

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. **Isaiah 9:6**

Before you begin:

Have you ever been in the hospital? Why?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Read Hebrews 4:14
- 2. When you experience hard times, to whom do you turn? Why?
- 3. Have you ever gotten bad advice from a counselor, either paid or informal? Would you be willing to share what the advice was with the group? (You may need to be discrete here)
- 4. Why do you think the person gave you bad advice? Do you think it was intentional?
- 5. Why is it so easy to push back from our faith with difficult times hit? Have you?
- 6. Read Hebrews 4:15.
- 7. What makes Jesus such a better high priest?
- **8.** What difference does it make when you have someone taking care of you or counseling you through a life situation who has been through what you have been through?
- 9. What difference does it make to know that the your counselor has overcome the struggle?
- 10. Read Hebrews 4:16
- **11.** Why do you think we can approach God's throne with confidence?
- **12.** Why do you think God is one of the last places that we go for help?
- **13.** Why do we often lack confidence, frankness, and bluntness in our prayers?
- **14.** Why does this make Jesus such a wonderful counselor?

Action Steps:

- 1. Share with your group a struggle you are going through. Spend some time as a group praying about your need together.
- 2. Find a time to get away with God. Get quiet and then journal a prayer to him. Be blunt and honest. Sit in quiet and listen.
- 3. Sometimes you need to talk with a professional counselor. It does not mean that you are weak or crazy. If you need to talk with someone you can contact the church office and we will meet with you or recommend someone to you.