

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DEC 6, 2020 // HOPE IS HERE



WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

Pastor Deidre Franklin kicked off our Christmas series with a message from the prophet Isaiah, who proclaimed a Messiah would be born and one of the titles he would assume would be Wonderful Counselor. Dissecting the Hebrew words from the original text, we learn the larger meaning behind the title.

Wonderful: *PELEH* – A miracle, a marvel, a wonder; something incomprehensible, unexplainable

Counselor: *YOEZ* – An advisor, a strategist, one who determines and guides toward a purpose

Wonderful Counselor, then, means “the one who plans wonders.” Three attributes of Jesus as Wonderful Counselor are wisdom, light, and Jesus is with us (Immanuel). We can know our Savior’s very nature and experience his presence within us through the person of the Holy Spirit. Because of this, our trust for our lives can rightly be placed into King Jesus, this Wonder of a Strategist.

SCRIPTURE:

“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.” – Isaiah 9:6

“The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD.” – Isaiah 11:2

“But the Advocate, 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.” – John 14:26

“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.” – Isaiah 9:2

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” – John 8:12

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made, and without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” – John 1:1-4

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” – Isaiah 7:14

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you in Deidre's message about Jesus as Wonderful Counselor?
2. How has the meaning of "wonderful" been diluted in current vernacular, or in our everyday lives? What about counselor?
3. Use your own words to describe what it means for Jesus to be Wonderful Counselor.
4. Read Isaiah 11:2 and John 14:26. The Spirit of the Lord now rests in us; what do we have available to us because of that?
5. Read Isaiah 9:2 and John 1:1-4, 8:12. What are some attributes of light? How does Jesus represent this to us, and to the world?
6. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

To begin your prayer, read Isaiah 7:14. This is what we celebrate this season. Thank God for leaving heaven—for putting on human flesh, walking among men, women and children, and experiencing the human condition—for us. Ask Jesus to guide you, with the perspective and vantage point of his Kingdom in mind. Ask him to show you ways to reflect the light he brought into the world to others. Pray that as you go through each day, the lights, the songs, and each person you meet, reminds you of Immanuel, God with us.