



SESSION 1 - WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

SERIES BIG IDEA

The one whose Name is above all names wants to be our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

As Wonderful Counselor, Jesus invites us into a wonder-filled life.

SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 9:2-7

ICE BREAKER AND OPENING THOUGHTS

These questions will help your group get comfortable talking. Some people may be coming to the group for the very first time, so make sure everyone gets a chance to answer the icebreaker questions or opening thought.

DISCUSSION

These questions are designed to get people to discuss and think about the 'Titles' of Jesus and what that means. Help people focus on 'Wonderful' as well as counselor.

APPLICATION

We want to encourage people to experience a sense of awe this Christmas season. Some may find this easy but others will find this challenging. God's presence is bursting around us all day. Help people identify what might be a hurdle for experiencing the amazing and awesome God. You may find this definition of wonder thought-provoking as you discuss the topic: "Wonder is a complex emotion involving elements of surprise, curiosity, contemplation, and joy. It is perhaps best defined as a heightened state of consciousness and emotion brought about by something singularly beautiful, rare, or unexpected . . ." –Dr. Neel Burton, Psychology Today.

CHALLENGE

Encourage your group to pick something from the list you just brainstormed and make plans to do it. It can be something the group does together, or each person or family does separately. Communicate with one another throughout the week using emails, texts, or Facebook. Let's approach this Christmas season with anticipation. Consider this Christmas an invitation to be wide-eyed with wonder because of the Savior who is born. Let this Christmas reawaken in you a childlike faith that expects something amazing to happen.