



# WHEN GOD BECAME FLESH

STUDY GUIDE • MATTHEW 1:18-23





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## PASSAGE

### Matthew 1:18-23

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

## LESSON AIM

### GCF Members and attendees will...

1. Believe that Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully man.
2. Find assurance that God is with His people now and for eternity.
3. Appreciate God's forgiveness of their sins through Christ's work on the cross.
4. Thank God for giving us the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

## I. WELCOME

Ask each person to share an unforgettable gift they received. What made the gift special so that it has become etched into memory?

### Transition

*People usually associate Christmas with gift-giving. We celebrate Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. God sent Him to earth to fulfill His plan of saving humankind from sin and death. During this season of gift-giving, let us not forget the greatest gift of all - Jesus Christ.*

## II. WORSHIP

**Reminder:** For families and small groups, being mindful of invited first timer guests unfamiliar to Christian praise and worship, here are some suggestions how you can worship God in preparation for the Bible Study:

- A. Sing the following Christmas songs:
  - [O Holy Night](#)
  - [Joy to the World \(Unspeakable Joy\)](#)
- B. As a group, recount the story of Christ's birth. You may divide the story into several portions so each person can take part.

### III. WORD

**Reminder:** Remember to pray for the invited guests silently during the study of the Word. May the Word powerfully speak to the guests. Do not force the guests to share their answers, mindful that they are not possibly familiar with the Bible. Proceed with the study of the Word by reflecting and answering the following questions:

- A. How was Jesus conceived? (vv. 18, 20)
- B. How did Joseph respond when he found out that Mary was pregnant? (v. 19)
- C. What did the angel tell Joseph regarding the baby in Mary's womb? (vv. 20-21)
- D. What prophecy did Jesus' birth fulfill? (vv. 22-23)

### IV. WALK

**Reminder:** The group must be conscious in giving the guests time to process and reflect on the Word of God, mindful that they may not yet fully comprehend all of the things discussed in the study of the Bible. The GG leader or GG member who invited the guests must commit to follow-up 1 to 2 days after the GG meeting to share the Good News in a more personal manner, and to follow them up by inviting them to your next GG meeting. So then reflect and take turns answering these questions:

- A. Jesus is unique among humankind because He alone is both human and divine. (cf. Acts 2:22, 36; Ephesians 2:5-7) He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary. (cf. Matthew 1:16; Galatians 4:4) Is there anything hindering you from believing this?
- B. Jesus was prophesied in Isaiah 7:14 as *Immanuel*, meaning "God with us." When He was born, God was literally with us in Christ. What does it mean for you that God is with you? Now that Christ has ascended back into heaven, does that mean God is no longer with us? (cf. John 14:16-17, 26; Revelation 21:1-4)

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- C. God sent Jesus into the world to “save his people from their sins.” Jesus accomplished this through His life, death, and resurrection. (cf. Romans 3:21-26) Is there anything hindering you from receiving the gift of forgiveness from sin which is available through Christ alone?
- D. Take a few minutes to thank God for giving us the greatest gift of all - Jesus Christ, His Son.



**Your feedback is important to us.**

Do you find this study guide helpful in leading your growth group?  
If you used this study guide in leading your growth group,  
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## **Greenhills Christian Fellowship**

**Know Christ and Make Him Known**

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