CHRISTMAS 2026: WHEN GOD COMES

When Light Comes
Isaiah 9.2-7

1. Read Isaiah 9:2. What do you think Isaiah means by describing the people as walking in darkness and living in a land of deep darkness? What realities of our world today fit that description?

2. Isaiah was writing more than 700 years before Jesus was born. Why do you think it was important for God to give His people this promise so far in advance? What does this teach us about God's character and faithfulness?

3. Read Isaiah 9:3-5. What changes does Isaiah describe when God's promised light comes? Which of these promises do you find especially meaningful, and why?

4. Isaiah describes future deliverance as though it has already happened. How does this demonstrate the certainty of God's promises? How difficult is it for you to trust God when you don't see immediate results?

5. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. What do the four names given to this promised King tell us about who He is and what kind of King He will be? Which of these descriptions means the most to you right now?

6. Why do you think God chose to bring deliverance through a child rather than through a powerful military leader or political ruler? What does this reveal about God's ways?

7. Read John 1:4-5 and Matthew 4:12-16. How do these passages help us understand that Jesus is the fulfillment of Isaiah's promise? What does it mean that Jesus is the light of the world?

8. We still live in a broken world where suffering, injustice, and death exist. How do we reconcile this reality with Isaiah's promise of an everlasting kingdom of peace? What does it mean to live with hope while we wait for Jesus to return?

9. Our culture often tries to make Christmas a season of happiness and good cheer. Why isn't Christmas cheer enough to address the deeper needs of our lives? Where are you tempted to look for hope in something other than Jesus?

10. Isaiah reminds us that darkness doesn't have the final word because God has come to bring light. Is there an area of your life where you need to remember this promise and trust Jesus more fully?