

## God with Us

By Amber Espinosa



In this story, you'll learn that God did not abandon the people. In fact, people are so important to God that God became human and came to be with us. No matter what happens, God's love for us will never fail!

### For

Just for Kids

### Season

Spring

### Needed

Blank scrapbook or sheets of paper, markers or crayons

### Prepare in Advance

For this faith trek, you'll need to spend some quality time with someone you love. Choose a person, and talk with a parent to make the plans.

### Activity Plan

1. Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-7 (See last two pages)  
Read the story of Jesus' death in Luke 23:32-49 (See last two pages)  
Here's what Jesus' love means for us. Romans 8:38-39 (See last two pages)
2. Read or listen to this commentary about God with Us.

God loves people so much, and wants good things for people. No matter how much we choose to live away from God, no matter what we do, God loves us. The same God who had enough power to create the entire universe, gave up



that power just to be with us. We call him Jesus or Immanuel, which means God with Us. Jesus, our Immanuel, came to live among us, to suffer with and for us, and died on the cross and rose again, so that nothing could ever separate us from God's love.

3. Add the story of God with Us to your **Faith Trek: Through the Bible** book. Tell about Jesus' life in your own words, and draw pictures.

Tell what Jesus' love means for you.

4. People mean so much to God that God came to be with us. Spend some extra time with a close friend or family member. Why is it important to be with those we love?

5. Talk about it with a grown-up.

- Read your story to a grown-up who you love and trust.
- Tell each other—what does God's love mean to you?
- Why is it important to spend time with those you love?
- Why is it so important to God, to be Immanuel, God with us?
- Tell about a time that your faith in Jesus brought you comfort.

6. Pray together by singing, "Jesus Loves Me."

[http://www.makingmusicfun.net/html/f\\_printit\\_free\\_printable\\_sheet\\_music/jesus-loves-me-sheet-music.htm](http://www.makingmusicfun.net/html/f_printit_free_printable_sheet_music/jesus-loves-me-sheet-music.htm)



## Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

## Luke 23:32-49

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the Jews.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. "

Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."



It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

### **Romans 8:38-39**

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

