

## 20231224 They will call Him Immanuel

Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> 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.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup> All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “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.’”

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

<sup>25</sup> But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.

## TWO MAIN REASONS TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

### 1. Jesus came to save us from our sins.

Matthew 1:21

<sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

### 2. Jesus came into the world as a man to be with us

Matthew 1:22

<sup>22</sup> All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “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.’”

### Application: How to best celebrate Christmas

**Receive Jesus as the owner of our life** (the Savior, the Refuge, the Rock, the Fortress, the Shepherd) who makes our life beautiful, clean, and abundant with joy, hope, love and grace.