



TO BE WITH US

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Now the birth of Christ took place in this way ... v. 18a

I. God gave His Son to be _____ —God with us.

*"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel!"
(which means, God with us). v. 23*

- A. Immanuel was born of a virgin, conceived by the Holy Spirit.
- B. Immanuel came as a baby, humble and approachable.

IMMANUEL
MEANS GOD WANTS TO BE WITH YOU

II. Joseph gave His Son the name _____ —the one who saves us.

*"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."
... but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus. vv. 21, 25*

- A. Jesus took on flesh to relate to our everyday lives.
- B. Jesus took on flesh to live the sinless life we could never live.

JESUS
MEANS GOD MADE A WAY TO ALWAYS BE WITH YOU

THE ONE WHO IS HEAVEN-SENT WAS SENT FOR YOU

_____ : God's own people are the ones He saves from their sins.

_____ : God gives His people an unshakable identity, destiny and purpose.

_____ : God understands our struggles and strengthens us to endure.



DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

1. In his sermon, the pastor talked about the names *Immanuel* (given by God) and *Jesus* (given by Joseph). What insight into the Savior and His mission did this provide for you?

2. Read Matthew 1:18-25. What difference does it make that Jesus was miraculously conceived?

FOR THIS WEEK

Pick up your Matthew journal

Sign up to receive the weekly Scripture memory verses by texting Vision to 24253.

Journaling in Matthew 1:18-25

3. Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus is from Joseph's point of view. Imagine the agony of decision Joseph faced once Mary was with child (see Deut. 22:23-24). What options would he have been considering? How would he have had to adjust his life to obey what the angel told him?

4. What was the personal cost to Mary for her obedience to the Lord? How do the actions of this couple demonstrate God's wisdom in choosing them?

5. Does the miracle of Jesus' conception seem implausible? Matthew Henry wrote:

The mystery of Christ's incarnation is to be adored, not pried into. If we know not the way of the Spirit in the formation of common persons, nor how the bones are formed in the womb of any one that is with child (Eccl 11:5), much less do we know how the blessed Jesus was formed in the womb of the blessed virgin.

His miraculous birth can seem implausible when heard in isolation. But in the context of the rest of Jesus' life, the entire history of Israel and the changed lives of countless people, how does this miracle seem not only plausible, but *probable*? Why is this context important?

JOURNAL Matthew 1:18-25

We all identify as something—family member, group member, job title. But when we came to know Jesus, we were given a new name—*Christ Follower* or *Little Christ* (see 1 John 3:1). God tells us who we're called to be, and that person has an unshakeable identity, destiny and purpose.

Jesus came with an identity, and He came for *you*. What does this mean for you personally?

How have you been living as if your earthly identity is more important than your identity in Christ? What changes can you make to focus more on the identity Christ gave you?

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE AND JOURNAL WITH US. As part of our 2021-22 church family ministry vision, we're memorizing Scripture and journaling every week. You can get the week's verse in a Monday-morning text by texting Vision to 24253 to sign up. (If you did this during the Poured Out series in John, you're already signed up and ready to go!) Pick up your free Matthew journal in the Great Room.

MAKE PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AT CHRIST CHAPEL! Friday, Dec. 24 will be a special day here at Christ Chapel! Come worship with us as we celebrate the birth of our newborn King, Jesus. Services will be happening all afternoon and evening at all our campuses. Stop by the Christmas Eve station in the Great Room today to take a photo, pick up inviter cards and take care of your Reservation Reminders. You can also head to www.ccbcfamily.org/christmaseve for more info.

DATING, ENGAGED, OR NEWLEY MARRIED? AVENEW is a great place to discover God's mission for your relationship and learn practical ways to love and honor one another through life's highs and lows. To learn more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew and register for the upcoming class that starts Sunday, Jan. 9.

LET'S SERVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON! There are a lot of ways you can share God's love and hope this holiday season. Be a part of Secret Agent Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 18, or Christmas Outreach at Center of Hope on Saturday, Dec. 18. You can head to www.ccbcfamily.org/holidayserve to see all the opportunities now.

HEY PARENTS, REGISTER YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOLER FOR WINTER CAMP. Happening the weekend of Feb. 11-13, Winter Camp is a retreat for students in Grades 6-8 to talk about relationships, integrity, and sexuality. It will be a fun weekend and a safe place for honest conversations about finding our identity in Jesus. Head to www.ccbcfamily.org/events to learn more and register your student.

RE|ENGAGE YOUR MARRIAGE. re|engage offers hope to marriages by helping couples move toward oneness through stories of grace, teaching and small groups. Classes start Jan. 9, and you can find registration online at www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage.

BE ONE, MAKE ONE, REACH ONE THROUGH THIS YEAR'S END-OF-YEAR GIVING. As we have continued to direct our hearts and mission towards reaching the 800,000 individuals in our metroplex who don't know the Good News, all of your faithful and generous giving for this year's End-of-Year Giving will be offered to the Be One, Make One, Reach One steps. Envelopes for this special offering are located in the pew in front of you, or go to www.ccbcfamily.org/give.

LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text CCBCFW to 833-422-7200 to get started.