

Introduction

All I want for Christmas is? Because of our familiarity with the story and our annual celebrations, sometimes we can forget that what we really want, what we really need – is everything Jesus is. May all you want this year be all Jesus is.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Can you think of something that when you were younger you really wanted for Christmas? Did you get it? Was it all you hoped it would be?
- 2. How familiar are you with the idea of Advent? How can it be helpful to "prepare" for Christmas?
- 3. Read Isaiah 9:6 According to this prophecy there are 4 titles or characteristics that the future Messiah will have. Of the four listed, which one is the most difficult to reconcile with Jesus for you?
- 4. When we talk about the term Wonderful Counselor, how is that term possibly changed in our culture? What parts of it may be the same?
- 5. Read Hebrews 4:15 A good trait for a counselor is empathy-understanding what you are going through. How does this demonstrate that Jesus understands what you are facing? What do you think about the idea of God "understanding" you?
- 6. Read John 14:6 What does it mean that Jesus is the truth? Why is it hard sometimes for people to tell us the truth? How can Jesus tell you the truth today?
- 7. To get the best results, you need to follow the advice of the counselor-not just know what he/she said. Where can you follow the advice of the Wonderful Counselor this week?

Shaping Your Mind – Isaiah 9:6 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.