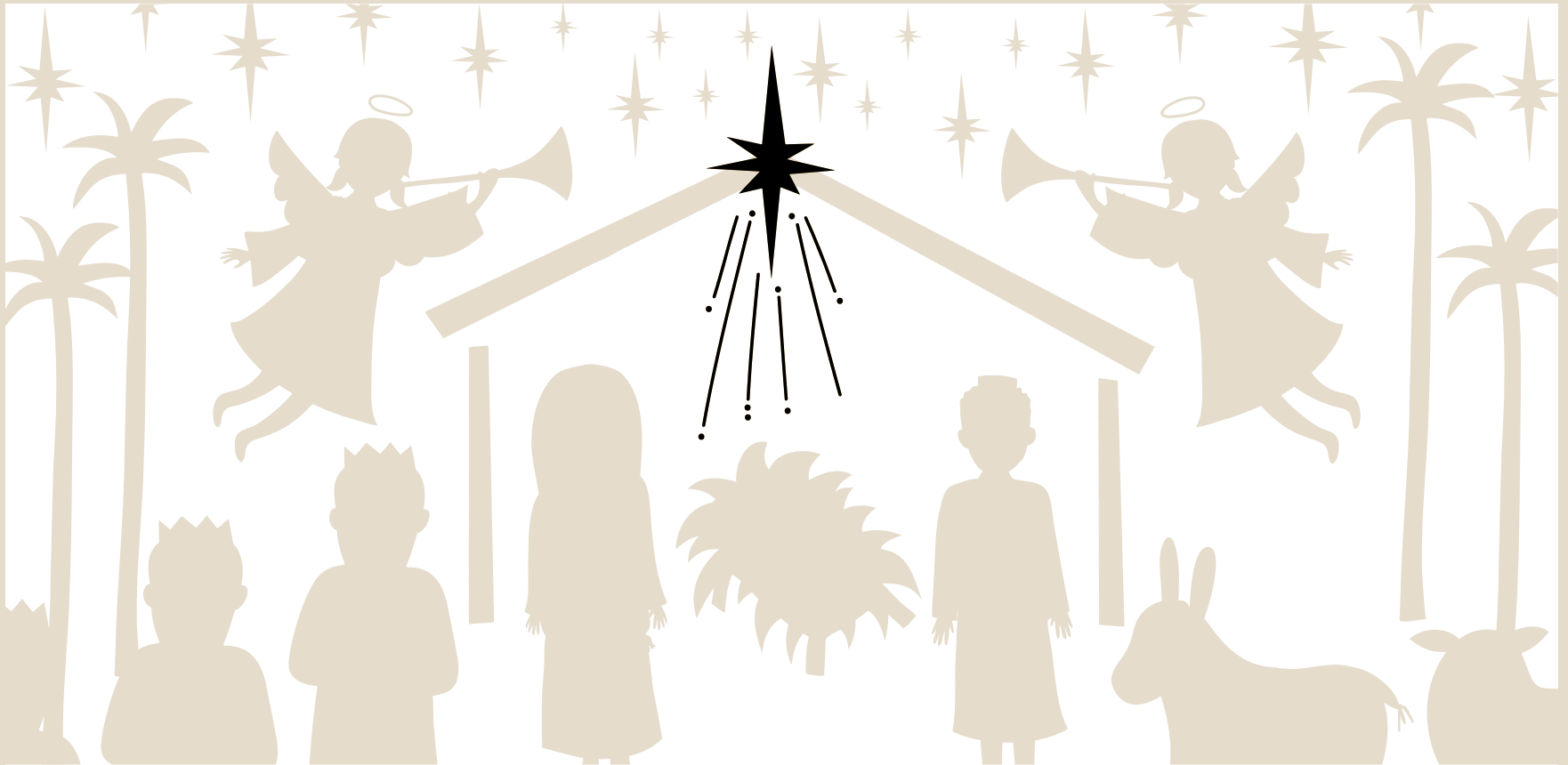


## THE LIGHT OF JESUS



*The star announcing the birth of the Messiah.*

**L**ong before Jesus arrived, a man of God named Isaiah declared that a special son would be born and change the world. During Isaiah's time, many people felt worried and sad about the future because life was so gloomy. It was like walking around in the dark, with no light to show the way. They didn't know about the good things God had planned for them. They were without hope. But Isaiah told them that a great light would shine for all to see.

### Isaiah 9:2,6

**T**he people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness, a light has dawned. 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.

There would be no more scary deep darkness, and everyone would be filled with joy.

Later, after Jesus was born, and grown-up he told a crowd of people, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." God sent his only son Jesus to be the light of the world. He lights up our lives and gives us hope for the future.

### Matthew 8:12

**W**hen Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

### Devotional Activity

1. Do you think Isaiah's time is all that different from our own? Do you know anyone who might be feeling worried or sad?
2. Have you ever tried walking in the dark? Can you remember how that felt? What did it feel like when you were able to turn on a light and see again?
3. How does Jesus light up your life?
4. What do you think these names of Jesus mean? Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

