

## THE PROMISED KING, Jeremiah 23:5–6 December 16, 2018

## CONNECT

1. Reflect on Christmas pasts. Have you ever longed for a particular kind of present, something that would be very meaningful to you? Did you receive it or not. What were your feelings about that?

## CELEBRATE

- 2. The last kings in Jerusalem during Jeremiah's time were awful and left people wanting. Read Jeremiah 22 to get a sense of the problem. In what ways would this kind of leadership leave you discouraged and hungry for something better? How does this look in our society at large, our churches, our families?
- 3. In Jeremiah 23:5–6, the Lord forecasts that better days would come—a promised King, a righteous descendant of King David. He will rule wisely, execute justice and righteousness, and bring salvation and security. Which of these stands out to you as especially meaningful and why?
- 4. While Jeremiah 23:6's reference to salvation may speak to rescue from Israel's enemies, it also hints toward the forgiveness of sins. To see this, read Matthew 1:21 and Luke 2:11 in the accounts of Jesus' birth. Also read Romans 1:16–17 and Titus 3:4–6. How might these gospel passages influence the way you celebrate Christmas this year?
- 5. Carefully read Isaiah 9:1–7. What prayers of praise could you offer to God as you reflect on the hope presented in this beautiful Christmas prophecy? Share them within your Life Group or family.

## CONTRIBUTE

6. Read Jeremiah 23:4. God sets out His expectations for how people should be treated. Seeing the expectations presented, how might you intentionally connect with those around you during this Christmas season? Be as specific as possible about what you will do and for whom, giving attention to your family, work, community and so forth.