

God With Us December 14, 2025 Questions for Study and Group Discussion

** Before you begin, please read Matthew 1:18-25 as a group.

- 1. What are some of your favorite Christmas time traditions?
- 2. So far this Christmas season, what have you done (if anything) to keep the birth of Christ central in your thinking? What could still be done before Christmas to help this happen?
- 3. Read Matthew 1:18-19 again. Try to imagine being in Joseph's position here. Imagine being engaged and this happening with your fiancé. How do you think you would have responded to something like this?
- 4. Look at verses 20-21. If you were Joseph, what would your reaction to this be? Would you be relieved, confused, excited, or terrified? Why?
- 5. What is something from your past (even the very recent past) that's causing you anxiety, fear, or pain?
- 6. How does the reality of "Immanuel"—knowing that God is right there with you—help give you a new perspective on the situation?
- 7. Read over verses 24-25 again. Joseph obeys quickly but is sacrificing his entire reputation here. Why does he not hesitate to give up his future?
- 8. In verses 22-23, Matthew gives an editorial comment and quotes from Isaiah 7:14, giving validity to everything that has happened. How does "Immanuel" (Almighty God breaking into His creation in the form of a man) create a uniqueness in Christianity that differs from every other world religion?
- 9. How is what Joseph did for Mary similar to what Jesus did for us on the cross? What would have happened to Mary if Joseph didn't take her home as his wife?
- 10. Christmas means that God—though He was "put together"—became broken and vulnerable for us, so that we, through His brokenness, might be "put together" again (see 2 Corinthians 8:9). Let this sink in this week.