



DARKNESS TO LIGHT
What Does The Promise Mean?

Dr. John Vawter
December 14, 2014

Isaiah 9:6

*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.*

And He will be called **Wonderful Counselor**

Wonderful
...incomprehensible, beyond understanding, divine

Counselor
...perfect wisdom, “the Comforter” (John 16:7), wisdom
(1 Corinthians 12:8)

Mighty God

Mighty
...doer of great things, victorious energy in battle
God...the Supreme

Everlasting Father

Everlasting
...no beginning and no ending
Father
...created, reared, protected, loved, enjoyed

Prince of Peace

Prince
...royalty
Peace
...calm, tranquility, unity and accord...growing relationship

John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

Putting this all together

Relationship

...“This is eternal life....” John 17:3

Submission

...“I have brought You glory by completing the work You gave Me to do”

John 17:4

Purpose

... “...to become conformed to the image of Christ”

Romans 8:29

Personal Application

Make sure God is special to us

Make sure Christ is honored as He deserves

Make sure our relationship with Him is secure

Next Steps

- This week I'll evaluate how much I rely on Him, the wonderful Counselor, for wisdom and direction.
- I will memorize Isaiah 9:6.
- I'll evaluate my life and ask Him where the Holy Spirit needs to be working in my life.



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Daily Devotional Plan – The Christmas Story in Luke

- Day 1 – Luke 1:1-25
- Day 2 – Luke 1:26-38
- Day 3 – Luke 1:39-56
- Day 4 – Luke 1:57-80
- Day 5 – Luke 2:1-20
- Day 6 – Luke 2:21-40
- Day 7 – Luke 2:41-52

To go deeper: Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper/journal/laptop/etc.:

- What did you hear? (*What did God say to you as you read the Scriptures for the day?*)
- What do you think? (*What does it mean to you, how does it apply to your life, and what difference will it make to you?*)
- What will you do? (*What action step will you take? How will you think differently? How will you live differently?*)
- Now talk to God (*Put your thoughts into prayer. It could be a prayer of gratitude or praise. It could be a prayer of confession or a request for God's help. It's up to you. But take a minute each day to write a prayer response to what you read in the Scriptures.*)

LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS December 14, 2014

Lesson Aim: To think more deeply about who Jesus is, how He wants to relate His life to my life, and how God fulfilled his OT promise through Christ.

Icebreaker: Who was someone you looked up to as a child and why?

1. In **Isaiah 9:2** we read that the people walking in darkness have seen a great light, and for those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. What does “walking in darkness” mean? How did God bring about “light”?
2. **Read Isaiah 9:6.** Christ is referred to as a Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and a Prince of Peace. What does each of these references mean to you personally? How do these attributes of Christ affect your confidence, thinking and daily walk?
3. While you continue to ponder these attributes of Christ from **Isaiah 9:6** what is something you could draw strength from our Mighty God to do, put behind you, or accomplish?
4. We are all called to a life of relying on Christ for all things. Name a time when you had to rely on Christ for wisdom, peace or protection.
5. **Read John 14:27.** Last week we noted in the LifeGroup questions that the Bible discusses to not be afraid about 365 times. What is something that you are still anxious, hesitant, or fearful about? Jesus said that He leaves His peace with us. What is the definition of peace to you?
6. **Read Romans 8:28-30.** We are called to conform to the image of His Son Jesus Christ. What is an area of your life you would like to change to bring glory to God?
7. We are called to a life of worship to our Mighty God. What is a way that you worship God? Is there an area of worship to God you would like to improve?
8. **Read John 14:15-21.** Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will lead and guide us and be with us forever. What area of your life do you see the Holy Spirit working? What area of your life do you need the Holy Spirit to help with?