

# THE Christmas STORY

Bridge City  
CHURCH

12/22/2024

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY

## PART II: THE GIFT OF JESUS

**Matthew 1:18-23 (NLT).** *This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet. "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"*

**Advent:** The season of expectant waiting.

### THE ARRIVAL OF JESUS MEANS:

#### 1. [HOPE].

**Matthew 12:21 (NLT).** *And his name [the name of Jesus] will be the hope of all the world."*

**Matthew 1:21 (NIV).** *She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."*

**Jesus: "God saves", "Savior".**

#### 2. [PEACE].

**Isaiah 9:6 (NLT).** *For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor,[a] Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**Peace ("shalom"):** A perfect, whole and complete peace in the presence of God.

**Isaiah 26:3 (NLT).** *You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!*

**John 14:27 (NLT).** *“I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.*

### 3. [JOY].

**Luke 2:8-11 (NLT).** *That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord’s glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!”*

**Hebrews 12:2 (NIV).** *fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame.*

### 4. [LOVE].

**John 3:16-17 (NLT).** *“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.*

**Isaiah 53:5-6 (NLT).** *But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.*



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