



Prophets Point to Jesus | November 29

Bible Story: Isaiah 7; 9; 11; Micah 5

Key Passage: Galatians 4:4-6

Big Picture : Jesus is here, exactly as God promised. So I can trust He will always be here.

Context: When Adam and Eve introduced sin into the world, all of creation fell under a curse. (See Gen 3:17-19) We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. We've inherited the curse of death from Adam. (See Rom 3:23; 5:12)

Throughout the Old Testament, the consequences of sin are obvious. God's people were separated from Him; they did not enjoy the intimate relationship with their Creator for which He had created them. God's people were affected by sickness and pain. Corruption spread quickly throughout the earth. The situation seemed hopeless, yet God did not leave His people without hope.

It was into this hopelessness that God spoke. Hundreds of messages came through the prophets concerning a coming Messiah- One who would rescue people from their sins. But when would this Promised One come? How would He come? Would the people recognize Him?

The prophets Isaiah and Micah- who both lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born- spoke specifically of the Messiah's birth. Isaiah told King Ahaz what the Lord would do. "The virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel" (Isa 7:14). He described the birth of a Prince of Peace - a Son of David who will reign forever. (Isa 9:6-7) Isaiah said that He would be King! (Isa 11:1-5) The prophet Micah named the specific town - Bethlehem- in which Jesus would be born. (Mic 5:2)

As you teach kids about the prophecies concerning Jesus' birth, help them understand that everything God said about Jesus' birth came true. Hundreds of years later, Jesus was born into the world. God's plan to rescue people from sin was not a secret plan. God gave His people hope: A Savior is coming. Though death came from Adam, life comes through Christ. (1 Cor 15:22) Through His death on the cross, Jesus finished the work for our salvation. In Him lies our hope for forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus reconciles to God those who trust Him.

Babies - 4 year olds activities

Social: Tell the Christmas Story with Toy Manger scenes

Sing a Christmas Song

Play Bible Story Video

What's in a Name? Using Jesus' names fill in the outline of Jesus' name with stickers. As kids put the name stickers on Jesus' name, remind them of what each name means. Wonderful Counselor = miraculous ruler, Mighty God = God strength and power , Everlasting Father=he is eternal in all that He is and all that He does , Prince of Peace=the one who removes all peace-disturbing factors and secures the peace, Tell kids that Jesus name means all of these things because of what God shows us in the Bible. These are not man made meanings. Jesus is truly all of these things for us so that we can have a Savior.

Pray and Dismiss- Share the Key passage with families and invite them to come back next week to hear more about the Christmas story.

Coloring Page: Jesse Tree and activity page

Discussion Questions:

- What did prophets do? (Prophets told about the Messiah)
- What does the name Immanuel mean? (Immanuel means God with us)
- What did all of Jesus' names tell us about Him? (They told us who Jesus is and what great things He would do.)
- Where did the prophet Micah say Jesus would be born? (in Bethlehem)
- Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to rescue us and give us the best gift ever, forgiveness of sins and life with God forever.
- Why do you think God gave people hints through the prophets about the promised Messiah? (Lead kids to consider that God's promises gave the people hope for the future. Prophecies also helped the people recognize Jesus as the promised Messiah- Heb 1:1-2)
- How do you think God's people felt while they waited hundreds of years for the Messiah? How do you feel waiting for Jesus' second coming? (Invite kids to share their feelings about waiting for Jesus to return. Explain that we don't know when Jesus will return but we wait expectantly for Him- Mark 13:33-34)