The Hope of Christmas
When the World Feels Dark

Isaiah 9:1-7 November 29, 2026

We live in a world that needs more than _____

_____

God _____ a _____ that _____ could not

_____

The child who came is the _____ who brings _____

_____

Questions to think about

1. When you hear the phrase "living in darkness," what comes to mind? What are some ways people experience darkness in their lives or in our world today?

2. Isaiah was speaking to people who were facing fear, oppression, and uncertainty. When life gets difficult, where are people tempted to look for hope or answers besides God?

3. Read Isaiah 9:2. How does knowing that God has not abandoned this world give you hope when life feels difficult?

4. Isaiah 9:4 reminds us of how God delivered Israel through Gideon. Why is it sometimes hard for us to trust God to do what we cannot do for ourselves?

5. Read Isaiah 9:6. Which of these descriptions of Jesus is especially meaningful to you right now, and why?

6. As we enter the Christmas season, what is one practical way you can keep your hope focused on Jesus rather than on your circumstances?

7. When you think about the hope Jesus offers, how is that different from the kind of hope the world usually offers?