

*How Can You Know?*

Pastor Gregg Brenes

**How does God communicate His love for us?**

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law<sup>5</sup> to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Galatians 4:4-5

- **It was personal, so God came in person.**

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

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.<sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6-8

- **We owe our lives to God. When we sin against God, we owe the Giver of life a debt we could never repay.** (Acts 3:14-15)
- **Jesus' death demonstrated the magnitude of our sin and the greatness of God's love and provision.**

**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."<sup>21</sup> 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."<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:<sup>23</sup> "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

**Our response to God's demonstration of love: We want others to know God is for them.**

- **Who in your life needs the gift of forgiveness from you?**
- **Who in your world doesn't yet know that God is for them?**

**Let's Connect**

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

**Let's Talk About It**

Christmas is the tangible demonstration of God's love for us. God sent Jesus to do what the law couldn't do – bring us into a personal relationship with Himself. Jesus' birth, life, and death reveal the magnitude of our sin and the greatness of God's love and provision. This Christmas season, we have the joy of letting others know that God loves them and is for them.

Galatians 4:4-7; Romans 5:6-8; Acts 3:14-15; Matthew 1:18-23

- Which part of the message impacted and challenged you?
- Read Galatians 4:4-5 and Matthew 1:18-23. Pastor Gregg brought up some questions 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?*). Why didn't Jesus just pronounce everybody forgiven?
- Read Romans 5:6-8. Through Christmas, God demonstrated His love for us – "love must be shown to be known". What are some truths about God you wouldn't know if Jesus hadn't demonstrated them?
- In the message, Pastor Gregg said, "Jesus' death demonstrated the magnitude of our sin and the greatness of God's love and provision." Is it difficult to believe God loves you that much? Why or why not?
- What can you do this Christmas season to show your gratitude for God's choice to demonstrate His love for you? How can you show God's love for someone in your life through forgiveness or sacrifice?

**Take a Step**

- What can you do this Christmas season to show your gratitude for God's choice to demonstrate His love for you?
- Take a step of faith and 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.