

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

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GROWTH
GUIDE

Christmas
with
Isaiah



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The Sign Of The Savior

Our key verse this week is Isaiah 7:14. Below are some thoughts about the “sign” Isaiah prophesied about.

A. This sign is meant to arrest our attention

The sentence in v. 14 begins with the word listen or behold, which beckons our attention and calls us to be alert for the appearance of this sign and see what it means.

B. This sign proved God can do whatever He wills

The word sign is defined as a signal, a beacon, a monument - something obvious that serves the purpose of pointing us to a deeper truth, namely that God is intervening, that He's at work, that He is on duty, accomplishing what He intends in every situation.

C. This sign involves the birth of a son after an impossible pregnancy

The word for virgin in v. 14 refers to an unmarried woman who hadn't had sexual relations with a man. Isaiah is telling Ahaz and us to be looking for a miracle of creation that transcends natural laws. "Ahaz, find a pregnant woman who has never been married and has been chaste in all her dealings with men. This is My work. I am the Cause. See it as evidence, as a monument, a signal that I will do all that I purpose and none can stay My hand."

D. The Son would be God incarnate

The name Immanuel literally means, "The strong God with us." In other words, it is God Himself who is coming. He will dwell among us. He will set right what is wrong. He is change everything!

"Don't doubt Ahaz; believe! If My Spirit can overshadow a virgin, and My power rest upon her so that what is conceived in her is from Me, then I can protect you from any danger you face, provide for any need you have, and guide you to the exact center of My will. Trust me, Ahaz. Don't rely on what men or armies or coalition forces can do. Lean on Me!"

Seven hundred years after Isaiah spoke these words, a teenage girl who was betrothed to marry a man named Joseph had a visit from an angel, who told her that she was to be the human vehicle through whom the Messiah of God would come. And somewhere in the confusion of this surprising and miraculous pregnancy, we read the quote from an old prophet, who stood toe-to-toe with a king and announced to anyone who had ears to hear, "There is nothing too difficult for God. He is coming to this very city. It will be for all people. Trust Him with your problems, believe His promises, hang on when it feels too hard to hang on - and you will see what God can do."

KEY VERSE

Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV)

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Isaiah 7:1-14; Isaiah 1-3

Introduction

1. What are you most looking forward to this Christmas?
2. Most of this growth guide will focus on the sign that Isaiah mentions in Isaiah 7:14. From your reading, what is the context for Isaiah's prophesy?

Tuesday: Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26-34; Isaiah 4-6

The Virgin Birth Of Christ

3. Why do you think that the virgin birth of Christ was important?
4. What can we tell from today's reading about the importance of Jesus's birth?

Wednesday: II Peter 1:20-21; Romans 5:12-17; Isaiah 7-9

The Serious Matter Of The Virgin Birth

5. If the virgin birth were not true, what would that say about Isaiah's prophesy or the Bible itself?
6. Why was it necessary for Jesus to be born without sin and live a sinless life?

Thursday: Luke 1:34-37; Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 10-12

The Supernatural Nature Of The Virgin Birth

7. Do you believe in miracles? In what ways was Jesus's conception miraculous?
8. How would you have felt if you were Mary or Joseph receiving this word from Gabriel?
9. Is it easy or difficult for you to believe in miracles today? Why or why not?

Friday: Luke 1:38-47; Luke 2:10-11; Isaiah 13-15

The Saving Ministry Of The Virgin Birth

10. How is that Elizabeth could call Mary the mother of her Lord in Luke 1:43? In what way is Jesus both Elizabeth's and Mary's Lord?
11. How is Jesus your Lord?
12. The article on the cover referencing Jeremiah 32:27 says "There is nothing too difficult for God." If God can make this miraculous plan of salvation unfold in the life of Mary and Joseph and in your life today, how can that give you more confidence in God this Christmas?