

What's your response to Christmas?

Matthew 1:20-23

*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).*

### Christmas essentials

- Virgin birth: Jesus was fully Deity and fully human.
- Fulfilled prophecy: Jesus didn't show up randomly. Rather, His birth, life, death, and resurrection fulfilled numerous prophecies.
- Problem-solving: Christmas was a rescue mission. The only reason why we have Christmas is that a big problem needed a solution.
  - Jesus came to save us from our sins. If we don't need saving, then Jesus coming to the world was unnecessary.

### What does it look like for Jesus to save us from our sins?

- Replaces our excuses with a change of mind. #Repentance
- Rescues us from the harvest of our sins.
- Redirects our life direction and motivation.
- Reorients our hearts to properly love God and others.

What's your response to Christmas?