



MERRY

Christmas



What is Christmas to you?

- Decorations and lights
- Time with family and friends
- Good food and treats
- Presents



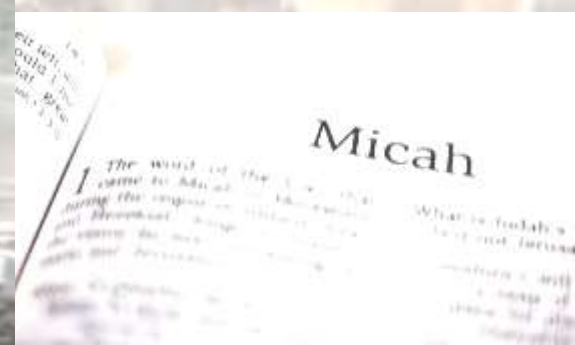
Have you heard of Advent?

- Advent literally means a time of waiting, but waiting for what?
- Lets learn about the lesser talked about people in the Christmas story!



Old Testament Prophets

- Isaiah 9:6 - 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
- Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.
- Micah 5:2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.
- Isaiah and Micah lived 700 years before the birth of Jesus!



The Angels

Gabriel visited Mary to tell her of the good news that she would carry God's child.



An Angel visited Joseph to tell him that God had given Mary a baby.



Angels visited shepherds when Jesus was born to tell them the good news.



Jesus' Cousin John

- *In Luke 1:41 “When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb” John knew even in the womb who Jesus was as did Elizabeth. She went on to say, “And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord* should come to me?”*



The Wise Men

- Matthew 2: 1-2, After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him'



- They arrived 12 days after Jesus was born, have you ever heard of the 12 days of Christmas????!!!

A Time of Anticipation

- The prophets, the angels, babies, families, wise men, and more were all waiting and anticipating the coming of our savior.
- Today we also anticipate the day Christ will come again!



What can you do this year?

- Start an advent tradition.
- Invite someone to your church for Christmas service.
- Tell others about the real meaning of Christmas.
- Give a meaningful gift to someone else.



- Does anyone have a special Christmas tradition they want to share?