

God with us!

When Jesus was born the world learnt that his name would be *Immanuel* which means “God with us”.

The significance of this is awesome.

First, the Creator of our universe had chosen to presence himself with us in the flesh – *God with us!*

Second, he didn't send a substitute! He came personally, himself – the all-powerful One who alone is righteous, holy and good.

Third, our God who is omniscient (knows all things) chose to fully identify himself with us so that he could meet our greatest need.

Fourth, “God with us” speaks of companionship! What kind of companionship? Jesus said to his disciples, “I have called you friends” John 15.15. No friendship has ever matched this – unique in the universe! And there is more!

Fifth, he has promised never to leave us or forsake us. See Hebrews 13.5. So, no matter what the circumstance, by his spirit he is there with us. His last earthly words confirm this. He said, “I am with you always!” Matthew 28.20.

It is this wonderful message that makes Christmas a truly personal event. God is not just somewhere in the sky. He is here, ever with us, leading, guiding, supporting.

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**“We can nowhere evade the presence of God. The world is crowded with him.”
– C. S. Lewis**

Ken Packer