

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TCCO GIVES 2025: We have adopted 25-30 children & their parents again this year, many who are displaced, and all who are in need this holiday season. We are providing them with Christmas dinner and gifts from their wish lists. We still need volunteers to help drive and make deliveries to each family NEXT Sun. 12/14, after the 11am service. To volunteer, or with any other questions, please email outreach@theconnecting.co.

TCCO STUDENTS+ CHRISTMAS PARTY: All 6th-12th grade students are welcome to join us for a super fun Christmas event this Wed. 12/10. Doors open at 6:15pm; Party is 6:30-8:30pm. Come celebrate the end of the semester with us, wear your favorite pj's, invite all your friends, and be ready to build a Gingerbread House! Contact Pastor Walter with any questions at walter@theconnecting.co. **Reminder:** No TCCO Students, 12/17-12/31 for Christmas Break. We will start back on Wed. 1/7.

TCCO CHRISTMAS SUNDAY CANDLELIGHT SERVICES: Join us on Sun. 12/21 at 9am or 11am, as we conclude our series "The Way Back to Wonder," and this Advent season. We will have some Christmas treats, our TCCO Kids Christmas music performances, and get to share our Christmas candle-lighting time together. Be sure to invite all your family & friends, and to also grab a picture in our Christmas photo op. We can't wait to celebrate this season and special time together with you all!

NO SUNDAY SERVICES on 12/28: This is an opportunity for us to say THANK YOU to our Dream Team for serving week after week all year long, and to give you all a break. We also highly value the importance of time with family and friends. So, please plan to use this time to be with your people and go be JESUS and THE CHURCH outside the 4 walls of our church building! And invite everyone back for our first Sunday of the New Year on Sun. 1/4!

TCCO KIDS CHRISTMAS CONNECT EVENT: Join us for a fun, cozy, candy cane kind of morning on Tues. 12/30 from 10-11:30am at TCCO. Come dressed in your Christmas cozies and ready for some fun games, a story and a yummy treat! This event is designed for the whole family...parents and kids, 5th grade and under, will engage in all of the Christmas-themed activities together. Use the QR code to register by Sun. 12/21. Contact elaine@theconnecting.co with any questions, or for more information.

SAVE THE DATES

Fri. 1/2, TCCO Christmas Tear Down/Cleaning Day, 9:30-11:30am
Wed. 1/7, TCCO Students New Semester Kick-Off, 6:30pm
Sun. 1/25, Winter LWTS, 12:30-2:00pm



12.07.2025

THE WAY BACK TO WONDER “The Promise...The Prophets Point To Peace”

Travis Cherry



THE WAY BACK TO WONDER – WEEK 5

“The Promise...The Prophets Point To Peace”

12.07.25

KEY SCRIPTURES: ISAIAH 9:2-7, MICAH 5:2, GENESIS 3:15

Isaiah 9:2-7 — ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Micah 5:2 — But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

Genesis 3:15 — I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

And this is part of the _____ of God's _____ throughout time and history. What begins as a whisper in Genesis grows into a _____ in Micah and bursts into poetry in Isaiah. Three voices, one message: A _____ is coming! A King is coming!

The _____ of redemption does not begin with _____...it begins with _____, His heart, and His willingness to step into our broken story and rewrite it with _____ and _____.

4 Powerful Truths We Can See In The Promises & Prophets:

1. THE _____ IS OLDER THAN THE _____

- God promised that _____ would lose and _____ would win.
- From _____ to Revelation, from _____ to resurrection, the thread of Christ's _____ is quietly present, patiently moving the entire story towards _____.
- God's _____ over your life are far greater than your struggle...His _____ existed way before your pain...His _____ was in motion long before your failure.

Isaiah 55:8-9 — ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- While the people saw failure, the prophets saw a _____.
- While the people saw destruction, the prophets saw _____.
- While the people saw a nation falling apart, the prophets saw a _____ that would never end.
- While the people heard silence, the prophets heard a baby's first cry _____ through all of eternity.

2. THE PROPHETS _____ MORE THAN THE PEOPLE COULD _____

- The prophets did not just predict _____...they depicted _____ and _____...they declared that darkness would not win.

2 Corinthians 1:20 — For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

3. THE THREADS OF _____ ALL _____ TO JESUS

Luke 22:44 — Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

- Jesus is not an _____...He is not the plan B...HE IS THE _____ OF THE ENTIRE _____!
- There is no meaning, no _____, no hope, no _____, and no _____ in this life outside of Jesus!
- “The New Testament is _____ in the Old, and the Old is _____ in the New.” — Augustine
- If Jesus is the _____ that holds the entire _____ story together, then He is also the _____ that holds _____ story together.

4. GOD WEAVES _____ INTO _____

Romans 8:28 — And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Hebrews 10:23 — Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Before there was a _____ or a cross, there was a _____. And the God who kept His _____ then is the same God who will keep His _____ now.