

Day 12: Peace out

Read

'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 Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.' Isaiah 9.6 (ESV)

“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Luke 2.14 (ESV)

Reflect

Isaiah promised the arrival of a 'Prince of peace' (Isaiah 9) – and he didn't just mean peace and quiet! The Hebrew word for peace, shalom, means a state of completeness or wholeness. Isaiah was writing in a time of conflict... And so the angel's announcement of 'peace on earth' signals that Christmas is God remaking peace or shalom with this world. Through Jesus, he will one day bringing everything back under the blessings of shalom. In the meantime, Jesus grew up to teach his followers: 'Blessed are the peacemakers' (Matthew 5.9). Today your challenge is to make peace!

Challenge 1

Make amends with someone you've hurt

Challenge 2

Share a story of a time God has brought you peace
or wholeness, online or in person

Challenge 3

Pray for peace by posting a prayer on our prayer
tree