

LIFE Community Sermon Notes



*The Light at
The End of
the Tunnel*

Isaiah 9:2-7 (New International Version)

2 The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.

3 You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as men rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

5 Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.

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.

7 Of the increase 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.

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, Dec 9

Big Idea: The light of Christ dispels darkness with wisdom, power, relationship and peace.

Key Verse: Isaiah 9:6d

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Opening Question: Describe how your family decorates for their house for Christmas (inside or outside).

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions.

Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders.

Read the passage.

Discussion Questions

1. **What are some of things that make up the “darkness” that might be surrounding us during this Christmas time?**
2. When people walk in darkness they stumble around, move slowly and hesitantly, and even damage themselves. How might people be trying to move around in the darkness of this world?
3. Isaiah introduces four key titles for the child that is born. What were the four associations that Tom has for each of the titles? (*Leaders, the four associations are listed in the big idea above.*)
4. **Which of these four titles and their associations do you most gravitate towards?**
5. **Why do you gravitate towards that title and association?** (*Leaders, try to spend time on this question. Tom ended his message allowing people a time to reflect on the picture that was painted in the service. He asked people to especially bring before God areas of darkness they might be experiencing. This question is aimed at allowing your group to bring that darkness to light.*)
6. **These four titles describe for us the infinity of God—his all surpassing eternal quality as described in three key attributes of God—omniscience (God is all knowing); omnipotent (God is all powerful) and omnipresent (God is everywhere). How does the knowledge that Jesus Christ is all omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent bring light to the darkness you are experiencing?**
7. **Spend time as a group in prayer for each other as you bring these matters before him.**

Christmas Notes

Leaders, if you have time in your groups, think about how your LIFE Community may bring light to others during this Christmas time. Is there a way to serve at the Christmas services (children’s ministry, parking, welcome, etc.)? Is there someone that needs an invitation? Spend some time talking this through and how you as a LIFE Community may celebrate Christmas together.