

Immanuel: God With Us
Week 4: The Greatest Gift

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Do you recall the greatest gift you ever received? It may have been a special gift you were given by a parent or grandparent or maybe a spouse or child.
- B. People love to tell stories about some of the best gifts they have ever received.
- C. However, there is one gift that will never be topped. Love motivated God to give a precious gift to mankind; that gift was His dear son. Let's consider a few things that make this gift so great.

THE GIFT IS FOR EVERYONE - "For God so loved THE WORLD, that he gave..."

- A. We usually give gifts to those we care about; those who we might consider deserving.
- B. God's gift was different in that He gave His gift to the world (Rom. 5:6-8; Isa. 53:3).
- C. Can you imagine giving a gift to someone who didn't deserve it? Can you imagine giving a gift to someone who would reject that gift? Yet, this is exactly what God did in giving the gift of His Son.

THE GIFT WAS COSTLY - "For God so loved the world, that He gave his ONLY SON..."

- A. Before we give a gift we usually take into account how much the gift is going to cost us.
- B. God's gift was costly because it was His one and only, very unique, one of a kind, Son.
- C. God had to watch His son be rejected and ultimately die for sins that were not His own (Lk. 23:18-23; I Pet. 2:22-24).

THE GIFT IS ETERNAL- "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have ETERNAL LIFE."

- A. The special gifts we give and receive will eventually wear out, break down or get lost.
- B. God's gift to mankind will never wear out or fade away (Matt. 6:19-21; I Pet. 1:3-4).
- C. God gave this special gift to mankind because He didn't want anyone to perish (2 Pet. 3:9).

CONCLUSION:

- A. By Immanuel coming to live among us, we have hope of going to live with God forever.
- B. We have been given the greatest gift of all, but what will we do with that gift?
- C. Will we accept and receive that special gift, or will we trample and despise that special gift? The choice is ours!