

IMMANUEL: THE REALITY OF GOD WITH US

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CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT AN INVITATION

Matthew 1:21–24 (NLT)

And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet: ²³ “Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’ ”

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

IMMANUEL IS MORE THAN A NAME - IT’S THE REALITY OF GOD’S DESIRE TO BE WITH US!

Ephesians 2:4–9 (NIV)

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

YOU’RE INVITED TO THE KING’S TABLE!

COMMUNION IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP IN RESPONSE TO IMMANUEL’S INVITATION

1 Corinthians 11:23–28 (NLT)

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread ²⁴ and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁵ In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.”

AS WE RESPOND IN COMMUNION:

1. REMEMBER HIS SACRIFICE

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF ALL SIN

1 Corinthians 11:26

For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.

2. ANNOUNCE HIS DEATH UNTIL HE RETURNS

IT'S MORE THAN REMEMBRANCE - HE IS HERE RIGHT NOW

1 Corinthians 11:27-28

So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

3. EXAMINE YOUR HEART

ASK GOD TO REVEAL ANY SIN IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU NEED TO CONFESS

1 John 1:9–10 (NIV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

RESPOND TO THE INVITATION OF IMMANUEL!