

Isaiah 9:1-7

Describe a time when you've been in a situation with no lights. How did you feel? How did you make light or cope with the darkness?

Read Isaiah 9:1-7

In verse 1, it describes "those who were in distress." Who were they? What was their situation (see Isaiah 8:11-22; 9:1)?

What is God promising to do in the future in verse 1?

What has been observed by the people in verse 2?

What do you think is meant by the "land of deep darkness" (v. 2)?

What has happened to bring joy to Israel (vv. 3-5)?

How has this occurrence happened (v. 6)?

What titles and terms are used to describe the child (vv. 6-7)? What will be the child's role (v. 7)?

Read John 1:1-14 & Luke 2:10-11, 25-32

Whom are these writers saying fulfils Isaiah 9?

List the various fulfillments made in the coming of the promised child.

What is Jesus doing now according to Isaiah 9:7?

How should we respond to and feel about the fulfilment of God's promises in Jesus (look at the responses mentioned in Isaiah 9:1-7; John 1:9-13; Luke 2:14, 29)?

Isaiah 42:1-9

When it comes to thinking of the world's greatest problems, what are some current issues that our world is seeking to remedy?

Read Isaiah 42:1-9

Who is the subject of this passage?

How are we told does God relate to him (v. 1)?

What is God's servant going to do for the nations (v. 1)?

How will he do this (vv. 2-4)?

Why do you think careful pain is taken to describe God by what he does (v. 5)?

Put in your own words what God says in verses 6-9. Try put it in a few sentences or dot points.

What is emphasised in verse 6?

Why is a "light for the nations" needed? What God's purpose in this (v. 7)?

Read Matthew 12:15-21

How does Jesus fulfil the prophecy of Isaiah 42?

List the various fulfillments made in the coming of the promised servant.

According to Isaiah 42:1-9, what major achievement was Jesus going to bring?
How did he do this (see Acts 17:31)?

In what ways may justice be a good thing and something to be longed for?

In what ways may justice seem harsh and shouldn't be longed for? Why?

How would you explain God's justice to a non-Christian?