

RADIANT

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL



To understand how Jesus is our hope in gloom and darkness and what it practically looks like to live with this hope.

ICE BREAKER



As we enter into Advent (the weeks leading up to Christmas), share your favorite Christmas tradition and what you do to remember the meaning of Christmas (Immanuel, God with us).

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Isaiah 9:1-2

9 But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: The coming of Christ is the light of hope.

Key Question: How is Jesus the hope we need?

1. With Jesus, our gloom is overcome with glory. (v. 1)
2. With Jesus, our darkness is overcome with light. (v. 2)

DISCUSSION



- This week’s passage is about Jesus and the hope he brings to the world. How would you define hope, and why do you think it’s essential for life?
- In what ways have you experienced the “gloom” described in Isaiah 9:1? How does the promise of Jesus transforming gloom into glory resonate with you?
- Isaiah 9:2 speaks of light overcoming darkness. How have you experienced Jesus as a light in a season of personal darkness?
- When life feels overwhelming or despairing, where do you tend to seek hope? How does Jesus offer a different kind of hope?
- Read 2 Corinthians 4:6 & 16-18. Isaiah uses past tense verbs to describe future events, showing confidence in God’s promises (Isaiah 9:2; see Matthew 4:13-17). How can this perspective of “seeing with the eyes of faith” shape how we approach challenges today?

LIFE APPLICATION



This week’s passage speaks to the hope we have in Jesus to overcome gloom and bring light to our darkness! As a group, discuss how you can share the hope of Jesus with people in your life this holiday season.

jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


