

O COME O COME IMMANUEL

Today we will look at the theological depth of the Christmas carol "O Come O Come Emmanuel" through the lens of Matthew 1:22-23. We will focus on the understanding of "Immanuel" (God with us) and its significance in God's redemptive plan. Jesus, being fully God and fully man, came to rescue us from sin and adopt us into God's family. The incarnation shows us that we weren't created to serve a distant God but to walk with a loving Father.

ACCOMPANYING SCRIPTURE:

Genesis 3:15 2 Chronicles 29:2

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• Share a time when someone kept an important promise to you. How did it make you feel?

WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

• Read Matthew 1:22-23 and Isaiah 7:14. What similarities and differences do you notice?

UNDERSTANDING DEEPER

- How does the Sawi people's "peace child" tradition help us understand Jesus' role as God's Peace Child?
- Why was the concept of God becoming human (incarnation) so radical in both Jewish and Greek thinking?

APPLICATION

 How does knowing God is "with us" change how you approach your daily challenges?

NEXT STEPS

- What area of your life needs to surrender to "Immanuel" this Christmas season?
- How can you share the hope of "God with us" with others this week?

LIVING MISSIONALLY THIS CHRISTMAS

FAMILY ACTIVITY: Create an "Immanuel Journal" where family members write daily observations of how they saw "God with us" in their day. Share entries during dinner time.

WITH FRIENDS: Host a Christmas gathering where you share stories of how God has been "with you."