

Talk: Get a Care Card

Title: Emmanuel

Passage: Rom 8:35, 37-39

Date: 31/12/2017

Speaker: Jason Hoet

Series: Carols

[PPT]

(final sermon in series)

A constant refrain in the carols we sing
That Jesus is "Emmanuel" – Hebrew for "God is with us"
Hear it in O Come O Come Emmanuel
Or the modern Christmas song we just sung
"Emmanuel"

**For the Christian it is not enough to prove there is a
God who made the universe
The Christian claim is greater than this
Its promised experience deeper**

God is not a distant, uninvolved creator
But God is for you, with you, within you

This reality finds its fulness in the birth of Jesus

**Matthew—writing to Jewish audience—awaiting
promised saviour
From Joseph perspective – angel + dream**

Matt 1:21-23

21 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." 22 All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel"—which means, "God with us." Matt 1:21-23

Quoting Isaiah 7:14—740 years

Matthew is clear, Jesus is this child Emmanuel – God with us
The child is not just a sign or a reminder that God is with us.

Apostle John writes

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth

[PPT]

Through Jesus we experience God with us.

God is not far away—Distant, uninvolved Creator
God is not "just" watching over you
God is with you!

Hard to believe, don't feel him, Trial, Ashamed of what

you've done?

Though trusting Jesus
Pray you experience the presence and power of God with us.

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Sometimes it's easier to see God's presence in the past than present. That GOD WAS WITH YOU.

Joseph—beaten in a pit, sold into slavery, false accused.

Gen 39:21 But while Joseph was there in the prison, 21 the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favour in the eyes of the prison warden.

Gen 50: 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

How many times have you looked back on your life and recognise God's hand?

- A party you didn't go to
- A relationship that broke up
- Thin threads that brought you to faith

\$ Provision a Uni
Dad Experience
Isabel loss – David Wright

At times it can be easier to see how God was with us

[PPT]

But through Jesus his promise is GOD IS WITH US

This is not just a +ve memory – like popular saying after death 'Mum is 'with us'
But the reality that God is with you!

As Disciples wonder what Jesus death might mean
John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Promise though trusting Jesus, we experience the presence and power of God with us.

- This is the basis for all prayer (why would you pray unless you believed God were close, involved, interested?)

Apostle Paul, under great trial knew presence of God
2 Cor 1: 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

God is with us

- Alone w/u as companion.
- Sick w/u as healing.
- Lost w/u as guide.
- Hurt w/u as hope
- Weak w/u as strength.
- Sin w/u as savior

Move into ministry – sense of God’s presence

Jim death – God powerfully present

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**God was with you, God is with you
GOD WILL BE WITH YOU.**

Look ahead... what could happen? Cancer? Marriage?
Work? Children challenges?

This year what holds?

Personally

As a church

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Romans 8 (Bible Reading)

35 Who shall separate us from the love of
Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution
or famine or nakedness or danger or sword... 37
No, in all these things we are more than
conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I

am convinced that neither death nor life, neither
angels nor demons, neither the present nor the
future, nor any powers, 39 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. Rom. 8:35, 37-39

The foundation for this conviction is Jesus.

- Through him God is with us.

What can tear you out of the heart of God?

Nothing can separate you—nothing!

Doubts, Mistakes, Disappointments, Failure, Sin

“Not leave you as orphans” Never leave you—never
forsake you. Never be alone!

22 All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said
through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child
and will give birth to a son, and they will call him
Emmanuel"—which means, "God with us."

**Through Jesus discover God was, is and will be with
us**

[PPT]

**Given such an incredible promise - Are we hungry
to be with God?**

- To know presence
- Increase in confidence
- Deepen relationship?

Response/Prayer/Connect cards