# Immanuel

Christmas 2018

18 This 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.

19 Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. 20 As 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. 21 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.'"

# Our With-Us-God

"The omnipotent, in one instant, made himself breakable. He who had been spirit became pierce-able. He who was larger than the universe became an embryo. And he who sustains the world with a word chose to be dependent upon the nourishment of a young girl. God was given eyebrows, elbows, two kidneys and a spleen. He stretched against the walls and floated in the amniotic fluids of his mother... God had come near."

Max Lucado

# Our With-Us-God

Peter said, "We saw his majestic splendor with our own eyes" (2 Pt. 1:16), and John said, "In the beginning the Word already existed, the Word was with God and **the Word was God**... The Word became human and made his home among us... He has revealed **God to us**" (John 1:1-18)



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God! Ephesians 2:8