

WONDERFUL COUNSELLOR

SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER 2020



BIBLE

ISAIAH 8:19-9:7

Ask God for help for yourself and the church as we read His word.
Read Isaiah 8:19-9:7

LISTEN

SERMON BY SPENCER CRITOPH

Follow the link in the email to listen to a sermon on this passage.

REFLECTION

QUESTIONS AND NOTES

- What is the darkness for the people of God in the days of Isaiah?
(See Isaiah 1:2; 1:4; 1:13; 1:16; 1:23; 2:6-8; 3:4-8; 3:16; 5:4; 5:11; 5:20-21; 7:1; 8:19-22)
 - Who or what is the cause of the darkness?
 - What darkness do we experience in the world around us and in individuals?
- What hope do we see in 9:1-7?
 - How does this hope come?
 - How can we be sure this baby is Jesus? (See Matt 4:12-17)
- What does the term wonderful counsellor bring to mind when you initially hear it?
 - Have a look to see how the word 'wonderful' is used in the bible. See Ex 15:11; Psalm 78:11-15; Isa 25:1
 - Have a look to see how the word 'counsellor' is used in the bible. See Samuel 17:7, 11, 15; 1 Chron 27:32-33; Isaiah 14:24-27; Psalm 32:8. The word might be translated as advice, planned, decide, purposed.

- With these in mind how does that help us understand the title 'Wonderful Counsellor'?
- Why would this be good news for those in Isaiah's time?
- Why is a wonderful counsellor good news for us today?
- How do we see Jesus as a wonderful counsellor in the gospels?
 - Think of how he understands people, how he speaks truth and how he helps.
 - Take particular stories and see how Jesus interacts with people. Eg Nicodemus (Jn 3:1-21) Sisters of Lazarus (Jn 11:17-37) Doubting Thomas (Jn 20:29)
- How do we interact with Jesus, our wonderful counsellor now?
 - John 14:15-18; 16:12-15
- How can we respond to Jesus as our wonderful counsellor:
 - As individuals
 - As a church

PRAYER

RESPOND TO GOD IN PRAISE AND PLEADING

Use the Lord's Prayer to help you structure your prayers. Pray in response to the passage, for yourself, the church and others.

