



**December 8, 2024**

***The Expectant Hope of Immanuel  
God with Us***

**Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23**

1. This prophecy in Isaiah 7:14 was given in a time of fear for King Ahaz and Judah. How do you respond to God's promises when you face fear or adversity? Are there specific promises (from Scripture) you are holding on to in your current season of life?
2. Jesus' virgin birth connects the Old and New Testaments, showing God's consistent plan of redemption. How does this help you view the Bible as a unified story, rather than disconnected writings?

*How can understanding this unity deepen your study of Scripture and its application to your life?*

3. Jesus' virgin birth affirms His full humanity and divinity. How does knowing that Jesus understands your struggles as a human (see also Heb. 2:14-5; 4:15-16) while having divine power to save you (see Matt. 1:22-23, Jn. 1:1-18) impact your relationship with Him?
4. The name "Immanuel" means "God with us." Compare that with the following passages: Ps. 16:8; Isa. 41:10; Rom. 8:37-39; Eph. 3:14-21. Being as practical as possible, describe how the assurance of God's presence brings comfort and strength in your daily life.
5. Matthew highlights the fulfillment of prophecy and God's plan to save humanity (Matt. 1:22-23). How can you become more intentional about sharing this good news with others in your sphere of influence? In what ways does your life reflect the reality of "God with us" to those around you?