

9. What fears do you have about life, loved ones, and ministry? In view of what *Immanuel* means, how should you respond to those fears?

10. How can you pray for ABC this week?

### Quotes to Ponder

*Jesus endured a human birth to give us a new spiritual birth. He occupied a stable that we might occupy a mansion. He had an earthly mother so that we might have a heavenly Father. He became subject that we might be free. He left His glory to give us glory. He was poor that we might be rich. He was welcomed by shepherds at His birth whereas at our birth are welcomed by angels. He was hunted by Herod that we might be delivered from the grasp of Satan. That is the great paradox of the Christmas story. It is that which makes it irresistibly attractive. It is the reversal of roles at God's cost for our benefit.*

James Montgomery Boice

*The world is happy to let Jesus Christ be a baby in a manger, but not willing to let Him be the sovereign King and Lord that He is. Yet that is the central truth of the Christmas story: the Child of Christmas is God.*

John MacArthur

*Man's Maker was made man, that He, Ruler of the stars might nurse at His mother's breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that Truth might be accused of false witnesses, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die.*

Augustine

*God's presence as our protector is a common biblical theme (Psalm 46). As God in a human body, Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of "Immanuel"—God with us. As such, He is the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6-7). Hallelujah!*

David Jeremiah

*The simple meaning of Christmas is the Creator King of the universe has become a human being. That's the message of Christmas. Everything else is secondary.*

Timothy Keller



Advent #3: Matthew 1:18-2:4; Isaiah 7:14

December 11, 2016

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?

2. How does the text and sermon apply to your everyday life?

3. What does *Immanuel* mean (*Matthew 1:23*)? What does this tell us about Jesus?

4. In *Exodus 40:34*, what was the purpose of the tabernacle of the Lord which was set up in the midst of all the tents of Israel?

5. According to *John 1:14*, who is *the Word* (cf. *John 1:1*)?

What did the *Word* become?

How does the fact that *the Word...dwelt (tabernacled) among us* connect with *Exodus 40:34*?

What did John mean by the statement, *we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father*?

6. According to *Hebrews 13:5-6*, what effect should God's continual pres-

ence have upon us?

7. According to *Isaiah 43:2*, what word reveals that trials are inevitable? What consoling promises does God give us?

8. Read *Hebrews 4:14-16*. What is Jesus called?

What is Jesus able to do as our High Priest?

Why is Jesus able to sympathize with our weaknesses?

What words prove that Jesus is absolutely righteous, an attribute of God?

How should we approach God in prayer?

What is God's throne called?

What should we expect from God when we pray?