

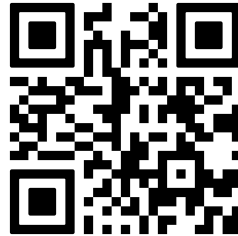
## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### LEGACY OFFERING - OPEN THROUGH DEC. 31

*Each year we set aside a weekend to give ABOVE and BEYOND to leave a legacy that outlives our lives. Our Legacy Offering is OPEN from now until the end of the year. Pray about what God might have you give!*

### EMPTY CHAIR SERVICE: DEC 8TH @ 7PM

*During the holidays, grief can become strong as we realize there is an empty chair where a loved one had once been sitting. During this service, we gather to worship God with others as we experience comfort and peace.*



## PERSONAL NOTES:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## LIFE GROUPS:

### CHECK OUT A LIFE GROUP!

*LIFE GROUPS are smaller groups of people who commit to meet together consistently for the purpose of growing relationally and spiritually.*

*Browse all the Life Groups option in the Westbridge Church App and sign up today!*

*Let us know if you have ANY questions!*



## MESSAGE NOTES

### Christmas @ Westbridge // Week 1

*"Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever... the people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine." Isaiah 9:1-2*

God cares more about what happens IN us than to us.

### COMMIT TO MEMORY:

*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. Isaiah 9:6*

Jesus is a WONDERFUL COUNSELOR.

*"Who is able to advise the Spirit of the Lord? Who knows enough to give him advice or teach him? Has the Lord ever needed anyone's advice? Does he need instruction about what is good? Did someone teach him what is right or show him the path of justice?"*

**Isaiah 40:13-15**

### 3 truths about great counselors:

1. They teach people HOW to think, not

WHAT to think.

2. They wait for their input to be INVITED.

3. A counselor's wisdom is only experienced when APPLIED.



# LIFE GROUPS

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

*These questions are designed to help groups discuss the weekend teaching while building relationships with each other and growing in our faith!*

**Dec 3rd / 6th, 2025**

1

### WARM UP

1. What is your all time favorite Christmas movie and why? (Bonus: Is "Die Hard" a Christmas move? Discuss...)

2. Without getting too serious - what's one area of life where you *wish* you had a personal counselor on speed dial?

2

### KNOW IT

1. Read **Isaiah 9:1-2**. What stands out to you about God's promise of light breaking into darkness? What does this reveal about God's heart toward hopeless people?

2. Read **Isaiah 9:6**. Why do you think the titles - *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace* - were given 700 years before Jesus arrived? What might God want His people to understand in the waiting?

3. Jeremiah said, "*God cares more about what happens IN us than TO us.*" Where do you see that truth at work in the story of King Ahaz? Why is this such a difficult principle to accept?

4. Isaiah 40:13-15 emphasizes that God does not need anyone's advice. What does this reveal about Jesus being the **Wonderful Counselor**? How is He different from every other counselor or adviser?

3

### SHARE IT

1. Think of a time when life felt "dark" or overwhelming. Where did you see God show up - maybe not immediately, but eventually?

2. King Ahaz trusted what he could SEE rather than what God promised. Where do you personally feel the temptation to "form your own alliance" instead of trusting God?

3. "*Great counselors teach us HOW to think, not WHAT to think.*" Has God ever shaped *HOW* you think about a situation rather than giving you a direct answer? What happened?

4. Have you ever known what God wanted you to do, but struggled to apply it? What got in the way?

4

### LIVE IT

1. What might it look like this week to intentionally invite Jesus' counsel into your decisions - rather than only seeking Him in crisis?

2. Identify one teaching of Jesus that feels counter cultural or uncomfortable (forgiveness, humility, generosity, loving enemies, etc.). What is one small step of obedience you can take in that area this week?

3. If "*a counselor's wisdom is only experienced with applied,*" what is one specific truth from Scripture you already *know* but haven't taken action yet? What's your next step?