

## **SERMON SLIDES**

### **SLIDE 1**

Simply Hope  
Isaiah 9:2-7

### **SLIDE 2**

#### **Isaiah's Christology**

The Birth of Christ (7:14)

Proclamation of Good News (61:1)

His Suffering and Crucifixion (52:13-53:12)

His Resurrection (25:8; 26:19)

His second coming (60:2-3)

*"The book stands as a testament of hope in the Lord, the One who saves His people from themselves." -  
Chuck Swindoll*

### **SLIDE 3**

#### **The Pattern of Isaiah's Prophecy**

Sin | Judgement | Hope

### **SLIDE 4**

#### **The Pattern of Isaiah's Prophecy**

Sin = Idolatry

### **SLIDE 5**

#### **The Pattern of Isaiah's Prophecy**

Sin = Idolatry

Judgement = Exile & Darkness

### **SLIDE 6**

*The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; a light has dawned on those living in the land of darkness.*

*You have enlarged the nation and increased its joy. The people have rejoiced before you as they rejoice at harvest time and as they rejoice when dividing spoils. For you have shattered their oppressive yoke and the rod on their shoulders, the staff of their oppressor, just as you did on the day of Midian. For every trampling boot of battle and the bloodied garments of war will be burned as fuel for the fire.*

*For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.*

*The dominion will be vast, and its prosperity will never end. He will reign on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish and sustain it with justice and righteousness from now on and forever. The zeal of the Lord of Armies will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:2-7, CSB)*

## **SLIDE 7**

### **The Pattern of Isaiah's Prophecy**

Sin = Idolatry

Judgement = Exile & Darkness

Hope = A Child Born, a Son Given

## **SLIDE 8**

"But in fact the real difficulty, the supreme mystery with which the gospel confronts us, does not lie here [in the atonement, the resurrection, or the Gospel miracles] at all. It lies not in the Good Friday message of atonement, nor in the Easter message of resurrection, but in the Christmas message of Incarnation. The really staggering Christian claim is that Jesus of Nazareth was God made man — that the second person of the Godhead became the "second man" (1 Cor 15:47), determining human destiny, the second representative head of the race, and that he took humanity without loss of deity, so that Jesus of Nazareth was as truly and fully divine as he was human." (J.I. Packer, Knowing God, p.53)

## **SLIDE 9**

### **The Identity & Authority:**

Immanuel (God with Us)

*"For unto us a child is born, for unto us a son is given." - Isaiah 9:6, KJV*

## **SLIDE 10**

### **The Activity:**

Gifts & Attributes

## **SLIDE 11**

*"But without a sword, no armoured guard. A commoner born in mother's arms."*

*- Baby Son by John Mark McMillan*

## **SLIDE 12**

"Hope is like a star; not to be seen in the sunshine of prosperity and only to be discovered in the night of adversity." - Charles Haddon Spurgeon #sermonbingo

## COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

- **Read Isaiah 9:1-7**

- 1) What does Isaiah mean when he says God will bring honor to the *way of the sea*, the land east of the Jordan, the Galilee of Nations? (Reference Matthew 4:12-17)

Remembering God's faithfulness to fulfill his promises across centuries can encourage us in our times of discouragement and despair.

- 2) Isaiah gives us a visual contrast representing the *hope* that Jesus would bring. How does light and darkness represent the emotional, spiritual, and psychological parts of our lives?

- **Read John 1:4-5**

- 3) Isaiah gives four titles to represent the identity, authority and activity of Jesus: *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*. Spend some time discussing how each of these four titles bring *light* into dark places.

Remember, John tells us that darkness cannot overcome the light of Christ. Therefore, in each of the areas you just discussed, Jesus is unbeatable. That means your hope, if secured in Christ, is absolutely secure.

- **Read Isaiah 9:7**

- 4) 9:7 represents the *already, but not yet* mindset of the Kingdom. First, discuss the "*already*." How is Jesus fulfilling the promises of verse 7 in your life *today*? Next, discuss the "*not yet*." In what ways are the promises of verse 7 *yet* to be fulfilled?
- 5) We asked the question on Sunday: "*How fortified is my hope?*" What was your answer then? Has it changed after further reflection?

The height of our hope is determined by the depth of our faith. If you find yourself feeling more *hopeless* than *hopeful*, share specifics with the group. The purpose of community is for the edifying of one another and therefore the church. This is where we take off our masks (figuratively, of course) and reveal the *realness* of our current condition. Only then can we experience the blessing being *known* and *loved* at the same time. This doesn't exist in the world, it is special only to Gospel-centered communities. And what a blessing it is!

**Close in prayer**, asking the Lord to *increase* the depths of our faith and therefore the height of our hope.