



²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned... ⁶For to 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. ⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (NIV)

SERIES BIG IDEA:

Jesus came so all people can call upon God and trust in Him.

Jesus came so all can know God.

If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him.

John 14:7 (NIV)

Jesus came so all can experience life with the Father.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10 (NIV)

Jesus came so we can confidently call upon the name of God in prayer.

For to 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.

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

Jesus came to be our Wonderful Counselor and calls us to courageously seek him out in our prayers for ourselves and others.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)

It is hard to pray with others when our confidence is not in God.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I will look to Jesus as my Wonderful Counselor and point others to Him in prayer.

The counsel of Christ is wise, loving, and true.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

James 3:17 (NIV)

I can pray for others with confidence because the counsel of Christ brings hope in uncertain times.

When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.

Psalms 73:21-24 (NIV)

I can pray for others with confidence because the counsel of Christ is available to all who seek it out.

WEEK ONE: WONDERFUL COUNSELOR



If any one of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault.

James 1:5 (NIV)

When we pray with others in the name of the Wonderful Counselor, we are helping them approach the throne of Christ.

Sing to the Lord; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves. Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

Psalms 96:2-3 (NLT)

Prayer:

Father, help my friend place their hope in You as their Wonderful Counselor.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

The advent season reminds us of who God is, His love for us, and the hope He provides for the future. This only happens because of the gift of Jesus.

Jesus came to provide lasting hope, create a way to the Father, and help us know God. Jesus is the Good News of the Gospel and regardless of circumstances, we can call upon the name of God because Jesus has made the way and showed us the character of the Father.

When times are uncertain and we don't know what to do or where to turn, we can remember that Jesus is the Wonderful Counselor. He is the only true source of wisdom, life, and hope. Not only can we receive these, but we also share it by praying for others using the name of God.

We can share the Hope we have in a Wonderful Counselor. We can share the wisdom we receive in a Wonderful Counselor. We can share the life we find in a Wonderful Counselor by simply praying with others and helping them meet the Wonderful Counselor, Jesus.

TALK-IT-OVER:

What is the best piece of advice you've ever received? What made it so good?

How does knowing Jesus is the only true, Wonderful Counselor help you approach God with confidence?

What is an area of your life where you need the wise, true counsel of Christ?

What is one next step you need to take today?

Who do you need to tell about what you've learned?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

- Day 1) Proverbs 3:5-6
- Day 2) Psalm 37:5-6
- Day 3) Isaiah 26:3-4, Nahum 1:7
- Day 4) Jeremiah 17:5- 9
- Day 5) Psalm 139:1-18
- Day 6) Isaiah 50:9-10