

# W Fearful but Confident

Week of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>  
Isaiah 7:1-25

Facing an imminent invasion, God sends Isaiah to the Judean king Ahaz to challenge him to place his trust solely in God saying, *“If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all”* (Isaiah 7:9b). The Lord invites Ahaz to ask for a sign and when he refuses, the Lord replies, *“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel”* (Isaiah 7:14). Our faith is never tested more than when we face seemingly insurmountable odds, and it is then that we must resolve to trust in God and God alone.

1. Read Isaiah 7:1-2. King Ahaz and his people are terrified and they have good reason to be afraid. God didn't dismiss their fears and He doesn't dismiss ours either.
  - What are the things that you are concerned about or fearful of in this season?
  - What encouragement do you find in 1 Peter 5:6-7 and Matt. 11:28-30? In what ways are you taking God up on these invitations and promises?
2. Read Isaiah 7:3-9. God wants to meet king Ahaz in his fears and He sends Isaiah to call him to confidence. In verse 4, God instructs Ahaz to “be careful”, “be quiet”, “do not fear”, and “do not let your heart be faint.” God calls him to trust God against all odds.
  - What circumstances in your life feel insurmountable? In what ways might you be tempted to take matters into your own hands or trust in something or someone else other than God?
  - Read Psalm 46:10 and Exodus 14:14. What could it look like for you to trust God's character and let Him fight for you?
3. Read Isaiah 7:10-25. God invited Ahaz to ask for a sign, but he refused. Though Ahaz didn't want one, God gave him a sign anyways. God makes it very clear that the very people Ahaz is looking to for help (the Assyrians) will eventually destroy him and Judah. King Ahaz rejected what God had said and it led to destruction. What examples do you have from your own life of rejecting God's instruction and then experiencing a lack of peace and satisfaction?
4. Read Matt. 1:20-23. Here we see the complete fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy to Ahaz in Isaiah 7:14 and God's grace to us. Jesus came to earth the first time and died in our place. He will return again as the reigning King.
  - How can the truth of God with us, Immanuel, and His return give you hope to press on in this season?

## NOTES:

# OTHER RESOURCES

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## READY TO GO DEEPER?

### New Testament Reading

Many of us started this reading plan on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. If you haven't jumped in yet, it's not too late.

Here's the specific passages for this week. You can find all the details for the reading plan and an optional podcast that explains each day's reading at [www.woodmenvalley.org/bible](http://www.woodmenvalley.org/bible)

Join us on your Woodmen campus FB page to hear what people are sharing about what they are learning.

Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – Acts 20-23  
Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – Acts 24-26  
Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> – Acts 27-28  
Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – Colossians 1-4, Philemon 1  
Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Ephesians 1-6  
Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – Philippians 1-4  
Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> – 1 Timothy 1-6

As you read or listen, consider the following...

- What do I learn about God and His character?
  - What do I learn about His heart for unity?
    - What promises can you cling to?
- What is He encouraging you to believe, think or do?

## Outside our Walls

### Ark Valley

Please pray for our brothers at the Ark Valley Correctional Facility. They have been hit hard by COVID and the isolation has been very discouraging. Pray for them that God would strengthen and encourage them.

If your group would like to adopt one of the men at our Ark Valley campus and correspond with him, please email [Taylor.Rolfe@woodmenvalley.org](mailto:Taylor.Rolfe@woodmenvalley.org) for details.

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## DIVE IN ON YOUR OWN TO GET READY FOR NEXT WEEKEND

*Tempted but Patient*

Isaiah 8:1-22