



Why Jesus Came ~ Matthew 1:18-25  
December 21, 2025

## Questions for the Community

### Personal Reflection

1. How does seeing Christmas as rescue rather than comfort change the way you think about Jesus' arrival?
2. In what way have you (or ARE you) living "confidently wrong"? Are there true stories you struggle to live out of?

### Group Discussion

3. Read our text from Sunday *together*. What is the Holy Spirit revealing to you about the mission of the manger?
4. Jesus is called both "Jesus" (He will save) and "Emmanuel" (God with us). Which is harder to believe right now; that God can save you? or that God actually wants to be with you? (what Scriptures from Sunday correct our views?)
5. We see from brain science that healing comes from "presence" and not from "performance". How is this tied directly to the Gospel and the story God is telling us?
6. Where in your life do you default to fixing, striving or explaining instead of being present?
7. Which of the 3 ways that Jesus is present to us (spiritually, communally, sacramentally) was new or most impactful to you? Is there an action item God is telling you on one of these?

### Plan of Action

8. What is one small, realistic way you can practice being present to God this week?
9. Who is one person you could intentionally welcome, invite or simply be with this season?
10. How could Christmas Day be a celebration of God's nearness rather than just activity?