

They Shall Call His Name Emmanuel

Series:
The Gospel
According to
Matthew

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel” (which is translated, God with us).

Matthew 1:23

The Meaning of Emmanuel, “God with Us”

To what extent is God with us?

- He is not just on our side, rooting for our team, as a cheerleader. He did not simply choose our side instead of our enemy's side. He is not just supporting us and supplying us from afar.
- Rather, He is with us to the extent of coming to be with us, to solve our problems, to enter into us and to be one with us.
- **Matthew 1:20** says of the baby Jesus, "...that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit." Therefore, He was born of the Holy Spirit with the Divine Nature. Furthermore, He was born in a human virgin so He also has the human nature.
- Thus, He has a dual nature and as God with us, He is God in man, God blended with man.
- He is now **among** us as one of us and He is also **within** us; He is one with us.

The Steps of His becoming God with us to the extent of being one with us.

1. He is first our Savior - **Luke 2:11** Because today a Savior has been born to you in David's city, who is Christ the Lord.
2. Then He is our Redeemer - **Jn 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
3. Then He is our Life-giver - **1 Corinthians 15:45b** The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.



- When you were growing up, what importance did the birth of Jesus have?
- What new importance do you now find in the birth of Jesus in Matthew chapter 1?

The Presence of the Triune God, the Spirit of Reality

Being with Us in Our Gatherings

- **Matthew 18:20** For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst.

Being with Us All the Days

- **Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

Being with Us in Our Spirit

- 2 Tim 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.



- What is a prayer that will help us get into our spirit?
- What is it like to have the Lord's presence?

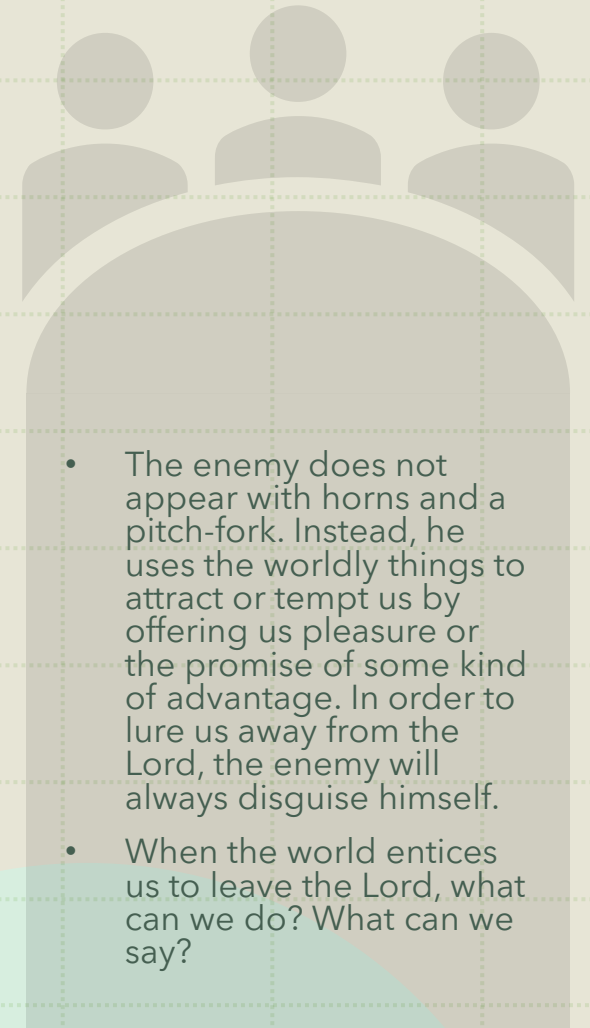
The Enemy Never Taking Over our spirit as the Land of Immanuel

- In the time of Isaiah, the Land of Immanuel was the good land that the children of Israel lived in. It was under attack by the Assyrians. The prophet Isaiah assured them that any frustration would not stand, for God was with them.
- **Isaiah 8:10** Take counsel, yet it will be frustrated; / Speak the word, yet it will not stand; / For God is with us.

Today, our spirit is the Land of Immanuel and the enemy can never overtake our spirit.

- **1 John 5:4** For everything that has been begotten of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory which has overcome the world – our faith.
- **John 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

(Help one another to pray to God using the words in the above verses. You could call this "pray-reading")



- The enemy does not appear with horns and a pitch-fork. Instead, he uses the worldly things to attract or tempt us by offering us pleasure or the promise of some kind of advantage. In order to lure us away from the Lord, the enemy will always disguise himself.
- When the world entices us to leave the Lord, what can we do? What can we say?