

IMMANUEL - GOD WITH US

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through His prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" (Matthew 1:18-23)

- **Many people would say that more than anything else they would like to know that God is going to be present with them to help them in their life.**
- Isaiah the Prophet - *"The Lord Himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call Him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us')."* (Isaiah 7:14)
- **700 years before Jesus' birth the prophet Isaiah prophesied that a Savior would come who would let the world know "God is with us" (Isaiah 7:14)**
- ***What does Jesus' coming to our mean to us?***

Jesus Christ Has Come To Our World To:

BRING US <u>SALVATION</u>

- The Angel to Joseph – *"Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."* (Matthew 1:20-21)
- **People have always struggled with their sinful nature.**
- *"No one is righteous, not even one. . . . For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard."* (Romans 3:10, 23)

- **God is always willing to forgive us, welcome us into His family, and grant us eternal life.**
- *"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)

Jesus Christ Has Come To Our World To:

BRING US <u>COMFORT</u>

- **Every century and culture has brokenhearted people.**
- Jesus - *"The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to . . . heal the brokenhearted."* (Luke 4:18 NKJV)
- **Jesus came to bring help to the brokenhearted people.**
- *"Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for You are close beside me."* (Psalm 23:4)
- **During the darkest, most difficult times in our lives, we can know the Lord is with us and that He will help us.**

Jesus Christ Has Come To Our World To:

BRING US <u>FREEDOM</u>

- **Many people in every century have been enslaved by oppressors or by hurts, habits, negative emotions, etc.**
- Jesus - *"Everyone who sins is a slave of sin."* (John 8:34)
- **Jesus can free people from struggles and strongholds.**
- *"If the Son sets you free, you are truly free."* (John 8:36)

- **Experiencing God's salvation, comfort and freedom leads us to experience transformation in our lives.**
- **God wants to bless our lives and world with His presence just like He did that first Christmas, and will do so as we receive Jesus as our Savior (John 1:10-14).**
- **To receive Jesus as our Savior, we must: 1) recognize our need for Him, repent of our sins, 3) put our trust in Him, 4) surrender our lives to Him.**