



9

Messianic Prophecies

Key Theme

- God's plan of redemption was in place before time.

Key Passages

- Isaiah 7:14, 53:3, 53:5–6; Matthew 1:21, 1:23

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify the length of time between Isaiah's prophecies and Christ's life.
- Describe two prophecies specifically fulfilled by Jesus.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will use the signs posted on the walls to complete their Memory Verse Review Sheets. They will match the numbers on their sheets with the numbers on the signs and fill in the missing words. They will then read and/or recite the verse to the class or to each other.



Activity 1: Messianic Prophecies Class Notes

Students will fill out the Messianic Prophecies Class Notes as you study the lesson. Pass out the class notes before you begin to teach.



Studying God's Word

Isaiah foretold details of the Messiah's birth that only God could have revealed to His prophet. The fulfillment of these prophecies, about 700 years later, reminds us that God's plan to send a Redeemer was in place since before the beginning of time.



Activity 2: Messianic Prophecies Review Bounce

Students will review the lesson while bouncing a ball within the circle and answering questions.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print the Memory Verse Review Sheets from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Print the eight Memory Verse Review Signs from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Tape the Memory Verse Review Signs to the walls around the room.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student
- Eight Memory Verse Review Signs
- Masking tape



MESSIANIC PROPHECIES CLASS NOTES

- Print one Messianic Prophecies Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- Messianic Prophecies Class Notes for each student
- Messianic Prophecies Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



MESSIANIC PROPHECIES REVIEW BOUNCE

- Print one Messianic Prophecies Review Questions from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use.
- Bring in a playground ball.

- Messianic Prophecies Review Questions
- Playground ball



Memory Verse

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

► **Pace your lesson!** Use the clocks to mark the time you want to finish each section. This will help you stay on track and finish on time. You may need to shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the lesson key passages along with this background.

Have you ever tried to predict the future? How did that turn out for you? Sometimes, our guesses about what will happen in the future are based on sound reasoning and information, but even then, our predictions are not guaranteed to actually come to pass.

But this is not the case for our Creator—He knows all things past, present, and future. He alone is omniscient. God used prophets to speak for Him. And when He did, those things occurred. A true prophet was identified by the accuracy of his prophecy. If what he proclaimed did not come to pass, he was considered a false prophet (Deuteronomy 18:17–22).

Today, we'll see how God used His faithful prophet Isaiah. Isaiah spoke the words of God boldly and truthfully. Like the prophet Micah, Isaiah spoke about the coming Messiah in specific detail—700 years before He was born. We'll explore two of Isaiah's messianic prophecies, foretelling Christ's virgin birth and His death for our sin upon the Cross.

Isaiah 7:14 speaks of a virgin conceiving and bearing a Son whose name would be Immanuel. We later see a clear connection between Isaiah's words and the angel's message to Joseph in Matthew 1:20–25, where Isaiah's prophecy is repeated and the name of Immanuel is translated as "God with us." The virgin, Mary, would bring forth a Son by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus would be fully God and fully man (John 1:14). The prophecy of Isaiah 7:14, proclaimed almost 700 years before Jesus was born, was fulfilled and recorded in the New Testament.

The second prophecy from Isaiah that pointed forward to the Messiah came much later in his ministry. In Isaiah 52:13–53:12, Isaiah spoke of the suffering Servant who would be beaten, despised, mocked, and rejected. This Man would be wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. He would become the offering for sin and die in the place of sinners.

Only the hardhearted can read this passage and not recognize the suffering and death of Jesus during the final days of His life on earth. In fact, anecdotes tell of Christians asking Jews to listen to this passage and to identify who is being described. As they acknowledge it describes Jesus's death, they are then shocked to learn that these words were spoken by the Jewish prophet Isaiah in the Old Testament—700 years before Jesus's birth.

For Christians, these words from Isaiah should shock us as well, but in a different way. We should be shocked to realize how much Jesus had to suffer for our sins. Go back and read Isaiah 52:13–53:12 again. Think about your role in why Jesus was tortured and crucified. Remember that the Father had to crush His Son so that you would not face His wrath in hell. As you were a sheep wandering after your own desires, Jesus was led as a lamb to be slaughtered on your behalf. Now take a moment to read 1 Peter 2:21–25 and notice the language that Peter is borrowing from Isaiah.

Isaiah's Prophecy	Connections in 1 Peter 2
53:5—He was wounded for our transgressions	2:21—Christ suffered for believers
53:9—He did no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth	2:22—Christ committed no sin or deceit
53:7—He opened not His mouth	2:23—Christ did not return the reviling He received
53:4–5—He bore our grief and was wounded for our transgressions	2:24—Christ bore our sins on the Cross that we might be healed
53:6—We all like sheep have gone astray	2:25—We have all gone our own way, like sheep

Jesus has fulfilled the messianic prophecies delivered by Isaiah. What an amazing Savior we serve! He alone is worthy of our worship and praise. He is the only one who can save us from our sin. As you teach this lesson, pray that your students will fully understand their sinfulness and their need for this Savior—the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Isaiah was a prophet during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. His ministry lasted from about 760 to 700 BC and was primarily focused on Judah. His prophecies not only included calls to repentance from sin but also presented the hope of a future deliverer—the Savior and Messiah who would one day come.

We've said that Isaiah's prophecy of the virgin birth was 700 years before Jesus's birth. We know this

time frame to be true because the Bible says Isaiah spoke his words to King Ahaz (7:1, 7:3, 7:10), who ruled in Judah from 742–726 BC. Isaiah’s ministry continued into the reign of King Hezekiah who ruled from 726–698 BC. We read in Lesson 7 that Judah was attacked by the Assyrians in 712 BC during the fourteenth year of Hezekiah’s reign (Isaiah 36:1). The prophecies of Isaiah recorded in chapter 39 and following were delivered after Samaria fell to the Assyrians and when the Babylonian empire was on the rise. The prophecies from this later section of the book of Isaiah were most likely delivered around the same time since there are no clear time markers in the text. This places Isaiah’s description of the Messiah’s suffering and death more than 700 years before it happened.

One of the most powerful confirmations of the truthfulness of Scripture comes in the fulfillment of specific prophecies made well in advance of the actual events. The foreshadowing of Jesus’s death in Isaiah 53 was a demonstration of God’s sovereignty and omniscience as we recognize the precise fulfillment in the crucifixion recorded in the New Testament. God is the only one who knows the future with absolute certainty.

Although we can make plans, we can’t know what will happen tomorrow. In fact, to presume to know our future is to set ourselves in a place that only God should sit (James 4:13–16). God alone is omniscient. He alone knows the future. And He alone directs our

steps (Proverbs 16:9). His counsel will stand in spite of the plans we make (Proverbs 19:21). Confidence in His sovereignty and His omniscience will lead to confidence in His Word. That confidence can lead us to humbly submit to His Word and the truths it reveals—leading to an assurance of eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Savior and Lord, my heart is filled to overflowing with gratitude as I recognize your great love and the sacrifice you made for me on the Cross. Yet, my heart breaks because so many in my community don’t know you. Only your sweet Spirit, reminding me of your love and sovereignty, keeps me from despair. Draw the hearts of my loved ones to you. And please move in the lives of my precious students, too. As I name them one by one, I ask that you make them aware of their own sinfulness so they will experience the godly sorrow that leads to true repentance. Use me, as you will, to minister your Word to them this week.

► Because of the age and ability of 1st and 2nd graders to read and comprehend, we encourage you to read the Scriptures to the students. However, if you have strong readers, by all means have them participate by reading God’s Word.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete their Memory Verse Review Sheets by matching the numbers on their sheets with the same numbers on the wall signs to find the missing words. They will then read and/or recite the verse to the class or to each other.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Messianic Prophecies Class Notes

MATERIALS

- Messianic Prophecies Class Notes for each student
- Messianic Prophecies Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print the class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students fill in the blanks as you study the lesson.

We will be completing the class notes as we study the Bible passages. I'll let you know when to fill in something.

After filling out each point on the class notes, have the students re-read the statement together or call on individual students to read it.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we study today and fill in our class notes, we will learn that the prophecies about Jesus from the prophet Isaiah all came true!



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Refer to the History of Israel Poster. This week, our lesson is about God's prophet Isaiah. You might remember that we talked about him in Lesson 7. He was the prophet that King Hezekiah went to for advice when he heard that the Assyrian army was planning to attack Judah. *Refer to the Lesson 7 Lesson Theme Poster.* Well, God used Isaiah for something else, too!

- Use the History of Israel Poster included with your teacher kit to show your class where the biblical accounts you study chronologically fit into this timeline.

- ? Who remembers what Micah told the people? Refer to Lesson 8 Lesson Theme Poster. He told the people about Jesus.

That's right. And Isaiah, like the prophet Micah, had the privilege as God's messenger of announcing the Messiah—Jesus Christ. Both of these prophets of God spoke about Jesus's life about 700 years before Jesus was born.

Isaiah said some very particular things about Jesus, things he could only have known if God Himself had told him. We are going to study some of those things today. And we will see again that we can trust the Bible! It is true. God does not lie.

- ? Now look at your class notes. We are going to fill in all the blanks as we go through our lesson today. We'll start with #1. What should go in the blank? 700. And who can read that for me? Assign a reader.

So Isaiah spoke 700 years before Jesus and at the same time as the prophet Micah. Now let's see what God showed the people through His prophet Isaiah. I am going to turn to Isaiah 7:14 first. Listen as I read. Read *Isaiah 7:14* emphasizing the answers to the questions below.

Isaiah 7:14

EXAMINE THE WORD

We can learn a lot from this one verse. Let's get started.

Observe the Text

- ? First, what did the Lord give? A sign.
- ? Right. The Lord was going to show signs that pointed to Jesus, the Messiah. This verse says, "the virgin shall conceive." That means that a woman, Mary, was going to have a baby. According to this verse in the Bible, was the baby going to be a girl or a boy? *Isaiah 7:14. It will be a boy.*

The Bible says a son was going to be born. And sons are boys, right?

- ? Now, look at #2 on your class notes. Who can read that for me? What word will you put in there? *Boy.*

This was going to be a very special son for Mary. God was going to bless her in a wonderful way with this little boy.

- ? What was so special about this baby? Well, the Bible tells us. First, listen as I read Isaiah 7:14 again. Listen carefully. It tells us what the baby's name would be. *Re-read the verse.* What did the Bible tell us? What was He to be called? *Immanuel.*

- ? That's right. Go to #3 on your class notes. And someone read that for me. Assign a reader. What word goes in the blank? *Name.*

Yes, this special baby's name would be Immanuel. Now this is no regular baby, right? And the Bible tells us that His name would be Immanuel. But

► The virgin birth is difficult to explain to this age. Focus instead on the "special" birth of Jesus through the Holy Spirit and on the name Immanuel, God with us.

► Re-read the verses as necessary to help the students hear the answers directly from the biblical text.

He also had another name. We'll find out more in the book of Matthew in the Bible. I'll read Matthew 1:21. *Read the verse emphasizing "Jesus."*

- ? What was His name going to be according to this verse? *Jesus.*
- ? Right. And that gives us the answer to #4 on your class notes. What is it? *Jesus. And who will read that for me? Assign a reader.*
- ? And what does Jesus mean? *Re-read Matthew 1:21 if necessary. He will save His people from their sins.*

That's the name we know, right? Jesus! And He came to save people from their sins so they could go to heaven when they die.

- ? Go to #5 on your class notes. How will you finish that sentence? *Sins. And will someone read it for me? Assign a reader.*
- ? Now look back at #3 on your class notes. What was the name Isaiah told us this baby would have? *Immanuel.*

OK. So His name was Jesus, and He would be called Immanuel. We just learned that Jesus means He will save His people from their sins. But what does Immanuel mean? Let's take a look. I'm going to read Matthew 1:23. Listen and tell me what Immanuel means. *Read the verse emphasizing "God with us."*

- ? What does it mean? Did you hear it? *God with us.*
- That's right. This special baby Isaiah spoke about so long ago would be called Immanuel. That means God with us. That name fits well because Jesus is God!
- ? Now look at #6 on your class notes. How will you finish that? *God. And will someone read it for us? Assign a reader.*

Discover the Truth

Isaiah spoke for God about the Messiah, Jesus. He told them to look for special signs. These signs included that there would be a boy, a son, born in a special way to a young woman. And His name would be Immanuel. The people waited a long time for that son to be born. But then, 700 years later, God's Words came true. The Messiah was born. He was known as Immanuel. That name means God with us and is a good name for Him because He is God. AND He was called Jesus, which means He will save his people from their sins.

Jesus saves His people from their sins through His own death on the Cross. Jesus offers forgiveness of sins to all who turn from their sins and trust in Him. Isaiah told the people to look for the signs of this special child. Isaiah's words were passed down for 700 years—and finally the signs and the prophecies came true. Jesus was born.



READ THE WORD

Isaiah 53:3

God not only used Isaiah to tell us about the birth of Jesus, but about His life and death. Remember, these are prophecies. These were things Isaiah said about Jesus long before He was ever born. The people were learning about Jesus and waiting for Him to be born. Let's go back to the book of Isaiah. I want to read what Isaiah said would happen to Jesus. This is a very sad verse. Especially for those of us who love Jesus. Listen carefully. *Read Isaiah 53:3 emphasizing "despised, rejected, hid our faces from Him."*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

Despise: To hate, look down on.

Reject: To ignore, to not accept, to be unkind toward.

Now remember, Isaiah was talking about Jesus! And Isaiah was telling the people how men would feel about Him. Listen again, "He is despised and rejected by men."

? What does despised mean? *Allow discussion.*

Despised is a word that means He was hated. Men did not like Him.

? And what about rejected? What does that mean? *Allow discussion.*

Rejected means that people did not accept Jesus. They were mean to Him and turned away from Him.

Jesus would one day be born to save His people from their sins. Jesus was God with us! And yet the people He came to save would be mean to Him, hate Him, and push Him away. He would be despised and rejected. The people would turn away from Him.

? Will someone read #7 on your class notes? *Assign a reader.* What word is missing in that sentence? *People.*

Isaiah 53:5

This is not good news. And it doesn't get better—not yet! Let me read Isaiah 53:5. Isaiah was telling the people that Jesus would die. Listen to this, and then we'll talk about it. *Read Isaiah 53:5.*

Now you may not understand all of this. Let me explain, OK? Isaiah was telling what would happen to Jesus about 700 years before it happened. And we know now that it did happen. This says that Jesus was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. Being wounded and bruised doesn't sound like much fun does it?

? Those things hurt! And Jesus suffered those things for our transgressions and our iniquities. What does that mean? Transgressions and iniquities? *Allow discussion.*

Transgressions and iniquities are different words for sins. Isaiah was saying that Jesus would be wounded and bruised because of others' sins. He would suffer because of sins He did not commit.

- ? Now who knows the memory verse? Who can read it from the Memory Verse Poster? *Assign a reader for Isaiah 53:6.*
- ? What does this verse say about us? What animal does it compare us to? *Sheep.*
- ? Yes. And how are we like sheep? *We have gone astray.*

We have all gone astray, and we have all turned to our own ways. This means that we have all turned away from God. The Bible says we are all sinners.

- ? Look at #8 on your class notes. Will someone read it for us? *Assign a reader.* How will you complete the sentence? *Sin.*

We have all sinned. *Refer to Memory Verse Poster.* But this verse says that the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. That means that Jesus died for sinners like you and me. Because of our sin, Jesus had to die.

- ? Look at #9 on your class notes. What did Jesus do to save sinners? How will you finish that sentence? *Die.* And will someone read it for us? *Assign a reader.*

Discover the Truth

Wow! God's Word is amazing. The things we have talked about today were things that Isaiah told the people about the Messiah 700 years before Jesus was born. And when Jesus came, the things Isaiah said about His birth, life, and death proved to be true. Jesus was despised by men—they hated Him so much they killed Him. He came to die and take the punishment for sinners like you and me. And He didn't open His mouth. He didn't complain or fight back. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. Now, could Jesus have fought back? Of course He could have. He is God—God with us. But, He knew that was not God's plan for Him. He knew why He had come—like Isaiah said 700 years earlier—to carry our sorrows and die on the Cross so sinners could be forgiven.

There is not anything we can do to get to heaven. Jesus did it all! His death paid the penalty for all who will turn away from their sins and turn to Jesus. The Bible says that everyone who will receive Jesus, who will trust in His name, can become a child of God. God's children will be welcomed into heaven when they die—all because Jesus was obedient to God and willing to die for sinners.





Messianic Prophecies Review Bounce

MATERIALS

- Messianic Prophecies Review Questions
- Playground ball

INSTRUCTIONS

Bring in a rubber playground ball. Have the children stand in a circle. Ask a question. Have the students raise their hands if they know the answer. Bounce the ball to one of the students. When the student has answered, he can bounce the ball back to you. Continue through the questions, allowing different students to catch the ball and bounce it back to you. Repeat the questions if time allows.

We are going to review our lesson today with this ball. Let's get into a circle. *Explain how to play the game, then play.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Isaiah was a prophet of God. God spoke through him. But Isaiah was a man—a sinner like all men. He was a sinner who trusted and obeyed God. And he had faith that the Lord would do what He had said.



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

These prophecies and their answers remind us just how great God is! And we can rejoice because His Word is great! God knew from the very beginning that Jesus would come to save sinners. God used Isaiah to tell the people all about it 700 years before it happened! And Isaiah's words about a son who would have a special birth finally came true when Jesus was born. Not only that, Isaiah also wrote about Jesus's life. He told how the people would hate Him and finally put Him to death. And that is what happened to Jesus 700 years after Isaiah spoke about it.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

Isaiah said Jesus would come, and Jesus did come. He came to save sinners from their sins. Because of our sin, we are separated from God. We don't have a chance to get to God or to heaven on our own. God can't look at sin—He can't stand it. Our sin keeps us out of heaven and apart from God. This would be really sad, terrible news for us except for what we read

about today. Something God told us many, many years ago—through Isaiah—that a man would come and suffer for our sins. And His suffering and death would bring forgiveness to His people.

You see, the only way sins could be forgiven in the eyes of our holy God would be by this man's death. This man would have to be perfect because God demands a perfect sacrifice. No human being can ever be perfect because we all sin! The only thing God could do was to become a man Himself because He alone is perfect. Jesus was God and man. Jesus came to save sinners. And Jesus promises that everyone who believes in Him, all who turn away from their sin and trust in Him, will be saved. We can find forgiveness because Jesus was willing to die as a man on the Cross. Jesus loved us enough to take the punishment on Himself for our sins.



➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise God that we can trust His Word to be true.
- Thank God for sending His Son to take our sin upon Himself.
- Ask God to help us believe and obey His Word.

