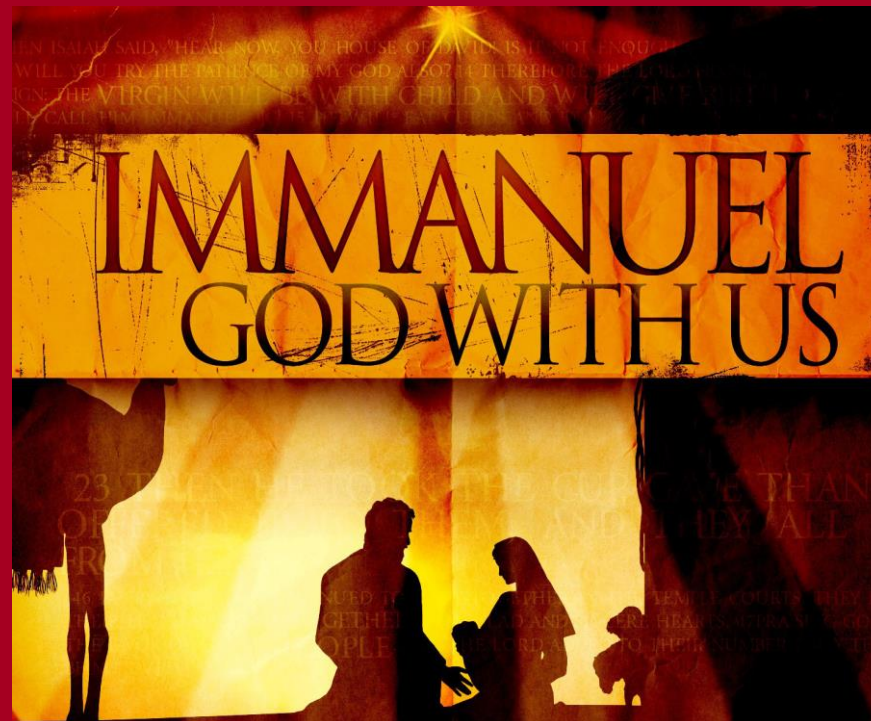


GOD WITH US

Matthew 1:18-25



- I. We should not make hasty decisions (vv. 18-19).
 - A. Mary was afraid (v. 18).
 - B. Joseph was suspicious (v. 19).

- II. We should gather all the facts (vv. 20-21).**
 - A. Joseph learned this was an act of God (v. 20).**
 - B. Joseph learned this was the Messiah (v. 21).**

**III. We should be receptive to the Word of God
(vv. 22-23).**

**A. Knowing God's Word removes many surprises
(v. 22).**

**B. Knowing God's Word provides much comfort
(v. 23).**

IV. We should respond appropriately to the Word of God (vv. 24-25).

A. We must respond to God's Word with obedience (v. 24).

B. We must respond to God's Word with trust (v. 25).

For both Mary and Joseph their confidence came from knowing Scripture.

Scripture teaches that Jesus will return someday.

The Bible says that we are all sinners.

Jesus was our sinless substitute.

On the third day Jesus rose again.

As we think of gifts this time of year, let's not forget the greatest gift of all.