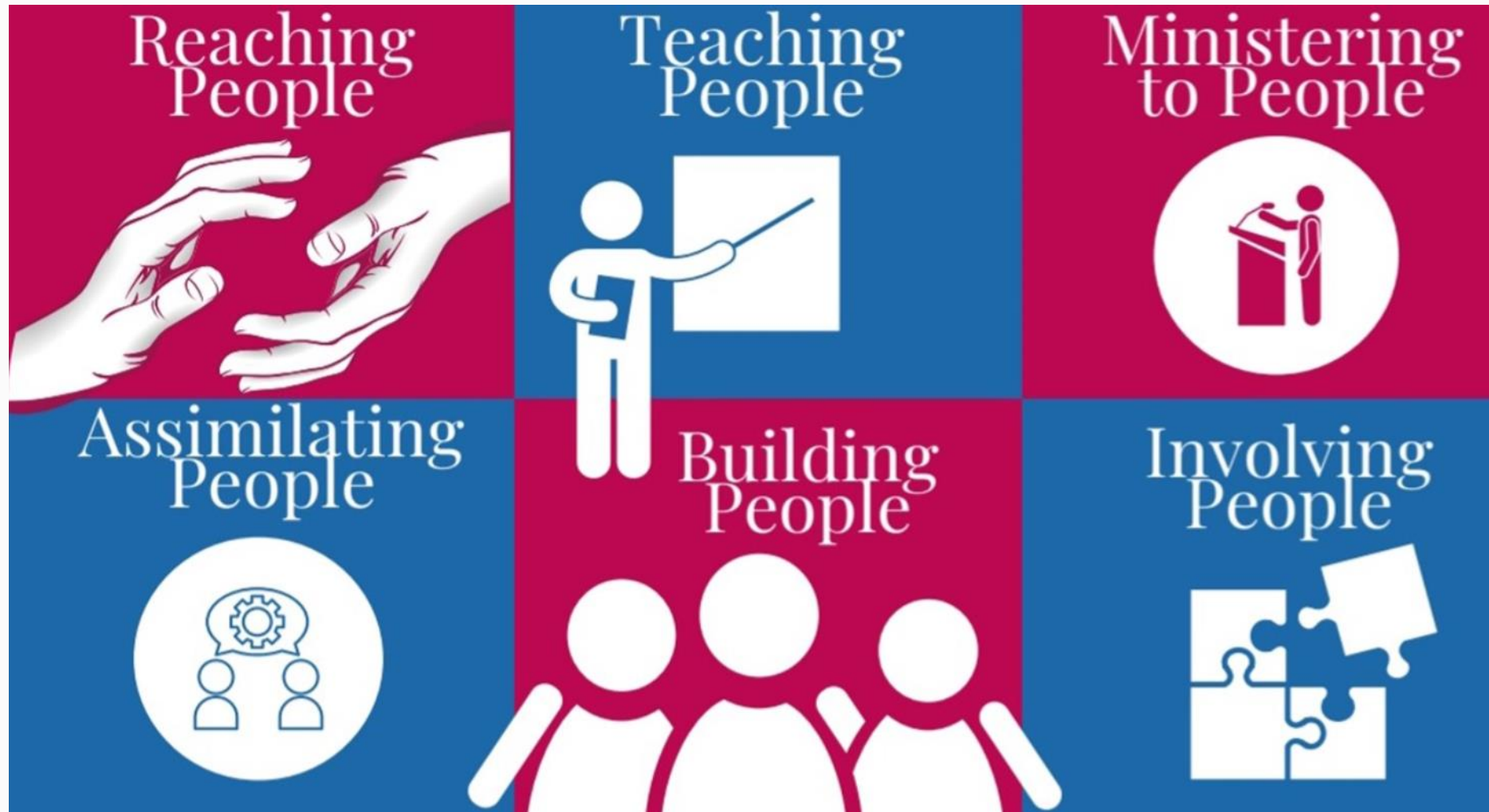




Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C
Sunday School

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026
THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORE VALUES



SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. **Psalms 133:1**

School/Class: But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. **Hebrews 13:16**

Superintendent/Teacher: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:16**

School/Class: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. **Psalms 119:105**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **Philippians 2:4**

School/Class: He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor. **Proverbs 22:9**

Superintendent/Teacher: Therefore he says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive and gave gifts to men.” **Ephesians 4:8**

School/Class: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **1 Peter 4:10**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12**

School/Class: For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function. **Romans 12:4**

Superintendent/Teacher: By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. **John 13:35**

School/Class: For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **Gal. 5:13**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

ALL:

But grow in the grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026

THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM



- Bible Basis: Isaiah 11:1-9
- Bible Truth: The sovereignty of God will bring peace and an end to painful problems, persistent evil, and other troubles.
- Memory Verse: “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:9)
- Lesson Aim: By the end of the lesson, we will: DISTINGUISH the key descriptors of God’s peaceful Kingdom, ANTICIPATE the day when Christian communities will be known for their godly life of peace, EVALUATE an area of church or community life that does not meet God’s intention for peace and develop a strategy to address it.
- Background Scriptures: [Isaiah 11:1-9](#), [Psalm 72:1-7](#) – Read and incorporate the insights gained from the Background Scriptures into your study of the lesson.

Isaiah 11:1-9 KJV

- 1** And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
- 2** And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;
- 3** And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:
- 4** But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.
- 5** And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

Isaiah 11:1-9 KJV

6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

Jesse. Jesse was the grandson of Ruth and Boaz. He was a shepherd and raised his sons in that occupation. Jesse was the father to eight sons. The youngest of these sons was David, who eventually became King of Israel. Not much is said about Jesse after David takes him and his wife to live in Moab ([1 Samuel 22:3-4](#)), because David became a fugitive hunted by Saul.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

The Branch. The Branch is a term that symbolized the Davidic Messiah. The term can be found in the prophets ([Jeremiah 23:5](#), [Zechariah 3:8](#)), but its origins may have stemmed from other uses of the word “branch” in reference to rulers. In [Daniel 11:7](#), the word is used to reference political strife that will occur between a ruler and her offspring. Elsewhere, Isaiah speaks of God’s people collectively being a branch planted by God that will grow ([60:21](#)).

LIFE NEED FOR TODAY'S LESSON:

AIM: We are reminded that our world is filled with hatred, troubles, divisions, and chaos.

INTRODUCTION

Freedom from Oppression

As in much of Isaiah's prophecies, the present and future can be intermingled, this is known as dual prophecy. In chapter 10, Isaiah speaks of the Assyrian oppression and captivity. This speaks to the situation of Israel at the time of Assyrian world dominance. The Assyrians were used by God to discipline the Children of Israel. Isaiah then speaks of this dominance fading away and the Assyrian yoke destroyed.

INTRODUCTION

Freedom from Oppression

At the same time, intermingled with verses of liberation from Assyrian oppression, Isaiah speaks of a time when the remnant of Israel and Judah will return, the time of the consummated kingdom of God. Isaiah's messianic prophecy, depicted in chapter 11, is described as a time of peace and prosperity, security and safety. This is not because of any inherent goodness in the time itself, but the glory and greatness of the King who will govern the entire world through wisdom, justice and compassion: Jesus Christ.

BIBLE LEARNING

AIM: We will learn Isaiah's prophecy reveals that the sovereign God will bring about a world of peace.

I. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL HOPE

Isaiah 11:1-5

These Scriptures in Isaiah speak about hope. This kind of hope cannot be in man. God promised David that he would have someone from his family to reign over his throne forever ([1 Chronicles 22:10](#)). Verse 1 says in part, "there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse." David came from Jesse's lineage. During Isaiah's time, Judah experienced fluctuation in their kings, despite all of them being from the lineage of Jesse and David. Whether the ruler at the time of the prophecy here was generally godly like Hezekiah or corrupt like Manasseh, all were human and made mistakes. But the ruler and judge Isaiah here refers to is not an ordinary man – He is the Messiah.

I. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL HOPE

Isaiah 11:1-5

He is the one who would give hope to God's people to trust, believe, and hope in Him again. This new King will be different from all the other kings. He will be the Savior of the world, the King who will sit on the throne forever. He is equipped to handle the monumental task of giving hope and bringing peace.

I. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL HOPE

Isaiah 11:1-5

1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Jesse was King David's father, placing him in the lineage of Jesus ([1 Samuel 17:12](#); [Matthew 1:6](#)). Referring to the Messiah as a Branch (Heb. *netser*, **NEH-tser**) from the felled Davidic tree is not unique to this verse (see [Isaiah 4:2](#); [Jeremiah 23:5, 33:15](#); [Zechariah 3:8; 6:12](#)), but note that in each instance the word is capitalized. These other verses use a different Hebrew word for branch than Isaiah 11:1, but the idea is the same. Cutting off dead branches allows the branches to grow back healthier than before.

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026

THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM



I. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL HOPE

Isaiah 11:1-5

2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; 3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

The spirit of the Lord is more than just our understanding of an existence outside bodily form. In Hebrew it means one's very breath (*ruakh*, **ROO-akh**). Isaiah promises that the Messiah will be filled with God's breath, and as a result, with God's wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and reverence,. These are all characteristics of a righteous ruler, characteristics not always exhibited by human rulers, even those who seek God's guidance and the good of the people in all things. The word "rest" (Heb. *nuakh*, **NU-akh**) is deeper than the idea of a bird landing, resting, and then flying away, but has a much more settled and profound sense. Whenever the Holy Spirit rested on an Old Testament figure, it was in the sense of an anointing and filling, and always for a purpose ([cf. Numbers 11:25; 2 Kings 2:15](#)). Essentially, the Messianic King is completely equipped by God with everything He will need to rule righteously and effectively over Israel and the whole earth ([cf. Isaiah 9:6-7, 11:10-12](#)).

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026

THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM



I. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL HOPE

Isaiah 11:1-5

2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; 3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

Most scholars recognize that whenever a term or phrase is repeated in Scripture, the emphasis is significant. In this case, the aspect of the fear of the Lord could be seen to be integral to the sum of the qualities of the Messiah King, especially when combined with the rest of the passage. This Messiah would not use His own understanding or personal judgment, but the standard of God's righteousness when weighing matters of grave importance – such as the fate of oppressors or the worthiness of the oppressed for salvation. In the end, even the strongest and wisest are subject to God, who directs the minds of kings even when they are unaware of it ([Proverbs 21:1](#)). Jesus made it clear throughout His ministry that He was there not to do His will, but His Father's ([John 6:38](#)).

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026

THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM



I. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL HOPE

Isaiah 11:1-5

4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. 5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his lions, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

The poor have experienced far too much corruption and injustice, and waited far too long, so they very much need a righteous judge. For these afflicted souls, just judgment is synonymous with salvation. Fulfilling His righteous role, the Messiah King judges as the embodied, all-powerful Word of God ([Revelation 19:11-13](#)). Scholars concur that the girdle, belt, or sash was a critical item in Middle Eastern clothing, holding the rest of the garments together – and also earning a New Testament mention in Paul's description of the well-armed believer girding his waist with truth ([Ephesians 6:14](#)).

II. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL PEACE

Isaiah 11:6-9

Isaiah's readers and hearers know that the prophet is referring to the Messiah here, because He is so different from earthly rulers. They were all temporary, but He is everlasting; He will reign forever. His Kingdom should be totally different than any other kingdom, especially our present earthly kingdom. Verse 6 says the wolf and the lamb will dwell together, even though the lamb is food for the wolf.

II. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL PEACE

Isaiah 11:6-9

The Scripture continues: "The leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them." This is so different from our present world. A child could not lead a lion and fatling; the lion would devour them both. Yet Isaiah speaks of a time when the Messiah will bring peace to all of creation. He alone can bring peace for every aspect of our lives. All things that cause destruction – fire, tsunamis, frigid temperatures – will no longer exist. In this Kingdom, everyone will get along, even predators and prey.

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026
THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM



II. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL PEACE

Isaiah 11:6-9

6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

This idyllic, utopian scene has been the subject of countless paintings, songs, and literature; indeed, the peaceful co-existence of natural enemies and human babies, a world restored to an Eden-like state in the Messiah's reign, has sparked the imagination and dreams of humanity ever since the prophet penned the words. An asp (Heb. *pethen*, **PEH-then**) means a snake or venomous serpent, which is synonymous with cockatrice (Heb. *tsepha'*, **TSEH-fah**), perhaps a cobra, adder, or viper (cf. [Isaiah 59:5](#), "viper's brood"). The serpent has a unique role in human history dating from the garden temptation ([Genesis 3](#)) and has been symbolic of evil ever since. Clearly, if children and infants can play with poisonous snakes, the curse or enmity ([Genesis 3:15](#)) pronounced on Adam and Eve has been removed – and more than that, Kingdom peace reigns over all.

Lesson 1 September 6, 2026
THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM



II. THE MESSIAH GIVES REAL PEACE

Isaiah 11:6-9

9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

These verses are similar to [Isaiah 65:25](#) and [Habakkuk 2:14](#). The reference to the holy mountain, or Mt. Zion, is a recurring theme throughout Isaiah, which also will be explored in next week's lesson ([25:6, 10](#); [cf. 10:32](#)). Nature is restored, peace envelops the world.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

Future Hope

Isaiah wanted God's people to know that the Messiah came fully equipped with the wisdom/understanding, counsel/might, knowledge, and the fear of the Lord. He came to introduce the Kingdom of God. His role is to implement God's righteousness on earth, not self-glorification. The words and images of this passage originated during Israel's captivity and exile, and therefore spoke to a future hope radically different from present circumstances.

BIBLE APPLICATION

AIM: We will agree to live with God's peace in the
world.

BIBLE APPLICATION

Peaceful is not a word that describes our current times. Nations are in uproar and wars are fought on many fronts. Unrest persists even in our national government and politics. Our young people are being slain in the streets. One day the Lord will bring peace to this world. For now, we must access the peace that He offers those who trust in Christ, and strive to work for peace in our neighborhoods and in our nation.

STUDENT RESPONSES

AIM: We will agree to share God's peace in our communities.

STUDENT RESPONSES

As you consider God's peace, are there areas in your family life, neighborhood, or church that call for God's peaceful intervention? What Scriptures come to mind to guide your thought life and influence your actions?

Psalm 23; Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 6:10-15; Philippians 4: 6, 7 are some examples.

Prayer

Father,

In there troubled times, the concepts of peace seems difficult to grasp. We invite the Holy Spirit to guard our hearts and minds according to Philippians 4:6, 7.

In Jesus' Name we pray.

Amen.

Next Sunday
September 13, 2026

The Mountain of God
Isaiah 25:6-10a