



CHRISTMAS EVE

AT *Prairie Lakes*

INTRODUCTION

Our Christmas Eve service, taken from Isaiah 9, was about how God personally entered into a world of turmoil: Roman occupation, a census, persecution, death. This story of turmoil, threats and disappointments are still a part of our world today. God doesn't stand on the outside of our lives looking in. He literally entered into our world through Jesus' birth. He came to change the story of mankind, and our personal stories, when we trust Him as our Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

DISCUSSION

1. Jesus came as your Counselor. **Read Psalm 73:24.** How does a follower ask Jesus for counsel? Talk about a time when you sought counsel through prayer and reading the Word. How was the situation or problem resolved?
2. Jesus also came as our Prince of Peace. **Read John 14:27.** What kind of peace does Jesus give to His followers? How would you explain this peace to someone who is not a follower of Jesus?
3. Pray for those in your circle who do not know Jesus as their Savior. Pray for opportunities to speak to them about your faith and the chance to explain what it means to step over the Faith Line.

THINK ABOUT IT

Dear Jesus, thank You for coming to us on Christmas morning, fully man and fully God. You are the Word became flesh [John 1:14]. Your birth was prophesied through the ages, and when the time was right, You entered our world to change mankind's story. You are my Wonderful Counselor, my Mighty God, my Everlasting Father and my Prince of Peace. Thank you for changing my story. Be with those in my circle who do not know You and help me as I live out my life before them so that they may see You through me. Amen.

DO SOMETHING

1. Read through the Think About It and use it as a source of prayer this week.
2. **Read John 1:1-14** this week and meditate on how you could use these verses to reach the people you prayed for in the Discussion questions above.
3. Handel's *Messiah* has a song based solely on Isaiah 9: "For Unto Us a Child is Born." Listen to it this week to remind you of the message of hope and joy that Jesus brought to us on Christmas morning.