

How does God communicate His love for us?

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son... Galatians 4:4a

It was personal, so God came in person.

... born of a woman, born under the law⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Galatians 4:4b-5

Jesus' death was a demonstration of how much God was for us.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you.¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. Acts 3:14-15

Jesus' death demonstrated the magnitude of our sin and the greatness of God's love.

- Christ died for us.
- Christ died to bring us to God.
- Christ died for our sins.
- Christ died our death.

God came to be with us so we could know He was for us.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). Matthew 1:20-23

Let's Connect

Does your family have any unique Christmas traditions? If so, share one.

Let's Talk About It

Who needs Christmas? Well, as it turns out, we all do. Even God needed Christmas. Christmas is the tangible demonstration of God's love for us. God sent Jesus to do what the law couldn't do – forgive sins. Jesus' birth and death reveal the magnitude of our sin and the greatness of God's love.

Galatians 4:4-7; Romans 5:6-8; Acts 3:14-15; Matthew 1:20-23

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Galatians 4:4-5 and Matthew 1:20-23. Pastor Gregg brought up some questions that are central to the message of Christmas (*Why did God come as a baby? Why show up like the rest of us, as one of us?*) What questions about Jesus or the Christmas story have you wrestled with?
- Read Acts 3:14-15. Have you ever needed to "see it to believe it"? What were you unconvinced about? How did seeing proof change your opinion?
- Read Romans 5:6-8. God needed Christmas because He needed a way to *demonstrate* His love – "love must be shown to be known". How has someone in your life shown love for you through action or sacrifice? What are some truths about God you wouldn't know if Jesus hadn't demonstrated it?
- In the message, Pastor Gregg said, "Jesus' death demonstrated the magnitude of our sin and the greatness of God's love." Is it difficult to believe God loves you that much? What can you do this Christmas season to show your gratitude for God's choice to demonstrate His love for you?

Take a Step

- What can you do this Christmas season to show your gratitude for God's choice to demonstrate His love for you?
- Invite someone to attend one of our Christmas services.

Here's My Prayer

- Lord, thank you for demonstrating Your love for me by sending Your Son, Jesus, to earth in human form. Thank you, Jesus, for giving your life to take away my sin and restore my relationship with God.