



Week 2: God Gives Peace

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four crucial components for a group to maintain its health: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study the biblical passage in three steps: observation, interpretation, and application. As the group leader, you are free to use any part of this guide that can assist you in achieving this goal.

CONNECT

- When you think of “peace,” what comes to mind?
- Where in your life does peace feel most out of reach right now?
- Has conflict—internal or external—ever made it harder for you to trust God?

INTRODUCTION

Isaiah spoke God’s promise of peace into a world drowning in conflict. King Ahaz faced invasion, political pressure, and national fear. Into that crisis, God offered a sign—a promise that **He Himself would bring peace**, not through military strength or human strategy, but through the gift of **Immanuel, God with us**.

Centuries later, Matthew tells us this promise is fulfilled in the birth of Jesus—the **Prince of Peace**. Where we cannot secure peace for ourselves, **God gives what we lack**.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Isaiah 7:10–14; Isaiah 9:6–7; Matthew 1:22–23

- What sign does God offer to Ahaz, and how does Ahaz respond? Why does his refusal matter?
- In Isaiah 9, what titles are given to the promised Son? What do they communicate?
- How does Matthew understand the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy?
- Ahaz tried to secure peace through political maneuvering. What modern equivalents do people run to today?
- Why is it significant that God gives peace not through force but through **a Child**?

APPLICATION

- Where is conflict clouding your ability to trust God right now?
- In what ways do you try to “make your own peace” instead of receiving the peace God gives?
- Jesus is our peace—His life, death, resurrection, and return secure what we cannot. What aspect of His peace-giving work do you need most in this season?
- As people who have received peace through the Son, where is God inviting you to open your hands—relationally, spiritually, or sacrificially?

PRAYER

- Thank the Father for giving His Son—the Prince of Peace.
- Pray for the Spirit to quiet fear and strengthen trust where conflict is present.
- Pray for the peace of Christ to spread in your group, church, families, and city and for opportunities to extend God’s peace to others this Advent.