**Gift of Christmas Series**

**Hope for the World (Luke 1:46-55)**

**Recap: Began The Gift of Christmas Series**

* **Peace on Earth**
  + **The Source of Peace (Originates from Christ) Isaiah 9:6-7**
  + **The Gift of Reconciliation (Gift of Eternal Peace) Romans 5:1-9**
  + **The Call to share Peace (We are called to be Peacemakers) Matthew 5:9**

**Introduction:**

* **Luke 1:26-38**
* **Hope is one of the most powerful forces in human experience. It sustains us in challenging times and gives us a reason to look forward to a better tomorrow. Yet, in a world filled with uncertainty, brokenness and despair, true hop often feels out of reach.**
* **The birth of Jesus, however, brings hope that is unwavering and eternal. It is not a wishful thinking or fleeting emotion, but a confident assurance grounded in God’s faithfulness. This Christmas, we celebrate the hope Jesus offers to a world in darkness.**

1. **The Prophecy of Hope (Isaiah 9:2)**
   1. **Isaiah’s prophecy speaks to people in darkness, awaiting deliverance. The promise of a coming Messiah shines as a beacon of hope.**
   2. **Jesus’ birth fulfills this prophecy, bringing light to those living in spiritual darkness.**
   3. **Illustration**
   4. **Even in the darkest moments, God’s promise brings light and hope.**
2. **The Fulfillment of Hope (Matthew 1:22-23)**
   1. **The angel’s announcement to Joseph confirms that Jesus is the fulfillment of God’s promise. As “Immanuel,” He is God with us, bridging the gap between heaven and earth.**
   2. **Jesus’ life, death and resurrection provide a firm foundation for our hope.**
   3. **Illustration:**
   4. **The Birth of Jesus proves that God keeps his promises, and His presence gives us hope today.**
3. **The Future of Hope (Revelation 21:4)**
   1. **The hope Jesus brings is not only for his life but for eternity. His return will bring an end to pain, suffering and death, ushering in a new creation.**
   2. **This assured future empowers us to persevere through life’s challenges with a hope that cannot be shaken.**
   3. **Illustration**
   4. **The hope we have in Christ gives us strength for today and confidence for tomorrow.**

**Conclusion:**

* **The Birth of Jesu brings hope that transforms our present and secures our future. It is a hope that:**
  + **Sines in the darkness, reminding us that God’s promises never fail.**
  + **Is fulfilled in Jesus, who is with us and for us.**
  + **Looks forward to a glorious eternity where all things are made new.**
* **Application** 
  + **Are you walking in the light of this hope? If not, let this Christmas be the time you place your hope in Jesus.**
  + **For those who already have this hope, share it with those who are struggling in the darkness around you.**