



MATT 1:18-25. ¹⁸This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and **you are to name him Jesus**, for **he will save his people from their sins.**" ²²All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "²³Look! 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.'" ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. ²⁵But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.

What's the big deal about the baby in the manger?

- He was given a _____ = "Jesus"
→ From the Hebrew "Jeshua" meaning "God saves"

MATT 12:21. ²¹His name will be the hope of all the world.

- He was given a _____ = "the Christ"
→ From the Hebrew "Mashiach" meaning "the anointed one and the Greek "Christos" meaning the "the chosen one"

MATT 1:16. ¹⁶Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

What's the big deal about Bethlehem?

- Bethlehem put God's _____ to save the world into action

MICAH 5:2. ²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are in the distant past, will come from you on my behalf.

GAL 4:4-5. ⁴When the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. ⁵God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.

- Bethlehem made the _____ of God known

JOHN 1:14. ¹⁴So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

JOHN 14:9. ⁹Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!

HEB 1:3. ³The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God.

- God entered the world not _____ a human, but _____ a human

PHIL 2:7. ⁷He gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.

HEB 4:15-16. ¹⁵He understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

- Because of Bethlehem, we have a _____

2 COR 5:21. ²¹For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

JOHN 3:16. ¹⁶For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.