

Week 2

Immanuel

Immanuel is simply 'God with us'. This has been the promise of God throughout the whole of the bible. But now it is encapsulated in a person – Jesus.

Recall last Sunday's sermon, what were the salient points for you? Share them with your group and any further reflections on the topic.

Look up Isaiah 7:14 and discuss the context of the saying (hint in the midst of all the troubles God still makes promises... what are they?)

Consider Matthew 1:22-23 and what it tells you about its original context and what it now tells you about the fulfilment of the promise.

Are you able to glean any insight into the particular nature to this name of Jesus?

What stands out the most?

Reflect on Matthew 28:20 and discuss if this has any relevance to this particular name of Jesus.

One biblical writer says this; "Matthew's message is this: the same God that has always been with his people throughout their history, and who has revealed himself as present in the world in Jesus the Christ, will continue to be present with the Church as it carries out its commission of incorporating all people into the present and coming Kingdom of God!" How do you respond to that?

When we apply Immanuel to our lives in a personal way, what does it mean to you to know that God is with us? How does this apply to your specific life and day to day existence? How then could it apply more? Spend some time praying for each other but also for one particular need in our world that needs God's touch.