

GOD WITH US

Matthew 1:18-25

INTRODUCTION

The Christmas season reminds believers of the radical means by which our Heavenly Father made himself known in a personal way to the human race. The events surrounding the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus into his Creation underscores God's desire to restore fellowship between himself and a fallen world.

THIS WEEK:

Discover this week from Matthew 1:18-25 the significant role Joseph played in God's plan to enter humanity's struggle, bring hope to broken world, and save us from our sins.

OBSERVATION *What does it SAY?*

Discover key details of the passage by reading Matthew 1:18-25 and then answering the following questions:

1. What was discovered after Mary and Joseph were engaged (v. 18)?
2. How did God assuage Joseph's fears (vv. 20-21)?
3. How was the name of the son born to the virgin in the prophecy translated (v. 23)?
4. How did Joseph respond to the angel's news (vv. 24-25)?

INTERPRETATION *What does it MEAN?*

Use the Bible to interpret the Bible. Look up the cross references and use them to interpret the passage under study:

5. What are the two metaphors used in Galatians 4:4-7 to describe the results of Jesus coming?
6. Consider Hebrews 2:17-18 and explain why Jesus had to be made like us in every way:
7. According to Hebrews 4:15-16, in what ways does Jesus' earthly life and death benefit those who struggle?
8. Explain how Jesus' arrival is a fulfillment of Genesis 3:15 and Genesis 12:2-3:

APPLICATION *Why does it MATTER?*

Now that you have discerned what the passage means, how does it apply to your life?

9. How should knowing Jesus is "God with us" bring us comfort?
10. What do you think it means to have "God with us" in our day?

11. How can knowing that Jesus experienced human suffering impact the way we approach our own struggles?
12. Describe a time in your life when you sensed Jesus was with you? What happened? How has it affected you?

TAKE AWAY *How does this change me?*

13. What does this passage reveal about God?
14. What does this passage reveal about humanity?
15. What is the Holy Spirit revealing in this passage about your life?