

*Thank God that his power is available to you. Ask him to help you apply that power to the hard times you may be facing.*

### **Thursday**

How well do you know your perfect heavenly Father? If you don't know him well enough, do you realize that you can do something about it? He is waiting to reveal himself to you in his Word! Please read Psalm 46. What does this psalm tell you about your Everlasting Father?

*Thank God for being your perfect heavenly father. Ask him to help you understand more and more of who he is and to rest in those truths.*

### **Friday**

Please read Isaiah 12. What is the theme of this chapter? What do you have to praise God for in the area of:

Your salvation and forgiveness:

Your spiritual growth:

Your church family:

Your friends and family:

Your health:

Small pleasures God sends your way:

Anything else?

### **Saturday**

Please pray for our services and special events at FCC during this Advent and Christmas season: the Live Nativity (12/21-22 from 6:00-8:30 PM), and the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (12/24 at 5:00 PM). Pray that in each service or event the Good News

of Jesus Christ would be communicated effectively. Pray about someone you might invite!



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# Simply Christmas

The Simple & True Story of the Incarnation

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, December 11, 2016

## **God's Gift to You this Christmas**

*"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

Isaiah 9:6

## **The causes of anxiety in Isaiah's time (and ours!?):**

### **Depressed**

*"Your silver has become dross, your choice wine is diluted with water."* Isaiah 1:22

*"The great houses will become desolate, the fine mansions left without occupants."* Isaiah 5:9b

### **Damaging**

*"Your country is desolate, your cities burned with fire; your fields are being stripped by foreigners right before you...."* Isaiah 1:7

### **Displaced**

*"They do not defend the cause of the fatherless; the widow's case does not come before them."* Isaiah 1:23b

### **Destructive**

*"Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt...."* Isaiah 1:4a

## **Through Jesus Christ, God gives me...**

### **The gift of**

*"And he will be called Wonderful Counselor..."*

**This gift \_\_\_\_\_ me**

**The gift of \_\_\_\_\_**

*“And he will be called... Mighty God”*

*“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.” Ephesians 1:18-20*

**This gift \_\_\_\_\_ me**

**The gift of \_\_\_\_\_**

*“And he will be called... Everlasting Father”*

*“He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ...” Ephesians 1:5*

**This gift \_\_\_\_\_ me**

**The gift of \_\_\_\_\_**

*“And he will be called... the Prince of Peace.”*

*“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1*

*“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7*

**This gift \_\_\_\_\_ me**

**How can I enjoy God’s gift?**

*“...and the government will be on his shoulders...”*

**The key: I allow God to \_\_\_\_\_**

## Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today’s topic!

### **This week’s memory verse:**

*“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6*

### **Monday**

Please read Isaiah 9:6 again. In what areas of your life do you need to see these four aspects of Jesus: Where do you need his “Wonderful Counsel”? Where do you need the power of the “Mighty God”? How do you need to sense the love of your “Everlasting Father”? Where are you restless and need the “Prince of Peace”?

*Take some time today to write a prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to save you, using Isaiah 9:6 as a template for your prayer. Now pray your written prayer—thank God today for all the ways he meets your needs.*

### **Tuesday**

Please read Matthew 6:8-9 and Philippians 4:19. Have you ever been perplexed or unsure of which alternative is best when making a decision? Have you ever been discouraged over a relationship with a friend or a sibling? Jesus is your Wonderful Counselor and his advice and guidance can be trusted and is unparalleled.

*Thank God for his guidance in your life.*

### **Wednesday**

Please read Luke 1:26-38. Do you know that nothing is impossible with God (verse 37)? The angel Gabriel spoke these words to Mary to reassure her when he appeared to her with the news of her pregnancy. However, at times you may say to yourself, “I can’t do this” or “There is no way out”. Jesus is your Mighty God! Please read Ephesians 1:18-20. His power will help you through your difficult times.