

HE WAS BORN TO BE GOD WITH US

(15–20 minutes, easy set-up)

Use this outline and the Biblical Commentary to prepare to share the truths of this passage with learners. Encourage learners to take notes on their copies of the Learner Worksheet as you teach. The underlined words in the Master Teacher Outline correspond to the blanks on the worksheet.

Introduction: Most of us carry multiple roles. Simultaneously, we can be a spouse, a parent, a grandparent, a friend, a boss, and a worker. Each role requires something different from us, and is a part of the totality of who we are. Likewise, God sent His Son to us to fulfill multiple roles. The first of these is that God sent His Son Jesus to be with us.

1. **God promised to send His Son to be God with us (Isaiah 7:14-16).**

- During Judah's most difficult times, God encouraged the people with the promise to send His very own Son, who would be called Immanuel, which meant "God with us" (v. 14).
- God explained that His Son would live humbly, and would know the difference between good and evil (v. 15).
- God promised that the invading armies that threatened Judah would not last (v. 16).
- Because **God Is**, He has the power to send His Son to be with us.

Illustration: The promises that mean the most are the most costly to the one who promises. When God promised to send Immanuel, He willingly promised what would cost Him the most . . . the one and only Son He had. God's promise was not an idea that happened in the spur of the moment. Rather, it was a part of God's plan for His created world from the beginning of its creation.

2. **God announced the fulfillment of this promise through the birth of His Son (Matthew 1:21b-23).**

- God sent an angel to Joseph to explain that the child Mary, Joseph's betrothed, carried was Jesus, His Son (v. 21b).
- Matthew recorded that the event of Jesus' birth fulfilled God's promise in Isaiah 7:14-16 (vv. 22-23).

Illustration: For children, waiting for Christmas morning to arrive is almost more than they can stand. They see the presents and know some of those are for them, and they can't wait to see what they are. The birth of God's Son on that first Christmas morn was the end of a long period of anticipation as the world awaited the promised Messiah, who had been promised so many years before to God's servant, Isaiah.

Conclusion: God, in His infinite wisdom, could have used any number of ways to restore His people back to Himself. Yet, He chose the one way that cost Him the most . . . He sent His Son to be with us. John recorded, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (3:16). God's love for us was overwhelmingly demonstrated through the gift of His Son to be with us.