

God Promises a Savior Through the Prophets

Week 35 | Sunday, August 30, 2026 | Ages 6 to 10

LESSON OVERVIEW

Primary Scripture: Isaiah 9:1 to 7 and Isaiah 52:13 through 53:12

Bible Timeline Placement: The time of the prophets, hundreds of years before Jesus was born

Big Idea: God promised to send Jesus, our Savior and forever King.

MEMORY VERSE

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given."

Isaiah 9:6

WHAT THE MEMORY VERSE MEANS

Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, God promised that a special Son was coming.

That Son is Jesus.

We will say this verse several times today, because by the end of our lesson, I hope you understand just how wonderful this promise really was.

MAIN LESSON NARRATIVE

Read this section aloud as one flowing lesson.

Have you ever been in a room when all the lights went out?

Maybe it happened during a storm.

One moment you could see your bed, the door, the chair, and everything around you. Then suddenly the room became dark.

You might reach out with your hands because you are not sure what is in front of you.

You might walk more slowly.

Even a room you know can feel different when you cannot see.

Now imagine something with me.

Imagine that the darkness does not last for only a few minutes.

Imagine that people around you are frightened about what will happen tomorrow.

There are enemies nearby.

Leaders are making bad choices.

People are hurting each other.

Many people have stopped trusting God.

That was the kind of world a man named Isaiah lived in.

Isaiah lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born.

God had chosen Isaiah to be a prophet.

A prophet was someone God chose to speak His message.

Isaiah was not guessing about the future.

He was not making up ideas about God.

God gave Isaiah a message, and Isaiah spoke that message to the people.
Sometimes God's message was difficult to hear.
God's people had wandered away from Him.
They had been unkind.
They had worshiped false gods.
They had trusted people and armies more than they trusted God.
They had sinned.
Sin means choosing what is wrong instead of God's good way.
And the people could not fix everything they had broken.
They needed help.
They needed rescue.
They needed God.
Isaiah used a picture to describe what life had become.
He called it darkness.
Let us hear what God said.

Teacher, read Isaiah 9:2 aloud.

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light."

Isaiah 9:2

A great light was coming.
Think again about that dark room.
What happens when someone turns on the light?
You can see.
You know where you are.
You can see where to walk.
The darkness is still real, but the light is stronger.
God was telling His people something wonderful.
Darkness would not have the final word.
Someone was coming.
God was going to send light into their darkness.
But who was coming?
Isaiah tells us.
This is our memory verse, so let us say it together.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given."

Isaiah 9:6

Did you hear that?
A child would be born.
A Son would be given.
I have wondered what the people thought when Isaiah first said those words.

They had big problems.

They were afraid of kings and armies.

And God began His promise by talking about a child.

But this would not be an ordinary child.

Listen to the rest of Isaiah 9:6.

Teacher, read Isaiah 9:6 aloud.

Isaiah gives this promised Son some amazing names.

Wonderful Counselor.

Mighty God.

Everlasting Father.

Prince of Peace.

One of those names should really catch our attention.

Mighty God.

This promised Son would be more than another human king.

The Bible later helps us understand what Isaiah was beginning to show.

Jesus is truly a man, but Jesus is also truly God.

Jesus is God the Son.

The Bible teaches us that God is one God in three Persons.

God the Father.

God the Son, Jesus.

God the Holy Spirit.

There are not three gods.

There is one God.

The Father is God.

Jesus the Son is God.

The Holy Spirit is God.

They are three Persons, but one God.

We do not need to compare God to an egg, water, or anything else.

Nothing God made is exactly like God.

We simply trust what God tells us about Himself.

Isaiah also called this promised King Everlasting Father.

That does not mean Jesus is God the Father.

Jesus is God the Son.

That name helps us understand that this King would care for His people forever.

And Isaiah had even more to say about Him.

Teacher, read Isaiah 9:7 aloud.

Isaiah said that His kingdom would never end.

Think about every king who has ever lived.

Every king eventually stopped being king.
Every president eventually leaves office.
Every leader grows older.
But God promised a King whose kingdom would never end.
The people had not met Him yet.
They did not know His name.
But God did.
Years began to pass.
Children grew up.
Those children became parents.
More children were born.
Kings came and went.
Nations became powerful and then became weak.
Still, God's promise remained.
A Son is coming.
A King is coming.
Light is coming.
Then God gave Isaiah another message about the One who was coming.
This time the picture looked very different.
Instead of seeing a King on a throne, Isaiah saw someone who would suffer.
The Bible calls Him the Servant.
A servant is someone who does the work he has been given.
God's Servant would be rejected.
He would be hurt.
He would suffer.
And this is where the promise becomes very personal for you and me.
Listen to Isaiah 53:5.

Teacher, read Isaiah 53:5 aloud.

"He was pierced for our transgressions."

Isaiah 53:5

There is a word in that verse you may not know.
Transgressions.
It means sins.
The Servant would be hurt because of our sins.
But why would He suffer for our sins?
Isaiah gives us a picture that makes this easier to understand.

Teacher, read Isaiah 53:6 aloud.

"We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way."

Isaiah 53:6

Have you ever seen sheep?

Sheep can wander.

A sheep may start walking away from the shepherd.

Then it goes a little farther.

Then a little farther.

Before long, the sheep is far from where it should be.

Isaiah says we are like that with God.

God made us.

God loves us.

God knows what is good.

But every one of us has chosen our own way instead of God's way.

Maybe you have broken something and tried to hide it.

Maybe you have blamed someone else for something you did.

Maybe someone made you angry and you said something because you wanted to hurt them back.

Maybe you knew the right thing to do, but you chose the wrong thing anyway.

Adults do that too.

Your teacher needs God's forgiveness.

I need God's forgiveness.

Every one of us does.

Isaiah did not say that only terrible people wander.

He said, "We all."

That means me.

That means you.

We have all sinned.

And we cannot make our sin disappear by doing enough good things afterward.

Imagine that you tell a lie on Monday.

Then on Tuesday you help someone clean up a mess.

Helping is good.

But helping on Tuesday does not make Monday's lie disappear.

Good things do not erase our sin.

We need forgiveness.

We need someone who can rescue us.

We need a Savior.

And that is why Isaiah's next words are so important.

The Servant would suffer for the people who had wandered.

He would take the place of sinners.

He would carry what belonged to us.

Hundreds of years before the cross, God was already telling His people that the Savior would come.
Now imagine the years passing again.
One hundred years.
Then another hundred.
Then another.
People lived and died while God's promise remained.
A child will be born.
A Son will be given.
Then one day, in a little town called Bethlehem, the waiting ended.
The child was born.
His name was Jesus.
We are going to spend much more time in Bethlehem next week.
For today, I want us to understand something before we ever see the manger.
Jesus did not arrive because God suddenly thought of a rescue plan.
God had promised Him long before that night in Bethlehem.
Jesus grew up.
He taught people about God.
He loved people others ignored.
He welcomed children.
He touched people others were afraid to touch.
He healed sick people.
He forgave sins.
And Jesus never sinned.
Jesus was exactly who God's people needed.
But then something happened that looked terrible.
Jesus was arrested.
People lied about Him.
He was beaten.
He was nailed to a cross.
Jesus died.
If we only remembered the promise about the King, we might wonder what had gone wrong.
How could the promised King die?
But Isaiah had already given us another picture.
Remember the Servant.
Remember what Isaiah said.
"He was pierced for our transgressions."
Jesus did not die because God's plan failed.
Jesus died as part of God's plan to save us.

Our sin deserves God's judgment because God is good and sin is evil.

But Jesus loves us.

He willingly took our place.

He carried our sin on the cross.

Jesus died for sinners like us.

That is why we call Him our Savior.

A teacher can show you what is right.

A Savior rescues you when you cannot rescue yourself.

We needed more than someone to tell us to behave better.

We needed Jesus.

Jesus died.

His friends placed His body in a tomb.

A large stone was put in front of it.

For a little while, it looked dark again.

But darkness was not going to have the final word.

On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead.

He is alive.

The grave could not keep Him.

The Savior who suffered is also the King who lives forever.

Do you remember Isaiah's promise?

His kingdom will never end.

The King came.

The King died for us.

The King rose again.

And the King is alive.

Let us say our memory verse again.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given."

Isaiah 9:6

The people in Isaiah's time could say those words and wait.

We can say those words and know His name.

Jesus.

There is another part of this lesson I think you are old enough to understand.

Sometimes someone may ask you a hard question about the Bible.

Maybe someone could say, "What if Christians wrote those words in Isaiah after Jesus lived? Maybe they changed the Bible afterward."

We do not have to be afraid when someone asks a question.

Questions can help us learn.

We are learning three questions that help us think carefully.

First, what does the Bible really say?

Second, what do we know from history or science?

Third, what are we only guessing about?

Let us try them.

What does the Bible really say?

Isaiah really did write about the promised Son.

Isaiah really did write about the suffering Servant.

Those words are there.

What do we know from history?

Many years ago, people found very old Bible scrolls in caves near the Dead Sea.

A scroll is something people wrote on before books looked like the books we use today.

One of those old scrolls contains the book of Isaiah.

That copy was made more than one hundred years before Jesus was born.

That means something very simple and very important.

Christians did not write Isaiah's words after Jesus came.

The words were already there.

Now our third question.

What are we only guessing about?

That old scroll does not prove everything Christians believe.

It does not prove by itself that Jesus rose from the dead.

The scroll helps us know that Isaiah's words were written before Jesus came.

Then we look at what the New Testament tells us about Jesus.

We do not need to make evidence sound bigger than it really is.

God's truth does not need us to exaggerate.

And if someone asks us something we truly do not know, there is nothing wrong with saying, "I do not know because the Bible does not tell us."

That can be an honest answer.

Now I want to return to the place where we began.

Darkness.

Some kinds of darkness are easy to understand.

A dark bedroom.

A storm that knocks out the lights.

But sometimes children feel another kind of darkness.

Maybe someone at school said something cruel, and you thought about it all day.

Maybe Mom and Dad have been upset, and you are worried about what will happen.

Maybe someone you love is sick.

Maybe you are scared about something at school.

Maybe you did something wrong, and you wish you could hide it from everyone.

Those things can feel heavy inside.
Following Jesus does not mean you will never feel sad or afraid.
It does not mean everyone you love will always be healthy.
It does not mean every prayer will be answered exactly the way you hoped.
God has never asked us to pretend painful things do not hurt.
You can tell Him when you are scared.
You can tell Him when you are sad.
You can tell Him when you do not understand.
And when the darkness comes from something you have done, you can tell Him that too.
You do not have to hide your sin from Jesus.
He already knows.
And He came to save sinners.
Turning from sin means we stop pretending our sin is good or making excuses for it.
We agree with God that it is wrong, and we turn toward Him.
Trusting Jesus means we stop trying to save ourselves and depend on what Jesus has done for us.
Jesus died for our sins.
Jesus rose again.
Everyone who turns from sin and trusts Jesus is forgiven and receives new life from God.
We are not saved because we know special words.
We are not saved because we are better than other people.
We are saved because Jesus did what we could never do for ourselves.
And Jesus does not save us and then leave us alone.
God gives the Holy Spirit to His people.
The Holy Spirit helps us know God's truth, follow Jesus, and grow to become more like Him.
God the Father sent the Son.
Jesus the Son came to save.
The Holy Spirit works in God's people.
God is one God in three Persons.
Father.
Son.
Holy Spirit.
Now think about Isaiah again.
He lived hundreds of years before Bethlehem.
He did not get to stand beside the manger.
He did not watch Jesus grow up.
He did not stand near the empty tomb on the morning Jesus rose.
Isaiah heard God's promise.
And he trusted the God who made it.

We live on the other side of that promise.
We know the child's name.
We know what the Savior came to do.
We know the tomb did not stay closed.
And because Jesus rose from the dead, we know our hope is not resting on a dead hero from long ago.
Jesus is alive.
That matters when you are happy.
It matters when you are frightened.
It matters when someone hurts you.
It matters when you have sinned.
It matters when you pray and do not know what will happen next.
God has already shown how far His love goes.
He sent His Son.
Jesus went to the cross for us.
Jesus rose again.
And Jesus will be King forever.
Next week, we are going to walk into Bethlehem together.
We will meet Mary and Joseph.
We will hear about shepherds.
We will see where Jesus was laid after He was born.
But when we see that little baby, I hope you remember what you learned today.
He is not just any baby.
He is the promised Son.
He is the Savior.
He is God the Son.
He is the King whose kingdom will never end.
The people waited hundreds of years for God to keep His promise.
And God did.
Let us say the promise one final time.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given."

Isaiah 9:6

Who is the Son?

Jesus.

Why did He come?

To save sinners like us.

Did death defeat Him?

No.

Jesus rose again.

And who is our forever King?

Jesus.

The darkness did not win.

God kept His promise.

Jesus came.

WHY WE CAN TRUST THIS ACCOUNT

Teacher Notes

Keep this section simple if you review it with the children.

The Bible comes first.

Isaiah 9 speaks about the promised Son.

Isaiah 53 describes the Servant who would suffer because of the sins of others.

The New Testament connects these passages to Jesus.

There is also helpful historical evidence.

The Great Isaiah Scroll is an ancient copy of Isaiah made more than a century before Jesus' earthly life. It contains the book of Isaiah, including the passages studied this week.

This evidence shows that Christians did not write these prophecies after Jesus lived.

Do not tell children that the scroll proves Jesus rose from the dead. It does not.

It shows that Isaiah's words were already written before Jesus came.

Continue teaching the children to ask:

1. What does the Bible really say?
2. What do we know from history or science?
3. What are we only guessing about?

WHAT THIS SHOWS US ABOUT JESUS

Jesus is the promised Son of Isaiah 9.

Jesus is God the Son.

Jesus is our Savior.

Jesus lived without sin.

Jesus died for our sins.

Jesus rose from the dead.

Jesus is our forever King.

The whole lesson should leave children understanding that Jesus was not God's emergency plan.

God had promised the Savior long before Bethlehem.

GOD REVEALED AS TRINITY

Teach the children this sentence clearly:

God is one God in three Persons.

The three Persons are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Father is God.

Jesus the Son is God.

The Holy Spirit is God.

There is one God, not three gods.

Do not use objects such as eggs, water, or clovers to explain the Trinity.

Isaiah 9:6 calls the promised Son “Mighty God.”

The title “Everlasting Father” does not mean Jesus is God the Father. The Bible clearly distinguishes the Father and the Son.

LIFE APPLICATION

Children should leave knowing they can come honestly to Jesus.

When they are afraid, they can pray.

When they are sad, they can pray.

When they have questions, they can ask them.

When they sin, they can confess their sin instead of hiding it.

Do not promise children that trusting Jesus will make every painful situation disappear.

Their hope rests in something stronger.

Jesus loves them.

Jesus died for sinners.

Jesus rose again.

Jesus remains with His people.

Jesus is King forever.

DEFENDING THE TRUTH

A Child Might Ask: “How do we know Christians did not write Isaiah after Jesus?”

We have an ancient copy of Isaiah that was written before Jesus was born. That copy contains the words we are studying today.

What We Can Honestly Say

The ancient scroll shows us that Isaiah's words were already there before Jesus came.

What We Should Not Claim

The scroll does not by itself prove everything Christians believe.

A Kind Way to Answer

“We know Isaiah was written before Jesus because very old copies of Isaiah from before Jesus still exist.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS WITH SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. What was a prophet?

Suggested Answer: A prophet was someone God chose to speak the message God gave him.

2. What picture did Isaiah use for the trouble and sin around God's people?

Suggested Answer: Darkness.

3. What did God promise would come into the darkness?

Suggested Answer: A great light.

4. What did Isaiah say would be born?

Suggested Answer: A child would be born, and a Son would be given.

5. Who is the promised Son?

Suggested Answer: Jesus.

6. Why did Isaiah compare people to sheep?

Suggested Answer: Sheep wander away, and people have wandered away from God through sin.

7. What is sin?

Suggested Answer: Sin is choosing what is wrong instead of God's good way.

8. Can doing good things erase our sin?

Suggested Answer: No. Good things are good, but they cannot erase our sin. We need Jesus to forgive and save us.

9. Why did Jesus die?

Suggested Answer: Jesus died for our sins.

10. Did Jesus stay dead?

Suggested Answer: No. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day.

11. What does the old Isaiah scroll help us know?

Suggested Answer: It helps us know that Isaiah's words were written before Jesus came.

12. What can we say when the Bible does not tell us something?

Suggested Answer: "I do not know because the Bible does not tell us."

OPTIONAL DEEPER QUESTIONS

1. Why is Jesus different from every other king?

Suggested Answer: Jesus is God the Son, He rose from the dead, and His kingdom will never end.

2. Does following Jesus mean nothing bad will ever happen?

Suggested Answer: No. Christians still face hard things, but Jesus loves His people and remains with them.

3. Why did God tell people about Jesus hundreds of years before He came?

Suggested Answer: God was showing His people that He had a rescue plan and had not forgotten His promise.

4. What does it mean to trust Jesus?

Suggested Answer: It means depending on Jesus to save us instead of trying to save ourselves.

HANDS ON ACTIVITY

THE PROMISE PATH

Purpose: Help children remember the whole lesson through five simple pictures and truths.

Supplies: Five sheets of paper; one marker; tape if needed.

Before Class

Write one word on each sheet:

- DARKNESS
- PROMISE
- CROSS
- EMPTY TOMB
- KING

Place the papers across the floor in that order.

STEP ONE

Stand beside DARKNESS.

What is the biggest problem every person has?

Suggested Answer: Sin.

Say:

"We have all wandered away from God's good way."

STEP TWO

Move to PROMISE.

Say the memory verse together:

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given." Isaiah 9:6

Who did God promise?

Suggested Answer: Jesus.

STEP THREE

Move to CROSS.

Why did Jesus die?

Suggested Answer: Jesus died for our sins.

STEP FOUR

Move to EMPTY TOMB.

Did Jesus stay dead?

Suggested Answer: No. Jesus rose again.

STEP FIVE

Move to KING.

Whose kingdom will never end?

Suggested Answer: Jesus' kingdom.

SECOND TIME THROUGH

Walk the path again.

This time allow the children to tell the lesson with as little teacher help as possible.

Darkness.

We sinned.

Promise.

God promised Jesus.

Cross.

Jesus died for our sins.

Empty Tomb.

Jesus rose again.

King.

Jesus will reign forever.

SCRIPTURE CONNECTION

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given."

Isaiah 9:6

TAKEAWAY TRUTH

God kept His promise by sending Jesus, our Savior and forever King.

TEACHER CLOSING

Today we began in darkness.

God's people had wandered away, and they needed a Savior.

God made them a promise.

A child would be born.

A Son would be given.

Hundreds of years passed, but God did not forget His promise.

Jesus came.

Jesus died for our sins.

Jesus rose again.

And Jesus is our forever King.

Next week we will meet the promised child in Bethlehem.

Let us pray.

Father, thank You for keeping Your promises. Thank You for sending Jesus when we could never save ourselves. Thank You that Jesus died for our sins and rose again. When we are afraid, help us remember that Jesus is alive. When we sin, help us come honestly to You. When we have questions, help us seek the truth in Your Word. Thank You for loving us and sending Your Son. In Jesus' name, amen.