

# THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

## LESSON 1 // A PERSONAL GIFT

**Big Idea:** Christmas is the presentation of a personal gift from God to you and me—the great gift of His Son! Great gifts meet needs and fulfill desires. They connect you to the giver and bring joy to both the giver and the receiver.

Great gifts also require a response on our part. This is true of the gift of Jesus to us. We must receive God's Son, the Savior, by faith as a personal gift, and believe the promises of forgiveness and eternal life in Him.

***Isaiah 9:1-7 (NIV)** Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past He humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future He will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan — <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before You as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder. <sup>4</sup> For as in the day of Midian's defeat, You have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. <sup>5</sup> Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*

### Discussion Questions

This weekend we learned about the best gift God gave us— Jesus. What part of the message spoke to you the most and why?

Share a time you received a great gift. Who gave it to you and what made it great?

As you examine your life, do your actions show you value your relationship with Jesus? If so, how? If not, what change can you make to express value more?

Are you using the gift of salvation effectively?

**Read John 4:13-19.** How has God met your needs and fulfilled your desires?

Three responses take place when receiving a gift: open it, express thanks, and use it. Thinking of salvation, where are you in response to Him?

### Prayer Focus:

Lord, we thank you for the best gift we could ever receive. Help us to use it and share it passionately with others. In Jesus' name, amen.