



Christmas

for

OMAHA

Promises

Discussion Guide
December 3, 2017
Isaiah 9:6-7

Questions for Study

** Before you begin discussing these questions, read through Isaiah 9:6-7 as a group.

1. Describe a time that you were able to see “behind the scenes” of a fairly significant event. How did seeing the backstory / bigger picture give you a greater appreciation of the event itself?
2. Do you think it’s easy for us to miss the true significance of Christmas? Why / why not?
3. *To really grasp the significance of Jesus’ birth, we need to understand how the Old Testament helps us anticipate the coming of Jesus. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.*
4. As a group, work to identify at least 4-6 specific ways the Old Testament helps point us toward Jesus.
5. Look at your response to the previous question. How does this reinforce the value of the Old Testament?
6. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. Here we see a clear picture of the promised Messiah – approximately 700 years before Jesus was born! Reflect on each of the titles (listed below) that this child is given in verse 6. In your own words, share what each of these titles tells us about Jesus:
 - Wonderful Counselor
 - Mighty God
 - Everlasting Father
 - Prince of Peace
7. How does seeing “behind the scenes” of Christ’s birth – by looking at Isaiah 9:6-7 – help you appreciate everything Jesus’ coming means?
8. Is there one (or more) of these titles of Jesus that you’ve been overlooking or forgetting? How does reflecting on this title help you appreciate the arrival of Jesus more fully?
9. Share how what you’ve learned “behind the scenes” of Jesus’ birth can help you approach Christmas. What practical step will you take to keep this truth in mind, during this Christmas season?
10. **Challenge:** Memorize 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.”