

“Immanuel, God’s ‘Impossible’ Presence”

Christmas 2024

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Key Truth: In Christ, God brings about an “Impossible” Deliverance.

God is all about doing the Impossible. After all, who could’ve imagined that the universe and all it contains could be created out of nothing? Only God. When Mary questioned the likelihood of a virgin conceiving a child, the angel replied, “For nothing will be impossible with God” (Luke 1:37). When the disciples wondered how anyone could be saved if not even the wealthy could enter the Kingdom of God, Jesus said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” (Luke 18:27; Matt. 19:26). With God all things are Possible. We need to strengthen our faith in the God who does the Impossible, and in a God who keeps his promises. We find it difficult to keep our promises, yet God is trustworthy. He’s a God of singular integrity, and He’s a God who has the power to carry out every promise of His. In short, God does the Impossible.

DISCUSS

Read **Matthew 1:18-25** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled “Immanuel, God’s ‘Impossible’ Presence.”

DIG IN

1. An “Impossible” Situation: (Matthew 1:18-19)

Why was this situation “impossible” for Joseph and Mary? What religious, social, and physical barriers were they facing?

What are some examples of “impossible” situations we face?

Why was revelation from God necessary for Joseph to navigate his circumstances? In what ways does God’s Word help us in our “impossible” situations?

2. God’s “Impossible” Promise: (Matthew 1:20-23a)

What were the promises God made to Abram and to Joseph and Mary? In what ways was Joseph’s case the opposite of Abram’s situation?

In what ways were these promises “impossible” for both Abraham and Joseph?

What does it tell us about God that he can make promises centuries before they take place? In what ways does that strengthen our faith?

3. God’s “Impossible” Presence: (Matthew 1:23b-25)

In what ways does “God with us” (v. 23) relate to “he will save his people from their sins” (v. 21)?

In what way did Jesus save his people from their sins? How was that a fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel?

In what ways is this salvation impossible with us but possible with God?

DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?