



# Advent 1: Isaiah and the Prince of Peace

**Lesson Aim:** To know Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophecies.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God is:** The God of Peace

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

**What He has done:** God gave Isaiah the prophecy about the coming Prince of Peace.

**Key Verse:** Isaiah 9:6

## THE WAY

**Christ Connection:** John 14:27

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

Unit 10: The Promised One			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Isaiah and the Prince of Peace, Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	God gave Isaiah the prophecy about the coming Prince of Peace.	To know Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophecies.
49	Advent 2: God's Promise to Mary, Luke 1:26-38	God promised Mary she would give birth to His Son Jesus.	To know we can trust God to keep His promises because nothing is impossible with God.
50	Advent 3: John the Baptist, Luke 1:16-17, 41, 76-79; John 1:29	God sent John the Baptist to point others to the promised Savior.	To challenge children to point others to Jesus.
51	Advent 4: Shepherds See the Promised One, Luke 2:4-18; John 14:27	God sent His Son to bring peace.	To know Jesus brought peace just as God promised.
52	The Story of God and His People, Jeremiah 24:7; 2 Chronicles 7:14	God gave us the Bible to tell the story of God and His people.	To understand the Bible is the story of God and His people.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Philippians 4:4-9. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for keeping Your promise to send us Your Son Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Prepare the hearts of the children to celebrate the fulfillment of Your promise. Amen."

**WHAT ABOUT SANTA?** Many cultures incorporate the story of Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus) into their family traditions at Christmas. Many young children are very excited about this tradition. To honor all parents, our role as Bible teachers is not to address (validate or invalidate) their family traditions, but to redirect their focus to celebrate the gift of God's Son.

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>	None
		<b>Game:</b> Pin the Words on the Crown	Large sheet of paper, sturdy paper in four different colors, blindfolds, tape
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Advent wreath <b>Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "For Unto Us" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "I Bring You Good News" "For God So Loved the World" "King of Kings" "At the Name of Jesus" "You Will Seek Me" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Joy to the World" "Away in a Manger" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Worship Jamz Christmas by Worship Jamz Shout Praises Kids Christmas by Integrity Media
		<b>Advent Scripture Reading:</b> John 12:46	Bible
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	Lesson 48 The Love Sub script or storybook
		<b>Read the Word:</b> Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Discuss the Word</b>	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		<b>Christ Connection:</b> John 14:27	
		<b>Golden Bowl</b>	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five Minutes</b>	Treasure Treats—Advent Calendar, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "For Unto Us," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Snack:</b> Crown Jewels	Colorful candies
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Prove That Prophecy	"Prove That Prophecy" game cards (available at <a href="http://www.ResourceWell.org">www.ResourceWell.org</a> )
	Up to 15	<b>Craft:</b> Prince of Peace Crown	Large sturdy yellow paper, magazines, assorted craft items (glitter, beads, sequins, pom-poms, etc.), scissors, glue or tape, crayons or markers
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Appearing Angel	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase or poster board, marker
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Toss-A-Verse	Large ball (inflatable beach ball, rubber ball, etc.), permanent marker
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Timeline Review</b>	Date with story title or name printed on card

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

**Meet & Greet Question: What is the best promise you have ever been given?**

### **GAME: PIN THE WORDS ON THE CROWN**

**Purpose:** Children will experience the advantages of light as they are introduced to Isaiah's prophecy about the metaphorical light Christ's birth would bring to the world.

**Supplies:** Large sheet of paper, sturdy paper in four different colors, blindfolds, tape

**Prepare:** On the large sheet of paper, draw a large picture of a crown. Hang it on a wall at the children's eye level. Using one color of paper per word, cut out enough squares of the same size to write one letter per square for the following words: COUNSELOR, MIGHTY, FATHER, and PEACE.

**Today, we will learn about another message God gave to the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah lived during a time when God's people were very sad and separated from God. Sometimes, the Bible describes sadness and separation from God as walking in darkness. To see how God's people may have felt, let's look at Isaiah's message to them from God by putting it together in the dark.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Divide the children into four teams. Choose one team to take the first turn while the other children remain seated.
2. Have the team stand in a line in front of the crown. Blindfold all the team members.
3. Mix up the letters of the first word: COUNSELOR. Place a loop of tape on the back of one of the letters. Give the 'C' to the first child in line.
4. That child attempts to find and stick the letter onto the crown. Teams that are seated may help verbally direct the child.
5. Giving each team member a letter in the correct order, each child takes a turn. Children can take more than one turn, as needed.
6. When all the letters are posted, children can remove their blindfolds and look at the letters to see how close they came to getting the letters on the crown and spelling a word.
7. Help the team rearrange the letters on the crown to spell: COUNSELOR.
8. Repeat with each team using a new word.

**Which was easier, spelling the words when you were blindfolded and in the dark or after you took the blindfolds off and had light to see? (Spelling words in the light is easier.) God's message was a promise that He would send someone who would be a light for the people. Let's see how this crown and the words "Counselor," "Mighty," "Father," and "Peace" were part of God's wonderful promise.**



The God of Peace

## THE WORSHIP

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



**Today, we worship the God of Peace. God loved the world so much, He sent His Son Jesus as the Prince of Peace to bring peace between God and man. 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah promised there would be a great light and the Prince of Peace would come to us. Sing Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For Unto Us" as the offering is collected.**

**Isaiah and other prophets prepared us for the coming of the Lord. Isaiah told us Jesus would come as a baby. Today, we will begin to prepare our hearts for the celebration of His birth. He is the great light God promised to send. He is the Light of the World.**



### **Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony: The Candle of Light**

**Advent Wreath: 4 candles set in a wreath of greenery with gold trim**

**At Christmastime, we get our hearts ready to celebrate the coming of King Jesus by lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath. Advent means coming—the coming of Jesus. The Advent season helps get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Our Advent Wreath is round. It has no end, just as God's love for us has no end.**

**Each candle on the Advent Wreath stands for one of the four Sundays before Christmas. Today, we light the first candle of Advent: The Candle of Light. In the Bible, darkness sometimes stands for life separated from God and light stands for God. The prophet Isaiah said that people who walk in darkness will see a great light. Choose a child to light the first candle now. That's what happened when Jesus was born. People who were living separated from God, saw Him come to earth as a baby.**



**Jesus is the great light Isaiah described. Jesus called Himself the Light of the World. As you look at the candlelight, listen to the words of Jesus when He compared Himself to a light. Read John 12:46.**



**Today, we celebrate the fact that God was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah when Baby Jesus was born. Sing: "Joy to the World." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on the birth of Christ.**



**Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 10, Lesson 48.**



## Isaiah's prophecy: the Prince of Peace

# THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write their name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."**

**Last time, we learned God told Malachi to tell the people to bring their tithes (one tenth of their riches) into God's house and watch for Him to bless them. God also gave Malachi a prophecy about the coming of the Lord.**

**A prophecy from God is a promise from Him about the future. After the prophet Malachi spoke, there were 400 years without any prophecies. This was known as the 400 years of silence. During this period, many people were watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord that Isaiah had described in his prophecies.** If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Isaiah (Circa 710 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Isaiah lived in Jerusalem.** If a map is available, point to Jerusalem, Israel.



**Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you.** Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Isaiah 9:6.**

**Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us?** Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

**As we read Isaiah 9:2, remember that many times in the Bible, darkness stands for living a life separated from God while light stands for God.** Read.

**As we read the prophecies in Isaiah 9:6-7, remember that a government has the authority to protect and rule over its people.** Read.



Connecting prophecies to Jesus

## THE WAY

**What is a prophecy from God?** (A promise from Him about the future.) **The Old Testament is filled with prophecies that were fulfilled by Jesus. That means they came true (actually happened).** Isaiah 9:2 says, “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.” **In the Bible, darkness stands for life separated from God. How is a life without God like walking around in darkness?** (Children respond.) **How is Jesus like a light to people who are separated from God?** (Children respond.) **Listen as I read what Jesus said.** Read John 12:46. **That is how Jesus fulfills the prophecy in Isaiah 9:2.**

**Isaiah 9:6-7 includes many prophecies about Jesus.** Point to the Bible Memory Verse poster or have children open their Bibles to Isaiah 9:6-7. **As I read of their fulfillment in the New Testament, raise your hand if you can point to the prophecy which was fulfilled in Isaiah.**

**John 3:16 says, “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son ...” Who is God’s Son?** (Jesus.) **Which prophecy in Isaiah 9:6-7 does this fulfill?** (“Unto us a Son is given.”)

**Matthew 28:18 says, “Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.’” Which prophecy does this fulfill?** (“The government will be on His shoulders.”) **What does that mean?** (God gave Jesus the authority to be in charge of the whole world.) **How does it feel to know Jesus is in charge?** (Children respond.)

**In John 14:26, Jesus says, “The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” Which prophecy does this fulfill?** (“His name will be called Wonderful Counselor.”)

**Romans 5:1b says, “... we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Which prophecy from Isaiah does this fulfill?** (“Prince of Peace.”) **What do you think “Prince of Peace” means?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

## CHRIST CONNECTION

**700 years after Isaiah’s prophecy about the Prince of Peace, Jesus came and made peace between God and us by taking our punishment on the cross for our sins against God. To all who believe in Him, Jesus gives peace with God, peace with others, and peace of mind without fear during hard times. Let’s see what Jesus said about that peace.**



**FIND IT FIRST** > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap.** Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: John 14:27. **Let’s see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read John 14:27.

**How can knowing this give you a peaceful mind without fear during hard times?** (Children respond.) **How does Jesus help us live in peace with others?** (His Spirit helps us serve and forgive others. He helps us show love, kindness, patience, and self-control.) If time allows, play PROVE THAT PROPHECY located in the GOT TIME? segment of this guide.



# THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

## GOLDEN BOWL

**Teacher Tip:** Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

**Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.**

**Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_. Read names in Golden Bowl.**

**Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## FINAL FIVE MINUTES

**TREASURE TREAT:** Today, your Treasure Treat is an Advent Calendar. Take it home and do the activities with your family each day to get your hearts ready to celebrate Christmas!

**DAILY WAY CHALLENGE:** Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 48 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

**Teacher Tip:** Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

**OFFERING OF ART:** Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of what you think God looks like or print and decorate the letters in your favorite name for God: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, or Prince of Peace.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, "For Unto Us," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### **SNACK: CROWN JEWELS**

**Purpose:** Children are reminded that Jesus was given the name, "Prince of Peace."

**Snack Suggestion:** Colorful candies

**Today, we learned about God's promise to send His Son Jesus to earth. In Isaiah's prophecy about this, what were the four names Isaiah said He would be called?** (Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.) **As we talk, let's eat these colorful candies to remind us of the jewels on a crown and let's remember Jesus is the Prince of Peace.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Distribute the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"If you could give yourself a name that describes you, what would it be? For example, your name might be "faithful friend" or "leader."**

### **GAME: PROVE THAT PROPHECY**

**Purpose:** Children will play a matching game to review the specific fulfillments of the eight prophecies found in Isaiah 9:2a, 6.

**Supplies:** "Prove That Prophecy" game cards (available at [www.ResourceWell.org](http://www.ResourceWell.org))

**Prepare:** Print and cut apart the game cards. It is suggested that the Isaiah cards be printed on one color of paper and the New Testament cards on another color. Shuffle and lay the Isaiah cards face down on one side of a table and the New Testament cards on the other side. Optional: Tape the cards to a wall or chalkboard.

**These 16 cards contain 8 pairs. Each pair has a card with a prophecy from Isaiah and a card with the New Testament scripture that proves it was fulfilled. In this game, we will see which team can match the most prophecies with their fulfillment.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Form teams of three to five children per team.
2. Choose one team to take the first turn.
3. That team turns over an Isaiah card and a New Testament card. One team member reads the two cards aloud. Children listen to the words and determine if the New Testament card is a fulfillment of the Isaiah prophecy.
  - If the cards match, the team keeps the cards.
  - If the cards do not match, the team turns the cards back over.
4. Teams continue taking turns until all the cards are matched.
5. The goal is to be the team with the most matches.



# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **CRAFT: PRINCE OF PEACE CROWN**

**Purpose:** To make a crown as a reminder of the Prince of Peace whose birth is celebrated at Christmas.

**Supplies:** Large sturdy yellow paper, magazines, assorted craft items (glitter, beads, sequins, pom-poms, etc.), scissors, glue or tape, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** On a large sheet of sturdy yellow paper, print or draw the shape of a crown. You may choose to cut out the crowns for younger children or if your class time is limited. Where children can see to copy, write:

**Jesus is the Prince of Peace  
Isaiah 9:6**

**Today, we discovered Isaiah's prophecy from God about a special, royal child that would be born. Who was that child? (His Son, Jesus.) When do we celebrate Jesus' birth? (At Christmas.) God sent His only Son as a baby to be the Savior, and the Prince of Peace. He came to give us peace with God and peace in our hearts. Let's make a crown to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace.**

**Jesus came to earth to give peace to all people. Put a different person on each point of the crown. You can draw pictures of yourself, your family and your friends. You can also cut out pictures of people from around the world to paste on your crown. At home, use your crown as a Christmas decoration to remind everyone who sees it that Jesus is the Prince of Peace.**

### **Directions:**

1. Cut out the crown.
2. Draw people or add pictures of people from magazines to the crown.
3. On the crown, write: **Jesus is the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)**
4. Decorate the crown with crayons, markers, and assorted craft supplies.
5. Glue or tape the ends of the crown together.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

### **GAME: APPEARING ANGEL**

**Purpose:** Children learn the meaning of the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6.

**Supplies:** Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase or poster board, marker

**Prepare:** Display the Bible Memory Verse poster.

#### **Directions:**

1. Choose one of the phrases below. On a dry erase or poster board, draw one line for each letter in the phrase. Include a blank space between each word.
2. Choose a child to guess a letter. If the letter is found in the phrase, write it on every blank where it belongs. If the letter is not in the phrase, draw one part of an angel (Robe, head, hands, feet, smile, eyes, nose, hair, etc.) on another part of the dry erase or poster board.
3. Choose another child to guess a letter.
4. Continue playing until the children have guessed the phrase or until the angel drawing is complete. The goal is to complete the phrase before the angel drawing is completed.
5. After the phrase is revealed, read its meaning below to explain that part of the verse.
6. If time allows, play again using another phrase. Use different phrases each time you play.

#### **Phrase and meaning**

"For unto us a child is born" (Jesus was born as a baby.)

"Unto us a Son is given" (God gave His Son to be our Savior.)

"And the government shall be on His shoulders" (Jesus will one day rule the world.)

"And His name will be called" (There are many names for God.)

"Wonderful Counselor" (The Holy Spirit guides us to do things God's way.)

"Mighty God" (God is so strong that He can do anything.)

"The Everlasting Father" (God is our heavenly Father forever.)

"The Prince of Peace" (Jesus gives us peace with God, and peace in our hearts.)

### **GAME: TOSS-A-VERSE**

**Purpose:** Children memorize the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6.

**Supplies:** Large ball (inflatable beach ball, soccer ball, etc.), permanent marker

**Prepare:** Write the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse on the ball.

#### **Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. One child holds the ball and quickly says the first word of the verse. The child then tosses the ball to another child who says the next word.
3. Continue tossing the ball until the verse is completed.
4. Children may use the verse written on the ball to help them remember the words, but encourage them to learn the verse as they play.

**Option:** Divide into two or more teams. Have teams race against each other to complete the game first.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Prophets & Promises Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Elijah through Malachi. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and He has done.

**Haggai and Zechariah (Circa 530 B.C.)** God sent the prophets Haggai and Zechariah to encourage God's people who returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple after their exile in Babylon. Zerubbabel was the governor of Judah who made sure the temple was rebuilt. Haggai warned them to give careful thought to their selfish ways so they would choose to put God first and rebuild His temple. Zechariah told the people that our power comes not by might, nor by power, but by God's Spirit. The temple was completed in 516 B.C.

**Malachi (Circa 430 B.C.)** Malachi was the last prophet to speak before the birth of Jesus. He gave God's message that the people were robbing God by not bringing their tithes and offerings to Him. What is a tithe? (A tithe is giving one tenth of our riches to God's house.) God challenged the people to tithe and see how God would bless them.

**400 Years of Silence (Circa 400 B.C.-1 B.C.)** Malachi was the last Old Testament prophet to speak before the birth of Christ. This period is known as the 400 years of silence because there were no new prophecies. Over the previous 800 years, God's people had heard many prophecies from God's prophets, including Isaiah's prophecy about the coming of the Lord and what He would accomplish.

How to create a Bible Timeline from Elijah through Malachi:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the Unit 10 cards for Prophets & Promises Lessons 48-52.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

**Elijah – Malachi:** Elijah (Circa 870-845 B.C.) > Elisha (Circa 845-800 B.C.) > Joel (Circa 830 B.C.) > Jonah (Circa 781 B.C.) > Amos (Circa 760 B.C.) > Isaiah (Circa 710 B.C.) > Micah (Circa 700 B.C.) > Zephaniah (Circa 630 B.C.) > Jeremiah (Circa 626 B.C.) > Habakkuk (Circa 603 B.C.) > Ezekiel (Circa 593 B.C.) > Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Circa 580 B.C.) > Daniel (Circa 580 B.C.) > Haggai and Zechariah (Circa 530 B.C.) > Malachi (Circa 430 B.C.)

**Unit 10:** 400 Years of Silence (Circa 400-2 B.C.) > The Birth of Jesus (Circa 7-2 B.C.)