Jesus, Our Peace
Matthew 4:13-16; Isaiah 9:1-7

Looking Back
- Galilee considered "back water" (John 1:46)
- The Jews were under Roman control
  - Herod the Great was a regional "king"
  - Galilee was a disputed territory
- There was no peace
- When Messiah came, He was to bring peace (v. 4b-5)
  - This was understood as freedom from oppression
  - Peace = No War

Looking to His Birth
- The pronouncement at Jesus' birth was that He came to bring peace (Luke 2:14)
- Did Jesus bring peace with His birth? (Matt 10:34)
  - Jesus never ended a war between two nations

Right Now
- Peace means no conflict with God (Rom 5:1)
  - Peace does not mean no conflict in the world (Rom. 6:20a)
- Instead, Jesus offers us peace in the midst of the chaos of this world (John 14:27; Phil. 4:7)

Looking Forward
- When Christ returns, He will end all conflicts
  - But through war first
- He will then reign on Earth (Isa. 9:7)

So What?
- Do we have peace with God?
  - It only comes through Jesus Christ
- Do we work for peace on earth?
  - We need to point others to the Prince of Peace

Meditation Verse: Luke 2:14