

Immanuel – God With Us

Main Bible Verse:

(Matthew 1:23) “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Summary:

1. (Matthew 1:18-25) The true meaning of Christmas is Emmanuel – God with us.
2. (Isaiah 7:14) Over seven hundred years before Jesus was born, prophet Isaiah prophesied, “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”
3. (Isaiah 9:6-7) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.
4. (Luke 2:1-14) Christmas is celebrating that over two thousand years ago, God sent His one and only son, to save His people from sin. Christmas means God loves us and He is with us. Jesus Christ came to earth, die on the cross for us to save us from sins. He also sent the Holy Spirit to be with us forever.
5. Emmanuel, the promise of His presence will always be with us. When God is with us, He will give us wisdom, He will heal us, He will protect us, He will strengthen us, He will help us, He will guide us, and He will show us the way. This is the truth about Christmas. Emmanuel does not stop at Christmas, but every day in our life, God is with us.
6. (Exodus 3:10-12) When Moses thought he could not do the work God had given him, God said to Moses, “I will be with you.” And that is why Moses was able to do God’s work.
7. (Joshua 1:1-6, 9) Joshua was timid, but God told him, “As I was with Moses, I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.” God also said, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”
8. During the time of hardship and trial, what we truly want is the presence of God to be with us. Because only when God is with us, we may have hope, for our hope is anchored in His word.
9. When we feel weary and burdened, when we feel like complaining, when we are seeing things in a negative way, ask the Lord to help us. Pray in the Holy Spirit. Ask God to strengthen us and to empower us. God is with us and He will strengthen us and help us. We must not stop praying and seeking Him.
10. God is the Lord of our salvation, He is with us, He is all that we need. When we are afraid, when we are weary, when we are burdened, when we feel helpless, when we are ill, remember, God is with us. He is going to help us, heal us, and mend our broken heart.
11. (Psalms 23:4-6) The presence of the Lord will always save us. What king David truly longed for was the presence of the Lord. There were enemies surrounding him, but daily he prayed to God and he worshiped God. God helped him, guided him, and taught him how to fight all his battles.
12. David truly knew that God is with him, that is why he said, “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.”
13. God is with us. We must daily pray to Him and praise Him. God knows everything and He wants to help us. That is why He told us, “I will not leave you as orphans.” That is why He sent the Holy Spirit to guide us.

14. God promised us the Holy Spirit. From the baptism of water and the baptism of the Holy spirit, to a daily life of worship and praise, the man of Christ will be born in us.
15. (John 14:26) Emmanuel, the promise that God is with us, the promise that the Holy Spirit lives in us. Just like what Jesus told us, "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. 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."
16. (1 John 4:4/Romans 8:31) The Holy Spirit will empower us to say "yes" to God and strengthen us to be a witness of God. When God is with us, we will be able to overcome, because the one who is in us is greater than the one who is in the world. When God is with us, who can be against us. When God is with us, we will be successful in our family, our business, and in all we do.
17. (Acts 2) When the disciples gathered together and continued to pray and to seek God, the Holy Spirit came and filled them.
18. How do we have the presence of God to be with us. There is no shortcut, but to continually pray, praise, and read the word of God. Just like how our body needs food to operate properly, we need our spiritual food. Without daily prayers, worships, and reading the word of God, we will have no direction.
19. (John 7:37) We need to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and to pray in tongue. If we are thirsty for God's wisdom, for the word of God, for God's direction, for God's way, and for God's healings, we must continue to pray and worship and ask the Holy Spirit to be upon us. Pray until the living water flow in us and the word of God be upon us, then we will receive wisdom, direction, strength, and healing.
20. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, the man in Christ in us will give us warning signs when we are about to put ourselves in danger. God loves us, we have to worship Him daily, have the kingdom of God in our heart. Jesus is coming soon, we should not be afraid, but to be strong and courageous, and to share the gospel.
21. (Psalms 50:23) When we celebrate Christmas, do not forget to have a thankful heart. We are here today because God loves us that He sent His son to save us. We could give a thanksgiving offering to God as a gift to Him. Thanksgiving offering is a voluntary act, not like tithe. Thank God for His love, for His help, and for His grace over the year.
22. (1 John 3:16-18) Love is in action and in truth. Giving to the poor is to help those who are in need around us, help those who God touches our heart to give. And remember to share the gospel while doing so. Tell everyone around us about Jesus. Tell them that God can be with them and they could also have Jesus as their God and savior.
23. (John 4:24) Share the gospel with love and compassion, do not condemn them. Jesus never condemned the Samaritan woman, He only waited for her and taught her to worship in spirit and in truth.
24. The greatest gift is to receive the salvation of Jesus. Today is the day of salvation. Share Jesus' love with our family, our friends, and all who's around us.