**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr December 25, 2022**

**Immanuel (God With Us)**

Matthew 1:18-25

**Key Truth:** Jesus coming to earth to be with us fulfills the name “Immanuel” and entails the promise of our going to heaven to be with Him.

**What’s In A Name:**

1. He is the God-Man who took upon Himself the mission of

 providing the way of salvation for sinful people. John 5:18,

 John 10:30-33, Philippians 2:5-11

2. God with us means Jesus is the one who defines our

 meaning, purpose, and life.

3. God with us means that no matter how bad life gets, we

 are never alone.

4. The coming of Jesus the Messiah was God’s greatest

 work in His redemptive outreach to His fallen creation.

**Encountering Immanuel:**

1. God invites each of us to repent of our old life of sin and

 to put our hope and trust in Jesus as Savior.

2. You must declare spiritual bankruptcy in-order to have

 righteousness credited to your account. Philippians 3:8-11

3. Don’t allow fear or ridicule from others to stop you from

 receiving Jesus, Immanuel into your life.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Praise God for sending Jesus, Immanuel, to save us from our sins and purchase our eternal redemption. Share the good news of Jesus with others during this Christmas season.

**Food For Thought:**

What is the worst Christmas season you’ve ever had? What made it so bad?

During that difficult season, in what or in whom were you placing your hope or expectations?

How have you placed your hope and expectations in God, even when circumstances made trusting Him difficult?

Immanuel means “God is with us.” What does that mean to you?

How have you experienced the truth of Jesus being Immanuel?

Read Philippians 2:5-11: What do we learn about Jesus from these verses?

What do you think it was like for Jesus to leave heaven and become human? What did He give up in doing so? What did we gain from His actions?

Though culture often views humility as a sign of weakness, in what ways did Jesus’ humility convey and require strength?