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## Searching for Hope

12/10 - 12/16/23

S.O.A.P. :

All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him **Immanuel** (which means 'God is with us'). Isaiah 7:14 NLT

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. Isaiah 9:6 NIV

Jesus answered them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. 32 I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are **sinners** and need to **repent**." Luke 5:31-32 NLT

1. Pastor Jon emphasized that names have meaning, and everything we are searching for is found in Christmas. How can we, as individuals and as a community, embody the significance of Christmas in our actions and relationships with others?
2. The description of Jesus as the "Wonderful Counselor" highlights His ability to guide us through various challenges. How can we personally experience the guidance of Jesus in our lives, especially during times of pain, loneliness, and difficulty?
3. Drawing from the passage in Luke 5:31-32, how does Jesus' identification with sinners impact our approach to sharing the message of Christmas with those who may feel distant from God?
4. The call to be honest with the Counselor, listen to the Counselor, and do what the Counselor tells us implies an active engagement with our faith. How can we practically incorporate these principles into our daily lives and decision-making processes?