

HERE COMES THE SON

Date: Sunday 30th November to Christmas Day 25th December 2025.

Key point of this campaign: To celebrate and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ coming in flesh to save everyone who believes in him.

Dear Connect Leader,

Merry Christmas and thank you for your wonderful discipleship of those you lead in your connect groups. The below questions are the last for 2025.

Although Connect Groups do not officially run during January 2026, we are aware that some business connect groups do meet. Therefore, we will provide some questions for our January message series, 'First Things First', which starts 4th January 2026 and ends 8th February 2026. However, we will not be emailing you a Connect Resource Pack. If you need the notes and discussion questions, you will be able to find them on our <https://c3syd.church> website in the Connect Notes area.

Bless you and Happy New Year.

The Connect Team.

Announcements:

Last Connect Week 2025	<p><i>We will be taking a break over the Christmas season and through January 2026. This is a chance to rest, be refreshed, and enjoy time with family and friends.</i></p> <p><i>For those of you who still run your cg over January, we will supply the Campaign notes with some discussion questions, but you will need to access them via the website as we won't email you the Connect Resource Pack.</i></p>
All in Online Prayer Meeting	<p><i>We are gathering to pray together on Wednesday 28th January 2026. You can join the prayer here: https://c3syd.church/prayer/. This will be followed by a special CG Leader Meeting with Ps Alex from 7:00pm–7:30pm. Please be there as it will be a leadership equipping moment!</i></p>
Sign-up Sunday	<p><i>Sign Up Sunday is on 1 February 2026. This is the perfect moment for people to join a group, and if you know someone who is not in a connect group or serving on a team, this is the perfect time to reach out and help them find their place.</i></p>
Last Connect Week 2025	<p><i>Our first Connect Week of 2026 runs from Monday 2 February to Sunday 8 February. We cannot wait to launch into a new year of connection, discipleship, and shared growth.</i></p>
Online Prayer	<p><i>If someone in your connect group can't make it to a face-to-face prayer meeting, our Online Prayer Meeting is a great alternative!</i></p> <p><i>Here's the link to join or share: https://c3syd.church/prayer/</i></p>
Freedom Ministry	<p><i>Freedom Ministry is Holy Spirit directed and empowered prayer ministry aimed to bring healing to an individual, spirit, soul and body. If you or anyone in your cg is interested in accessing this ministry, please fill in the form below and our team will be in touch: https://c3syd.info/freedom</i></p>

Connect Questions

○ **Week 2: Here Comes the Son: To Fulfill God's Plan**

Please choose those questions below you feel relevant to assist your cg discussion.

1. God's plan to redeem the world was 'leaked' through the Prophets in the Old Testament. Discuss why God would have done this? (He wanted us to know there was a plan – that he wasn't going to leave us in a fallen state separated from him. He so loves us and He wants all mankind reconciled to Him.)
2. What are some of the things in the Old Testament that point to God's plan to deal with sin? You could consider the flood, the Exodus, the tabernacle, the temple, the priesthood, the Passover and the sacrifices.
3. Why is it important that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies written hundreds of years before His birth? (E.g. the prophecies point to Jesus, revealing Him and proving His divinity, purpose and that He fulfilled God's plan to redeem the world.)
4. How is God's king (including the original kings, Saul and David) different from earthly kings? How should we live now, knowing that Jesus has completely defeated the devil?
5. Jesus is a gift from God – what other gifts do we receive from God when we accept Jesus? We give gifts at Christmas because God first gave to us (whether you involve Saint Nicholas or not). What makes a good gift? How can we 'preach' with our giving?
6. Do you have a plan to keep Christmas in line with God's plan? How will you do this? E.g. Will you read the gospel accounts of Jesus' birth (Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2), find a study on prophecies about Jesus or invite your family and friends to church (who have you been praying for on your harvest cards)? Anything else?

Week 1: Here Comes the Son

Date: Sunday 30th November 2025

Key point of this week: Here Comes the Son, to fulfill God's plan of redemption.

Key Scripture: John 1:1, John 8:58

Summary:

The Son was always part of the godhead – John 1:1 , John 8:58

At Christmas we celebrate the Son coming to the world as a Man – it called becoming Incarnate – taking on Human Form – we can be excited to celebrate that. In all the religions of the world there is only one God who became man; all other faiths have man becoming God

Here Comes the Son

Why did the Son come – we are going to unpack this over the next month – as we prepare our hearts for Christmas

Here comes the Son - to fulfil God's plan . As soon as Adam and Eve fell God had a plan for our redemption. It was the Son coming to earth – as a man – to live the life we couldn't live and pay the price we could not pay.

When we look at the Christmas story, we see some really interesting things about the coming of the Son to earth.

Here comes the Son: To Mary

- A normal Jewish girl
- A teenager
- Some-one engaged

To the Shepherds

- People working
- People not favored by society

To Wise Men

- Wise men who knew they needed someone greater than themselves

For the World – John 3:16

Week 2: Here Comes The Son: To Fulfill God's Plan

Date: Sunday 7th December 2025

Key point of this week: Jesus came to fulfil the plan of God

Key Scriptures: Genesis 3:15

Summary:

Jesus came to fulfil the plan of God

As soon as mankind fell God had and had an answer

And God was not silent about the plan, he began "leaking the plan" from the beginning of Genesis through his Prophets.

He wanted us to know there was a plan – that he wasn't going to leave us in a fallen state separated from him

1. Immediately after the fall Gen 3:15. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel
2. This is foreshadowing that there would be enmity between the offspring of a woman and the devil – the redemption was coming as offspring of a woman
3. The offspring would crush the devil's head – which he did defeating him. What happens when you crush something's head- you kill it. The devil was defeated by the Son
4. His heel was struck -he had to go through the pain of the cross to outwork the plan

Some scholars say that Jesus fulfilled over 300 prophesies during his lifetime – but lets look at the key ones about his birth

1. He was to be born of a virgin – supernatural conception Is 7:14. It was always the plan of God that a virgin would conceive by the power of the Holy Spirit. This way he is a unique person -fully God and fully Man.
2. Born in Bethlehem – Micah 5:2. Bethlehem means the House of Bread, out of Bethlehem came the Bread of Life; Jesus.
3. Born of David Line – 2 Sam 7:12,13,16, - there are two genealogies of Jesus – one in Matthew which traces Jesus' lineage through Joseph, his earthy father. The one in Matthew also traces his lineage through David and this one is believed to be the lineage of Mary. Genealogies were very important to first century Jews and The Biblical writers are wanting us to know that whichever way you trace it Jesus is of the hours of David.

It was always the plan that the Son would come to redeem the world -and God foretold it through the prophets and then Jesus fulfilled it.

Week 3: Here Comes The Son: To Mary

Date: Sunday 14th December 2025

Key point of this week: Here comes the Son, to Mary, a virgin, teenager and normal girl.

Key Scripture: Luke 2:47-55

Summary: Here comes the Son: to Mary

1. He came first to a normal Jewish girl. She wasn't a princess or the daughter of a Pharisee, she was just a normal girl
2. She was living her life, being devoted to God – and suddenly she became the mother of the Son. She knew he had come to change the world – Luke 2:47- 55. When we live a life devoted to God, we position our lives to be used by God.
3. She was a teenager – you are never too young or too old to be used by God. He used a teenage Mary, and he used an 80-year-old Moses
4. She was a Virgin – “how can this be seeing as I am a Virgin” – the things in our lives that seem like blockages to God moving are not- for “Nothing is Impossible with God
5. She said Yes to God, and she was the first to receive Jesus. She is who Eve should have been – she was obedient to God – and in doing so played a role in reversing the curse.
6. Where the fall came through a woman – the redemption of the world also came through a woman. God did not hold Eve responsible for the Fall, it is Adam he spoke to, however in bringing his Son to earth through Mary he reversed the shame on women and uses a woman to carry his Son to mankind.

Here comes the Son – to Mary, a virgin, a teenager, a normal girl – today he can come to you.

You can be like Mary and say “Let it be to me as you have said” – you can say Yes to receiving Jesus.

Week 4: Here Comes the Son: To The Shepherds

Date: Sunday 21st December 2025

Key point of this week: Here Comes the Son: to the lowly shepherds in the middle of their work week!

Key Scripture: Luke 2:8-15

Summary:

Have you ever thought about the Shepherds – we all sing about them every Christmas “While Shepherds watched their flocks by night” – but why did Angels appear to Shepherds – not carpenters, or shopkeepers or farmers.

1. They would have been outside at night – and they were awake – they were shift workers
2. They were in their normal lives, doing their work – God saw them where they were.
3. It not even work that was highly looked upon in First Century society – Shepherds were despised by religious people because their work kept them from religious activity. The elite of society despised Shepherds throughout the Roman Empire
4. These are some of the people the Father chose to share the news of his Son's birth with through the Angels

They heard the Good News – the Savior is born – they heard it from Angels. Then straight away went to meet the Son. They knew they needed a Saviour and they went to find him

God has always meets people where they are – no matter what society says about you – good or bad, it doesn't matter – the Father wants you to know that at Christmas we celebrate that Jesus has been born for you. He has come to save us – mostly from ourselves, from our constant turning away from God, which the Bible calls sin. He says to all of us today:

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord”

The Shepherds heard the pronouncement from the Angels – today they might have said. Hey guys – Here Comes the Son

Week 5: Here Comes The Son: For The World And Wise Men Still Seek Him

Date: Wednesday Christmas Eve and Thursday Christmas Day

Key point of this week: Here Comes the Son, that the world and the wise are looking for.

Key Scripture: Isaiah 9 :6-7, John 3:16, Matt 2:1-12

Summary:

Here comes the Son: for the World and Wise men still seek him

The Wise men saw the Star in the East and knew what it meant – that the King of the Jews had been born.

- They went on a journey to find him – even though they are called Wise they knew that there was some-one greater to seek. Wise people still know that there is some-one greater we need to seek
- They brought him gifts – Wise people still know that it is appropriate to lay gifts before someone who is greater than us. Today we can lay before Jesus the only thing we really have to give- our lives
- They worshipped him – Wise people know that Jesus is worthy of our worship – he was then, and he is today. Human beings will worship something, they will put their time, talents and money into something, it is how we are wired. Today we have a choice to do like the Wise men did and Worship Jesus.

Throughout our preaching series for Christmas, we have seen that the Son Came:
To fulfill God's plan – God never wanted to leave us separated from him. Our sin, our centeredness, our decisions to walk away from God

He came to an ordinary girl – a teenage virgin – who said Yes to receiving Christ
He came to ordinary men working- who were looked down upon but heard the good news and rushed to worship the newborn Messiah

He came for the whole world – John 3 :16, Is 9:6-7 and wise men sought him then, and wise people still seek him.

They know that Here Comes the Son is not a fun slogan – but a reality of our lives – here comes the Son to save the world, to be our Wonderful Counselor our prince of Peace of Peace, Mighty God

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given
His name is Jesus.