

Immanuel

Matthew 1:18-25

Key verses 22-23, “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”).

1. Who were Jesus’ human parents, and how did Joseph respond to this pregnancy (18-19)? What changed his mind, and what did he end up doing (19; 24-25)? What does this show about how God carries out his will on the earth?
2. Who is really Jesus’ Father and why is that important (18b, 20b)? What does sending his Son in this way show about God in terms of his character, his desire, and his resolve?
3. What does “Jesus the Messiah” mean? Why was he born into the family of David (Mt 1:1; Isa 9:6-7)? What does this mean to all who believe in him (Col 1:13)? What is his kingdom like (Mt 18:2-5; Jn 13:12-15; Lk 1:33)?
4. What does Jesus’ name show about what Jesus came to do (21)? What do we need saving from (Jn 8:34)? Why is this more than a personal problem? How does Jesus save his people from their sins (Mt 27:46; 1Pe 3:18a)?
5. Read verses 22-23. What prophetic meaning is revealed through this story? How is God being with us in Jesus a surprising thing (1Ti 6:16)? Can you think of any examples (then and now) of how Jesus is Immanuel? How do you see that Jesus is God with you?