

# 3

## Leader Guide

# Jesus is Our Life

*December 18, 2022*

**Main Passage: Isaiah 7:10-17**

## Theological Theme

In one of the darkest times in the history of Judah, God promised to give them a sign of His faithful commitment to deliver them through the coming birth of His Son Jesus. At the right time and as predicted, God showed His love for us by sending Jesus to be Immanuel, God is with us.

## Introduction

- ❓ When have you struggled because you couldn't access certain confirmation information?
- ❓ Why do you think we desire confirmation so much?

## 1. The Offer (Isaiah 7:10-12)

With the situation in his country on shaky and uncertain ground, King Ahaz faced the choice of who to trust. Should he form an alliance with the Assyrians or trust in the Lord?

- ❓ When have you struggled with trusting and believing God instead of the circumstances you could see?
- ❓ How have you ever tested God or received confirmation from the Lord about a situation you were facing?
- ❓ Application: What do you need to obey God about instead of trusting in earthly answers?

## 2. The Sign (Isaiah 7:13-15)

Ahaz refused God's offer of confirmation and passed it off as not wanting to test God when really, he didn't want to rely on God. When someone chooses to rely on other people instead of God it shows that they distrust the Lord. Isaiah called out that distrust in Ahaz.

- ❓ Many of us know refusing godly help is foolish. Why is it still often tempting to rely on ourselves or others over God?
- ❓ How does it encourage and challenge you that the Lord will never forsake you regardless of your circumstances?
- ❓ Application: What does "God is with us" mean to you? How might you have taken that access to God for granted?

### 3. The Answer (Isaiah 7:16-17)

The prophecy also included assurance that the evil princes who were terrorizing Judah were facing a time limit from God. He specified that before the child—not Jesus but Ahaz’s own child—grew two or three years old those two kings would be destroyed and their land forsaken.

- ❓ How do you think it affected Ahaz to hear both those pieces of news at the same time?
- ❓ How have you noticed your focus on good or bad circumstances affecting the rest of your life?
- ❓ Application: How have you disobeyed God by turning to someone or something other than Him? What will you do differently now?

### Questions to Guide Your Group’s Discussion

- ❓ What does this passage say?
- ❓ What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about man?
- ❓ What does this passage demand of me?
- ❓ How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
- ❓ How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

\*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

### Here’s How to Become a Christ-Follower:

*Read the following verses and ask after each one: “What does this say to me?”*

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

### Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).