



Best Gift Ever 2 – A Wise Comforter Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

Isaiah 7:14 – All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means, 'God is with us').

Isaiah 9:6-7 – For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end.

Reflection Questions:

- Eddie shared some of his best gifts, what is the best gift you've ever received?
- Read Isaiah 7:14 and Isaiah 9:6-7. Imagine how this prophecy gave hope and wonder for the coming messiah. How can this passage bring hope into your season?
- Jesus is a wonder. How well have you been doing maintaining a sense of wonder for Jesus?
- Cynicism can sneak into our lives in subtle way. Is there any area of your life where cynicism has begun to creep into?
- Eddie shared the following two pieces of advice below. Which one of these could you put out to practice this week?
 - Refuse to project what someone did onto everyone.
 - Refuse to project the past onto the future.
- Living with a sense of wonder is a choice. If you made this choice this week, how would it affect the season you're in?

Want some resources and ideas for how to grow spiritually during the Advent and Christmas seasons?

Visit www.wschurch.org/advent.

Message Main Points and Scripture:

- Isaiah 7:14 – All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means, ‘God is with us’).
- Isaiah 9:6-7 – For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end.
- **Jesus is a wonder.**
- “I hope I never recover from this. I hope that I can maintain what I feel now.” – William Shatner
- Ecclesiastes 1:2 – “Everything is meaningless, completely meaningless!”
- Ecclesiastes 1:3 – What do people get for all their hard work under the sun? Generations come and generations go, but the earth never changes. The sun rises and the sun sets, then hurries around to rise again. The wind blows south, and then turns north. Around and around it goes, blowing in circles.
- **Wonderless people often start out as idealistic people**
- **Most wonderless people claim to be realists.**
- **Most wonderless people obsess over frustrations.**
- **Most wonderless people are reluctant to admire others.**
- **Most wonderless people have an incessant need to express opinions.**
- Psalm 18:2 – Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions.
- **Most wonderless people denigrate when they disagree**
- Luke 11:15 - Some of them said, “No wonder he can cast out demons. He gets his power from Satan, the prince of demons.”
- **Refuse to project what someone did onto everyone**
- Ecclesiastes 1:9 - History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new.
- **Refuse to project the past onto the future**
- Ecclesiastes 3:16 - , “I also noticed that under the sun there is evil in the courtroom. Yes, even the courts of law are corrupt.”
- **Living with a sense of wonder is a choices**