



# Message Notes

Week 4:  
A Story of Presence  
Matthew 1:18-25

Big Idea for this week:  
God with us is God's presence in us

1. Jesus was given to be \_\_\_\_\_ us.

2. The Holy Spirit was given to be \_\_\_\_\_ us.

1. with  
2. in

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday gathering. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with your Life Group.

1. Think back to God's message this week. What sticks out to you?

2. What do the 3 names, or descriptions, of Jesus mean? Why are they each significant? How do they bring new meaning to the Christmas story? How has God shown Himself faithful to you in the Name Jesus, the title Messiah, and description Immanuel?

3. Have you ever experienced a valley in your life? What did God teach you in it? Do you agree that we most know God's presence in the valleys? What is the hardest part about valleys in life? How might God use those experiences in your life to continue to show you His presence?

**Share the Truth.** God is faithful, even when it doesn't always feel like it. And more than that, He is present in our lives today. He is present in each of us through the person of the Holy Spirit. Who is God laying on your heart to share this presence of God with? When God gives you an opportunity to share it, be obedient and share the truth.

**Ask yourself.** Am I experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit in my life? Is He living in and through me? Am I living out Immanuel? If not, why? Is the Holy Spirit in you? He is your power!

**Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus, our Savior and Your Messiah. Thank You that He is the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophesy, the promise of Your presence. Thank You for Your Holy Spirit who lives in us, Your children. We are eternally grateful for Your presence. In Jesus' Name, Amen.**