Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

* * *	WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR?	
		
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December 2023 Week One Preteen



Day 1

Watch this week's episode of The So & So Show by going to: https://bit.ly/PreteenSundaysatHome

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

Day 2

Read Isaiah 9:6-7

As you read through Isaiah 9:6-7, put a star next to the descriptions of the prophesied Savior below that jump out at you—things that you have experienced as you trust Jesus and that give you hope.

- Wonderful Adviser (Counselor)
- Mighty God
- ► Father Who Lives Forever (Everlasting Father)
- Prince Who Brings Peace (Prince of Peace)
- **■** Limitless authority
- Never-ending peace
- Fair and right ruler

Jot down a phrase or word next to the descriptions you starred explaining how you have experienced Jesus in that way. Hold on to this paper because you will use it tomorrow!

Day 3

Look back at the descriptions of Jesus in the list from yesterday.

Isn't it amazing to think that God shared all these things about Jesus to the prophet Isaiah long before Jesus was born—and Jesus fulfilled each and every one! That shows us just how faithful God is and how you can have hope because God is faithful. Fill in the blanks below with one of the descriptions you starred yesterday. Then take a few minutes to pray and thank God for being faithful and giving us hope!

Dear God, thank You for sending us
Jesus, the Savior You promised. The
way you fulfilled every prophesy
when You sent Jesus shows me that
I can have hope! I am especially
thankful for how You showed
me You are a [or that you offer]
______when
You _____, I love

You. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

Day 4

Take the Day 1 Devo page with you and head out to interview a couple of friends or family members.

Ask each person this question: What are you hoping for? (in regards to something challenging or unknown) Then scan the paper together and find a description of Jesus that matches the problem that you've been having. (For example, maybe your friend is hoping that they can stop fighting with their brother or sister ... then the description of Jesus as the Prince of Peace may bring comfort to your friend!)

Find another friend or family member and repeat the same exercise. Hopefully everyone you talk to will leave the conversation feeling more hopeful because of God's faithfulness!



Day 5

Yesterday, you asked other people what they were hoping for.

Today, it's time to ask yourself the same question. What are you hoping for?

Maybe it's a passing grade in school or that your family won't have to move.

Or perhaps it's for everyone in your family to get along at Christmas. Write whatever it is down here: (a)

Now write down the characteristic of Jesus from Isaiah 9:6-7 that gives you hope in that situation: (b)

Place this sheet somewhere you'll see it each day—and when you do, talk to God about (a) and then thank Jesus for being (b).

Even if things don't turn out exactly as you hope, leaning into who Jesus is and His faithfulness will help you make it through the hard times!

