# Advent 2021

### **Prince of Peace**

Sunday, December 19, 2021

#### Isaiah 9: 2-7 NASB

<sup>2</sup> The people who walk in darkness will see a great light;
Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them.

<sup>3</sup> You will multiply the nation, You will increase their joy;
They will rejoice in Your presence As with the joy of harvest,
As *people* rejoice when they divide the spoils. <sup>4</sup> For You will break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders, The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian. <sup>5</sup> For every boot of the marching warrior in the roar *of battle*,
And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For a Child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness

From then on and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of armies will accomplish this.."

# 1. Anticipate Blessing

John 7:38 Whoever believes in Me, rivers of living water flow within them. Isaiah 58:11 You will be like a well-watered garden.

# 2. Accept Difficulty

Exodus 33:14 My Presence will go with you, I will give you rest. 2 Corinthians 4: 7-9 This all-surpassing power is from God, not us.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 My grace is sufficient for you, My power is made perfect in weakness.

Philippians 4: 6-7 The peace of God will guard your hearts and minds in Christ.

### 3. Receive Peace

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give you. Colossians 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rules in your hearts, and be thankful. Psalm 16;8 I keep my eyes on the Lord; I will not be shaken.

**Conclusion:** In our surrender, in our trust, and in our gratitude is where we discover Peace eternal, that is Christ Himself living in us, Let us come with open hearts before our Prince of Peace and let Him fill us each day *for that is His gift to us.* 

# **LIFE GROUP LESSON**

## Prince of Peace

Week of December 19– December 25, 2021

**Ice Breaker:** How do you find peace in your days? Do you turn to Jesus?

### Read Isaiah 9: 2-7 NIV.

- 1. What is the promise for those who walk in darkness? (v. 2)
- **2.** Who is the light?
- **3.** What additional promises come with this light? (v.3)
- **4.** What is the message for the oppressed and heavy laden? (v.4)
- **5.** Through what or whom are these promises fulfilled? (v.6)
- **6.** What are we told about this child's authority?
- 7. Would you say they were joyful in this moment?
- **8.** What are the different names of this child? What do they mean?
- **9.** We are told there is no end to what? (v.7)
- 10. What does this tell you about the kind of kingdom God desires?
- 11. What does this tell you about the authority of Jesus Christ?
- **12.** Will any other kingdom or power be able to overthrow God's kingdom? (v.7)
- **13.** If Jesus has eternal victory and power, shouldn't that increase our peace in every situation as we focus on who He is?
- **14.** Read John 7:38-39. How does Jesus bless us? How does this increase our peace?
- 15. How do we maintain peace when life is difficult?
- **16.** Read Exodus 33:14. How can this truth bring us to a place of peace?
- **17.** Read 2 Corinthians 4: 7-9. What about areas we really struggle to overcome? Whose power should we be relying on? Can doing this bring us to peace?
- **18.** Read John 14:27. Jesus gives us peace that is eternal. Do you receive it as the gift it is, or leave it sit unopened? Why might you choose to leave it unopened for the times you do? What are you trying to hold on to instead?
- **19.** Read Psalm 16:8. What do we do to remain strong in our faith and filled with the peace that is from Jesus?

**Point to ponder:** Let us truly see the peace Jesus gives to us as the precious gift it is. By receiving it we walk in daily blessings as we tune to His life-giving flow within us, and we are able to rejoice even in our difficulty knowing God is working on our behalf and giving our hearts rest as we trust in Him.