



Week #1: The Promise of Hope

*I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.
He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'
And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.
I will establish his offspring forever
and his throne as the days of the heavens.*

Psalm 89:25-29 (ESV)

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)

- **The Messiah is** _____.
- **Jesus is the** _____.

Old Testament prophecy:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14 (ESV)

New Testament fulfillment:

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

Luke 1:30-35 (ESV)

Old Testament prophecy:

*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound...*

Isaiah 61:1 (ESV)

New Testament fulfillment:

...He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”*

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:16-21 (ESV)

- Jesus is _____, the _____.

Discussion Questions

1. How does Jesus' birth and life demonstrate God's fulfillment of His promise to rescue and redeem humanity?
2. Reflect on how the titles of Jesus in Isaiah 9:6 embody the characteristics of God's promise. In what ways do these titles give you personal assurance of God's active presence in your life today?
3. Jesus' fulfillment of God's promise brings hope and calls us to participate in His mission. What steps can you take this week to embody the hope and peace of Jesus in your relationships, workplace, or community? How might this practice deepen your faith and spiritual formation?

Recommended Resources

- [Promises Made Promises Kept: A Family Devotional for Christmas by Marty Machowski](#)
- [Hidden Christmas: The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ by Tim Keller](#)
- [Let Earth Receive Her King: Daily Readings for Advent by Alistair Begg](#)

(ESV) English Standard Version

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- **The Messiah is God's promise.**
- **Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise.**

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Luke 4:16-21 (ESV)

- **Jesus is the Messiah, the promise of hope.**

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