

Christmas

God Is With Us!

Christmas is Jesus' birthday! Every year on December 25th, people around the world celebrate Jesus' birth. We celebrate that God became a person and lived like us, so that He could save us. This is the great news of Christmas!

Jesus Is Born!

Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

- (18) 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").
- (24) When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.
- (25) But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Why didn't Joseph break off his engagement to Mary?

Luke 1:26-33 (NIV)

- (26) In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,
- (27) to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.
- (28) The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."
- (29) Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.
- (30) But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.
- (31) You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.
- (32) He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,
- (33) and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

How did Mary find out that she would have a baby?

Luke 1:34-38 (NIV)

- (34) "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"
- (35) The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.
- (36) Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month.
- (37) For no word from God will ever fail."
- (38) "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

In what ways was Jesus' birth supernatural?

Luke 2:5-7 (NIV)

- (5) He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.
- (6) While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,
- (7) and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Describe the circumstances of Jesus' birth.

Jesus' birth was foretold in many ways.

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6

Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)

- (14) Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

- (6) 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.

What can we learn about Jesus' birth from these verses?

God Is With Us!

Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

| (23) "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

Why is the name, "Immanuel," important?

Matthew 1:21 (NIV)

| (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."

What is the meaning of the name, "Jesus"?

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

| (16) For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
| (17) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Why did God send Jesus into the world?

Ask a Friend

What does Christmas mean to you?

Do you have any other questions about Jesus and His birth?

Christians also celebrate Easter. What do you know about Easter?

Application

What can you do this Christmas to celebrate Jesus' birthday?

What would you like to receive from God (through prayer) this Christmas?

Prayer Model

Lord Jesus, Thank You for becoming a man and living a perfect life. Thank You for coming to save us from our sins! I love You, Jesus.

Key Verse

Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

| "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."