



The Coming King: The Promise of a King

Sunday, December 13th, 2015

Jesus is the one who comes to exercise His kingdom rule over this world. He is the **Coming King!**

Read **Isaiah 9:2-7** out loud together as a group, then reread only verses 2 and 6.

Who is Isaiah's present-day audience for these words? In what ways are they living "in a land of deep darkness"?

Of whom does Isaiah foreshadow and how does this passage fit at Christmas time?

Isaiah wants the people **to feel and acknowledge their pain** while also **experiencing the hope** that comes from expecting God's Son to arrive as our Messiah.

Why is it important to acknowledge our feelings of sadness and pain?

Why is Isaiah so open with God's people about their own suffering (v.2)?

Read **Psalms 69:1-5** as a group and identify together the emotions found in David's words.

Acknowledging our pain is important, but how can we make sure our feelings don't become a driving force in our lives?

There is a **brighter hope than the deep darkness**. The light Isaiah speaks of represents hope that gives us meaning in the suffering. Hope comes with the promised arrival of our Coming King!

What practical difference does hope make in our suffering?

Read **Psalms 103:14, Isaiah 53:3, and Hebrews 14:15** and discover the similarities between.

In what ways does it bring hope to our lives to know God is not far removed from our human condition?

What would it look like to trust God in your pain? How can we feel our pain and lean on a Hope that is greater than those feelings?