



BEFORE CHRISTMAS

ISAIAH: A REASON FOR FAITH

OPENING QUESTIONS - *Use these questions to connect with others in your group:*

1. What is your favorite Christmas song?
2. Do you usually enjoy the Christmas season, or do you just get stressed out?

KEY POINTS - *take a minute to review the key points from this weekend's message*

- Christmas and holidays have a way of heightening the pain and stress that we already feel.
- There is a reason for you to have faith. There's a reason for you to have hope. And there's a reason to not give up.
- God spoke through prophets at specific times in specific places with a very specific message that would give wisdom, instruction, or warning to His people.
- Uncertainty often opens the door and in walks anxiety.
- Into a world filled with chaos and uncertainty Jesus comes as a powerful, righteous, eternal king.
- The crown the soldiers used to mock Jesus is actually a reminder to you and me of the ultimate victory that we have in Jesus.
- Know that when life feels uncertain and scary, we do not have to fear because Jesus is our king. He is in control.
- "When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer." Corrie Ten Boom

SCRIPTURES USED IN THIS MESSAGE: Isaiah 6:1-3 & 7:14 & 9:6, Matthew 1:22-24, John 18:31-40 & 19:2-3, Hebrews 13:5

RESPOND

Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this weekend's message that stuck with you. Give a brief reason for why these things stuck with you.

Share one thing that makes you feel uncertain or anxious.

Where do you turn for reassurance during an uncertain, scary, or anxious time in your life?

READ: Isaiah 9:7:14, Luke 1:26-37, Matthew 1:18-23, Luke 2:6-14

While reading these passages write down something that strengthens your faith, something that gives you hope, and something that encourages you to not give up.

Take turns sharing one thing that you wrote down.

APPLY

Take time each day to read the RG Christmas Advent devotionals:

<https://www.riverglen.cc/advent-experience/>

PRAY