

WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AS A PEOPLE LONGING FOR PEACE!

Peace; (Hebrew) Shalom: God's Design for Shalom in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 1-2): Wholeness in our relationship with MAIN IDEA: Jesus, the Prince of Peace, fought for and won our peace.			
		For our struggle is not against flesh and bloc spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm. See Also – Revelation 12:1–17	~ EPHESIANS 6:12 (NIV)
			JESUS, THE PROMISED KING —
		 Every warrior's boot used in battle and eve For to us a child is born, to us a son is given And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Of the greatness of his government and 	a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. ry garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. n, and the government will be on his shoulders. Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. peace here will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."
He shall be called:	~ ISAIAH 9:2, 5-7a (NIV)		
Wonderful Counselor			
Wonderful: Amazing, Miracul	ous,		
Counselor:	, instructs and advices (see John 14:26).		
To get the benefit of a counselor you have to			
	" He who huilds according to every man's advice will have a crooked house."		

"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together." Colossians 1:16-17 (NIV)

"The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name." **Exodus 15:3** (NIV)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." **John 1:1** (NIV)

Mighty God

God is a Mighty

Jesus as Mighty God

- DANISH PROVERB

God the Everlasting Father Compared to Four Types of Dysfunctional Dads

The Dad.

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you, in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing." ~ ZEPHANIAH 3:17 (N/V)

The Dad.

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." ~ LUKE 15:20b (N/V)

The Dad.

Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." ~ HEBREWS 13:5b (NIV)

The Dad.

The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness," ~ EXODUS 34:6b (NIV)

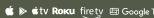
The Prince of Peace

The Promise of the Angels

- Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." ~ LUKE 2:14 (KING JAMES VERSION)
- Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." ~ LUKE 2:14 (NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION)
- Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" ~ LUKE 2:14 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS available on the APP | & tv Roku firety Google TV



- 1 Describe your perfect "Christmas peace" Contrast the "Hallmark-movie" idea of peace with the biblical concept of shalom. When you think of "Christmas peace," which version comes to mind first? Why do you think that is?
- **2** Revelation 12 reveals the spiritual war behind the Christmas story. How does seeing Christmas as part of a spiritual battle change the way you understand Jesus' birth and the kind of peace He brings?
- 3 We often hear Jesus' counsel but don't always follow it. Where do you most struggle to trust and obey Jesus' counsel right now? How might obedience in that area lead to deeper peace?
- 4 Jesus is both fully human and fully God-close enough to touch, strong enough to trust. Which part of "Mighty God" do you need most right now-His strength to hold things together, or His power to rescue you from something? Why?
- **5** Many people have challenges with their earthly father. Which aspect of the Everlasting Father-His delight, His nearness, His protection, or His patience—brings you the most comfort? How does this reshape your view of God?
- 6 Often we want Jesus' peace without submitting to Him as King. What is one practical area of life where Jesus is inviting you to let Him be "Prince"—to reign—so He can bring His peace there?

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