



THE COMING KING

H O P E

GOD PROMISES TO SEND JESUS TO SAVE THE WORLD!

TEACH

Hope—A Savior is Coming!

In the Old Testament of the Bible, there are books written by men called “prophets.” These men would write and speak about God’s promises and plans. Do you know what word the Bible uses to describe these promises? That word is “prophecy.” God uses prophecy to give His people hope. By sharing His plans and promises with His people, He lets them know He is in control, and He is with them.

Open a Bible to Isaiah 7:14 and read as a family. Does this story sound familiar? It’s the story of Christmas! In this verse, there is the young girl (Jesus’ mother) and her Son (Jesus). In this verse, it says her Son will be named “Immanuel.” The name “Immanuel” means “God with us,” and that is who Jesus is. This is the first sign of hope—that God will be with us on Earth very soon!

Now, open a Bible and read Isaiah 9:6 as a family. This verse is talking about the same thing as the last verse: Jesus! Jesus will be born as a human, and He will be Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and Prince of Peace.

Now, there is something strange about these two verses. Both were written and taught over 400 years before Jesus was born! How did Isaiah know Jesus was going to be born that far into the future? Isaiah was a prophet, and God uses prophets to bring hope to His people. When we think about “hope,” we often think about something happening soon. Sometimes that thing happens, and sometimes it does not. With God, when He promises hope to His people, it always happens! So we can be hopeful about things happening soon and things far in the future.

Just as God used Isaiah to give His promise that Jesus was coming to save the world, He promises us that we will be saved if we believe and trust in Jesus. Jesus promised to return and make all things new, and we can be confident in knowing He will since God always fulfills His promises!

SHOW

Younger Kids:

Watch our on-demand video program for children, KidVue. Watch the episode for this week about “Hope” on kidvue.org.

Older Kids:

Watch BibleProject’s video (bibleproject.com/videos/yakhal-hope) about what the word “Hope” means in the Bible.

TABLE ACTIVITY

Option 1: Parents, surprise your children with a mystery dessert. Tell them to make a prediction about what the mystery dessert is. Use this time to demonstrate prophecy from the lesson.

Option 2: Trim the Tree

Items needed: Green poster board/craft paper, thin tinsel garland or yarn, single hole punch, and pen.

Instructions:

- Cut the piece of poster board/craft paper into the shape of a Christmas tree. (Make four branches on each side and one point at the top.)
- Punch a hole at the end of each of the Christmas tree branches (nine total).
- At each hole punched, write a portion of this week’s verse—Isaiah 9:6. (For / a child / will be / born / for us, / a son / will be / given / to us.)
- Secure the starting point of your garland or yarn at the top of the tree. With the leftover poster board or paper, cut a small star shape for your tree as well.
- Thread the garland or yarn through the holes, saying each portion of the verse as you thread it through the whole tree. Use this craft to memorize the verse by tracing the yarn and saying the verse.

PARENTS

As parents, life can get really busy, and one of the easiest things we sometimes compromise on is Bible reading. It is easy to think that we can fit it in at another point in the day, but if we’re honest, something usually comes up. We need consistent Bible reading to continue to instill hope and to be encouraged in a world that is fleeting and often times very hard to live in.

Think back to week four of Fight for Your Family (bellevue.org/family). The foundational truth was the Bible. The Bible is filled with prophecies, which are God’s revelation of things still to come. In fact, prophecy is what makes the Bible different from any other book.

Lead your family to write out some promises that God has made in the Bible. (Jesus is coming back to finalize His victory over sin and death, there is day coming when there will be no more tears and no more pain, etc.)

ASK

Younger Kids:

1. When was a time you needed hope?
2. What is something you hope will happen in the next year?

Older Kids:

1. What is prophecy? (A divine revelation of something to come)
2. Why was it important that Jesus’ birth was prophesied/foretold?

SING

Parents, pick your favorite version of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” and sing along as a family. This song is about God’s promise to send His Son, Jesus.