

CHILD KING-Wisdom & Strength Isaiah 9:1-7 12-4-16

What feels like darkness to you?

1. DARKNESS SURROUNDS US

*** Our Fears**

- ~ How can we survive when it feels like war? **8:22**
- ~ How are we still oppressed people today?

*** Seeking Our Security**

- ~ Fix our bodies -image -work Think you arrive BUT new attractions
- ~ Security? ... Anxious dread!

***The Real Threat Rev. 12**

- ~ Principalities & powers conspire to destroy God's work in us!
- ~ **Is.8:13-14a, 17** We need the Child **Isaiah 9** promises!

2. JESUS COMES TO US

*** The Way of Wisdom**

- ~ Recognize how life works in God's Kingdom.
- ~ See world's goals & say: Foolish!

*** Champion of Peace**

- ~ Wages peace against anything that threatens shalom w/ God & others
- ~ Need strength of Jesus' Spirit to be people after G.'s own heart.

*** Our Battle**

- ~ We know battle & our weakness is real.
- ~ We need Jesus' to be Wise & Strong for us ... Together!
- ~ What is our courage to live in Christ? ***Zeal of the Lord will accomplish this!***

See below for more story & reflections on the Child King

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Read & reflect together on the Word as a family throughout the week.

Isaiah 1:10-26 God's Rebellious People

1. Why is Judah named with 2 notoriously evil cities?
2. What has to change for God's people to change? V.18-20
3. What 2 new city names are given for the Church? Why?

Isaiah 2:1-5 A Gathering Community

1. Why are so many people coming to the temple? What will God do?
2. Which sword & spear of yours is God making into a tool for peace?
3. How does this vision of God's kingdom shape your hope? Values?

Isaiah 6:1-13 Isaiah's Call

1. If you were Isaiah, what would you tell a friend you saw, heard & felt?
2. What makes Isaiah despair & confess his sins? Compare with v.9-10.
3. What hope does the "but" of v.13 bring from the image of a stump?

Isaiah 11:1-9 The Branch from Jesse

1. How does the Spirit affect "the Branch" & his reign?
2. What does imagery in v.6-9 show about relationships led by the Spirit?

Isaiah 35:1-10 Joy of the Redeemed

1. How does this reading encourage you in your faith?
2. What word pictures resonate with your hope for heaven on earth?

Isaiah 40:1-11 Comfort & Care

1. God's people are in Babylonian exile. What comfort is given to them?
2. How have you felt the Shepherd's care described in v.11?