



8. Advent: “Peace”

⁶ For 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. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. -Isaiah 9:6-7 (NIV)

^{42b} As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. ⁴³ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. ⁴⁴ She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped. ⁴⁵ “Who touched me?” Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you.” ⁴⁶ But Jesus said, “Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me.” ⁴⁷ Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. ⁴⁸ Then he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.” - Luke 8:40-47 (NIV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. -2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (NIV)

Watch the video from The Bible Project “[Peace](#)” prior to or at the start of the study.

1. In what ways did this video give you insight into the difference between “peace” (as we typically think of it) and “shalom” as the Bible speaks of it?
2. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. The prophet Isaiah declares the promise of the coming King. How might the Jews, longing for the Messiah, been encouraged by these verses? How do these same verses encourage or speak to you today?
3. Read the narrative in Luke 8:40-47. Consider the physical and emotional distress this woman was in which compelled her to seek out Jesus. What do we learn about the heart of God based on Jesus’ interaction with her? How have you seen God use a physical, emotional or relational need in your life (or someone you know) to address a deeper spiritual need to bring about wholeness?
4. The holidays have a way of reminding us of the broken relationships in our lives. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. How might this calling for us to be ministers of reconciliation and peacemakers speak to you today? In what ways might you act on this calling?