Christmas message from the angel?

Three of my own lessons:

1. It was God who sent Jesus (John 3:16 reminds me of this)
2. God intended that we know the purpose for Jesus' birth so he used the prophets and the angels to proclaim the purpose.
3. Even before Jesus was born, God knew He would accomplish His purpose of bringing us to peace with God and reign forever.

**Daily Reading:** The Christmas Story (Part 2)

- Day 1 – Matthew 1:18-25
- Day 2 – Luke 2:1-7
- Day 3 – Luke 2:8-20
- Day 4 – Luke 2:21-40
- Day 5 – Matthew 2:1-23