

# STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ❖ Read the Passage again from **Isaiah 9:6**. What connection do you find between these various names given?
- ❖ How do you reconcile the tender, fatherhood of God Jesus taught with the presence of evil in the world? How about the suffering of the innocent?
- ❖ The New Testament teaches that we become children of God by faith in Christ in passages such as John 1:10-13 and Galatians 3:26. In what sense are people children of God, or is he our Father if they aren't believers? Why did Jesus teach that **we are** God's children and **he is** our Father if this isn't already so?
- ❖ Read Hebrews 1:1-3 and John 1:1-3, 14 (in two or three translations if possible). What themes or ideas do you see these passages share in common? Is there a new idea for you found there?
- ❖ How does Jesus influence the way you see God? How would your understanding of God be different if Jesus were out of the picture? display that he as was the "Mighty God" that Isaiah prophesized. What specific story(s) do you enjoy rereading? Why?
- ❖ As you review the section of the message, *What the Son Says of the Father*, what practical points given speak most powerfully to you in your life situations right now?



This might be a good opportunity to talk with your children about how God loves us and wants us to love others as freely. Perhaps a good verse to memorize together would be *Matthew 10:8*, "Freely you have received, freely give." or *Luke 6:27-28* "I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." A fun object lesson might be to teach your children the Luke 6 passage is to "put it on backwards." It seems impossible to really love an enemy, but if you begin by praying for someone who is mean, speaking only good things to them or to others about them, look for something good you can do for them, you'll be loving them!

**Bible Versions used:** CEV—Contemporary English Version; NIV—New International; NLT—New Living Translation; Phi—Phillips Translation;

NorthPointe Community Church 5470 W. Spruce, # 105, Fresno, CA 93722  
email: [stevewilliams@northpointe.org](mailto:stevewilliams@northpointe.org)

# UNTO US | A CHILD IS BORN

December 17 & 18, 2011

**Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)** *To us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

## "THE EVERLASTING FATHER"

### WHY THIS CHILD IS GIVEN

➡ **Jesus** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Colossians 2:9 (HCSB)** *The entire fullness of God's nature dwells bodily in Christ,*

**Hebrews 1:1-3 (NIV)** *In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being.*

➡ **Jesus** \_\_\_\_\_.

**John 1:1-3, 14 (Phi)** *At the beginning God expressed himself. That personal expression, that word, was with God, and was God, and he existed with God from the beginning. All creation took place through him...So the word of God became a human being and lived among us. We saw his splendor (the splendor as of a father's only son), full of grace and truth...No one has ever seen God at any time. Yet the divine and only Son, who lives in the closest intimacy with the Father, has made him known.*

**John 14:6, 9 (NIV)** “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well...Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”

## WHAT THE SON SAYS OF THE FATHER

### 1. You \_\_\_\_\_!

**Matthew 10:29-31 (CEV)** “Aren't two sparrows sold for only a penny? But your Father knows when any one of them falls to the ground. Even the hairs on your head are counted. So don't be afraid! You are worth much more than many sparrows.”

☛ We can \_\_\_\_\_ in him.

### 2. He's \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

**Isaiah 63:9 (NLT)** In all their suffering he also suffered, and he personally rescued them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them. He lifted them up and carried them through all the years.

**1 Peter 5:6 (Phi)** So, humble yourselves under God's strong hand, and in his own good time he will lift you up. You can throw the whole weight of your anxieties upon him, for you are his personal concern.

☛ We can \_\_\_\_\_ with him.

**Matthew 6:6-8 (NIV)** “When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

### 3. L \_\_\_\_\_ are the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Psalms 103:13-14 (NIV)** “As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust...From everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children.”

**Psalms 90:2 (NIV)** “Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.”

☛ We can \_\_\_\_\_ to him.

### 4. Sin & obedience \_\_\_\_\_.

☛ We should \_\_\_\_\_ before him.

### 5. Relating to others \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 5:43-45 (NIV)** “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

☛ We must \_\_\_\_\_ like him.

**Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)** Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.