PROPHETS TOLD ABOUT JESUS



LEADER BIBLE STUDY



CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story in the leader guide.)

In this age of social media, it is not unusual for family, friends, coworkers, and even distant acquaintances to learn about and anticipate the birth of a child for several months. In Bible times, there was not the flurry of publicity for an unborn child that we experience today. However, the prophets Isaiah and Micah announced the upcoming birth of a baby nearly 700 years before His birth! They not only foretold His birth, but they predicted His lineage, gender, name, character, and birthplace as well. This tiny baby would be the Messiah, the Anointed One, the long-awaited Savior of the world.

The Bible tells of God's plan for Jesus. In Isaiah 7:14, we read that the Savior would be a boy, born of a virgin mother, and His name would be Immanuel, meaning "God with us." This child would be the literal interpretation of His name as He would come down from heaven and live among sinful humans.

In Isaiah 9:6, we read that this baby would carry the full weight of authority and responsibility for ruling the nation of Israel on His shoulders. Isaiah describes the Savior's character in these four distinct ways: the wisdom of God, the power of God, His reign would be without end, and He would bring peace to all mankind. These character traits would be manifested in Jesus Christ.

In Isaiah 11:1-5, Isaiah prophesies that the Messiah would be from the lineage of David. He would possess the characteristics of God, empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Promised One would rule with fairness and justice for the poor and powerless. His rule would be characterized by righteousness and faithfulness.

In Micah 5:2, we read that the Ruler of Israel would be born in the tiny, obscure town of Bethlehem. Micah states that this Ruler's beginnings were recorded much earlier than His human birth.

In Genesis 3:15, God makes the promise that is fulfilled in Christ's victory over Satan. In 2 Samuel 7, God established the Davidic Covenant, promising David that one of his descendants would rule on the throne of Israel forever.

Reflect upon the truth that Jesus' birth, gender, name, lineage, and character are recorded hundreds of years before His birth.

TEACHER TIP

Contact families throughout the week. Tell them how much you enjoy having their child in your class. Ask how you can pray for them, or if they have any specific needs. Mention what their child will be learning at church.



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

The Bible tells about Jesus.

LIFE POINT

The Bible tells about Jesus.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; 11:1-5; Micah 5:2

BIBLE VERSE

The Bible teaches about Jesus.
2 Timothy 3:15

NOTE: Downloadable versions of items identified as *CD* are available in the Music and Print Extras Bundle. Items identified as *DVD* are available in the Digital Video Bundle.

Additional training for Bible Studies For Life: Kids is available at ministrygrid.com/ biblestudiesforlife.