

Matthew 1:18-25 The birth of Jesus

Big Idea: God became man in the person of Jesus to save his people from their sins so he could be with them.

Fallen Condition: People are sinful and separated from God

Christ Solution: Jesus was born of the virgin so he could save us from our sin (by his life death and resurrection) and reunite us to God so we can be with him forever by faith

Passage: Matt 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Applying the Discover Bible Study Method

Connect and Review

Spend 5-10 minutes on some of these questions

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties have you faced this week?
- How did you apply what you learned last week?
- How did you experience God this past week?
- How can we pray for each other?

Read God's Word

Have someone read the passage

Ask: are there any words or phrases they do not understand?

Explain confusing words as needed

Have someone else read it in a different version

Have Someone else retell the story in their own words

(Anyone want to add to that?)

Discuss God's Word

In this passage...

...what did you like?

... what surprised you?

... what confused you? Why?

What does this passage tell us about ...

... God?

... Jesus?

... Holy Spirit?

Additional questions if helpful:

- What did the angel tell Joseph to name the child and why?
 - What does the name Jesus mean? (God saves)
- Why might Matthew have quoted the prophet in verse 23?
- What does the name Immanuel mean?
 - Why would it be appropriate to refer to Jesus as Immanuel?
- Why might it be significant that Jesus was born of a virgin?
- How does it impact you to hear that God became human to be with us?
 - What might this tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about...

— people?

... the relationship between God and people?

Additional questions if helpful:

- Vs 21 says Jesus will save people from their sins
 - What does it mean that people have sins?
 - Why do we need to be saved from our sins?
 - How did Jesus save people from their sins?
 - How do we receive this salvation Jesus provides? (Faith)
 - Why does it matter that Jesus saves people from sin?
 - What difference has this truth made in your life?
- How did Joseph initially react to finding out Mary, who he was going to marry, was pregnant?
 - What do you think of his reaction?
- How did Joseph respond to God's instruction given by the angel?
 - How does his response impact you?

Obey God's Word

How does this passage change the way you view

... God?

... yourself?

... other people?

How should this passage change how you live?

What specifically will you do differently this week?

Who can you tell what you learned?