

God With Us

March 17, 2024

Matthew 1:18-23

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God With Us").

What does "God With Us" mean for us?

"God With Us" reveals His <u>plan</u> for <u>us</u>

1 Peter 1:20

He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

"God With Us" shows His love for us

1 John 4:9

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

"God With Us" provides the perfect representative for us

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

"God With Us" opens the path for us

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

"God With Us" grants unlimited peace for us

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

"God With Us" reveals His willingness to fight for us

1 John 3:8

The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

"God With Us" provides the only rescue for us

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Jesus came on the world's greatest search and rescue mission!

Three Life-Changing Questions

Do you see how God's actions reveal the love He has for you and His longing to be in the right relationship with you?

1 John 4:10

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

Are you living with an awareness of His presence and His work on your behalf?

Romans 8:34

Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Is there an area in your life where fear is holding you back in your faith?

Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Three Words: Live It Out

- Embrace His Love
- Trust His Promises
- Share His Story