



(Session 8) Jesus is our Emmanuel

Aim:

To help your child to learn that when Jesus was born, a promise made to the people was being fulfilled. Jesus would be the promised Messiah, our Saviour, our Emmanuel.

All are seated in a circle on the floor or on chairs in the living room.

Parent:

- Invites the child and the other members of the family to be quiet and invites Jesus to be with them.
- They can say a prayer to welcome Jesus among them.
- Tells them: Today we are going to listen to a promise that God made to his people long before Jesus was born.
- But first let me tell you a story about myself before you were born.
- Parent now briefly tells the child and the other family members of how she told everyone that she was going to have a baby. The longing for a baby, the excitement and then the joy when you were born.
- It was something like that for the Jewish people.
- They had waited and waited for a child to be born who would grow up to be their Messiah
- Messiah means someone special from God who would save them.
- You see: God had made them a promise. Here is the promise:

Parent: Now tell the children the following: The parent and the other members of the family share the following:

(**P** = the parent, **M** = member of the family)

- M.** Long before Jesus was born the Jewish people had been promised that one day a leader would come who would lead them into great happiness and peace.
- P.** They called this leader the Messiah or the "Chosen One of God" because God would send him to them.
- M.** There were special people among the Jews who had the task of reminding them of God's promise.
- P.** These were called Prophets – they spoke to the people on behalf of God.
- M.** The most famous of these prophets is called Isaiah.
- P.** Here is what Isaiah told the people:



Parent:

A long time before Jesus was born, there was a prophet called Isaiah who gave this message from God:

Parent or another family member: slowly reads the following verse from the prophet Isaiah (7:14):

- "The Lord God himself will give you a sign.
- A young woman will have a child, her son.
- He will be called Emmanuel"

All join in and say: THANKS BE TO GOD!

Repeat this two more times with a different member of the family leading the story of God's promise.

Parent: Invites the child and the other members of the family to share:

(Take one question at a time and allow opinions!)

- **Who was the young woman?**
- **What does the name Emmanuel mean?**
- **Who is Emmanuel?**

Parent: Share with your child and all the others: **Jesus is Emmanuel - GOD WITH US.**

CELEBRATION

Member of the Family: God sent Jesus to be our Emmanuel

ALL: Thanks be to God! EMMANUEL, EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US!

Another family member: Mary is the Mother of Jesus, Emmanuel.

ALL: Thanks be to God! EMMANUEL, EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US!

Parent: Jesus was born in Bethlehem

ALL: Thanks be to God! EMMANUEL, EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US!

