

Friday

To prepare for part 2 of the “Miracle” series, read Luke 1:26-38. What can you learn from Mary’s response in verse 38?

How is this different from typical responses to unexpected difficulties and surprises?

Today, ask God to help you approach all the surprises and difficulties of the coming season with the flexibility of Mary!

Saturday

Please look back over any devotions you may have missed, meditate on the memory verse, and please pray for the services this weekend. Thank you so much!!

MIRACLE

“Help! I Need a Miracle!”

René Schlaepfer
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Since the Christmas season traditionally begins at Thanksgiving, this is a great week to look at Isaiah’s prophecies about the coming Messiah — especially since they were given to comfort a very distressed nation.

“Jerusalem staggers, Judah is falling...” *Isaiah 3:8a* (NIV)

Four causes of anxiety in Isaiah’s time (and ours!)

- **Depressed** _____
“Your silver has become dross, your choice wine is diluted with water.” *Isaiah 1:22*
“The great houses will become desolate, the fine mansions left without occupants...” *Isaiah 5:9b*
- **Damaging** _____
“Your country is desolate, your cities burned with fire; your fields are being stripped by foreigners right before you...” *Isaiah 1:7*
- **Displaced** _____
“They do not defend the cause of the fatherless; the widow’s case does not come before them.” *Isaiah 1:23b*
- **Destructive** _____
“Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt...” *Isaiah 1:4a*

God’s miracle cure:

“Nevertheless, there will be **no more gloom** for those who were in distress... the people walking in darkness have seen a **great light**; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a **light has dawned**... 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...” *Isaiah 9:1a,2,6a*

The Messiah answers every anxiety because He is my...

1. _____

"Wonderful Counselor..." *Isaiah 9:6b*

Jesus is the ultimate counselor:

Being _____ He knows how I _____ ;
being _____ He knows what I _____ .

"He tends His flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young." *Isaiah 40:11*

2. _____

"...Mighty God..." *Isaiah 9:6c*

Hebrew: _____ God;
The One who brings _____ out of _____

"Do not fear what they fear, and do not dread it. The LORD Almighty is the One you are to regard as holy, He is the one you are to fear... and He will be a sanctuary." *Isaiah 8:12b-14a*

3. _____

"...Everlasting Father..." *Isaiah 9:6d*

"All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. ... The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever." *Isaiah 40:6,8*

4. _____

"...Prince of Peace." *Isaiah 9:6e*

"He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed." *Isaiah 53:5*

"In that day you will say: 'Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for He has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.'" *Isaiah 12:4,5*

My response:

- _____ God
- _____ others

Monday

Read Isaiah 9:1-7. In what areas of your life do you need to see these aspects of Jesus?

Where do you need His "Wonderful Counsel"?

Where do you need the power of the "Mighty God"?

Take some time today to ask God to reveal Himself to you as the "Wonderful Counselor" and the "Mighty God" in the specific areas you mentioned above. Then look out for His answers!

Tuesday

Read Isaiah 9:1-7 again. In what areas of your life do you need to see these aspects of Jesus?

How do you need to sense the care of the "Everlasting Father"?

Where in your life are you restless, anxious, or guilty and need the "Prince of Peace" to rule?

Take some time today to ask God to reveal Himself to you as the "Everlasting Father" and the "Prince of Peace" in the specific areas you mentioned above. Then look out for His answers!

Wednesday

Read Isaiah 61:1-3. Isaiah wrote this during a time of exile and stress for Israel. But this classic passage brought comfort. Then in Luke 4:16-21 (look it up!), Jesus reads this very passage and says He has come to fulfill it! How did Jesus fulfill these words of Isaiah for His followers, then and now?

How has Jesus fulfilled these words of Isaiah in your life?

Thank God for His kindnesses to you — specifically! Dwell on how He has accomplished this verse in your life as you praise Him.

Thursday

Read Isaiah 12. What is the theme of this chapter?

What do you have to praise God for in the area of:

Your salvation and forgiveness:

Your spiritual growth:

Your church community:

Your daily life:

Your friends and family:

Your health:

Small pleasures God sends your way:

Anything else?

Make Isaiah 12 your prayer to God on this Thanksgiving Day!

December Events at TLC

DEC. 5-6	CHRISTMAS TEA
DEC. 11-14	CHRISTMAS CONCERT
DEC. 17	CHRISTMAS TRAIN
DEC. 20-21	CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS
DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



Memory Verse

"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 (NIV)*