

Potential Discussion Questions

Message: Know God - Call His Name, pt 1, Mighty God (12-2-18)

1. What is your favorite name or description of Jesus? Why?
2. If you have time, read Isaiah chapters 7-9 and refresh your memory on the historical and spiritual situation in Israel/Judah at the time of Ahaz. What insights do you gain that fill in your understanding of the significance of the coming Immanuel who is described in 9:6?
3. Ahaz couched his refusal to ask God for a sign in spiritual terms - "I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord" (7:12). In the end, most Bible scholars agree this was a spiritualizing of his intention to seek military help elsewhere, man's way rather than God's. Have you seen people use "god-talk" to disguise or deflect from their true, self-directed intentions?

How and why is this dangerous?

What was the result for Ahaz? What did it cost him?

What lessons do you see in this?

Can you think of a time when you pushed off God's request or offer to your detriment? How do/can you help yourself or counsel others to avoid situations like that?

4. Have you ever pulled an Ahaz? Is there any place in your life currently where you may be tempted to look for a man-sized answer when the need is for God-sized trust in the Lord?
5. How might you explain to an unbelieving friend or family member the significance of Jesus being called Mighty God?
6. How do you see Jesus as Mighty God impacting your Christmas season?
7. What is a specific way you currently need to trust God for a supernatural intervention?
8. What would you like to discuss that hasn't already been engaged in this study?
9. Take some time to pray for spiritual impact in your heart, and in the activities you engage in this Christmas season. Pray similarly for your friends and family, and our community.