



## Christmas Lost?: wk2 Love

**Introduction:** Christmas often inspires a desire to be “home” wherever that is for you. We often experience love by simply doing what it takes to be “with” those we love-but this year we run into conflict with wanting to be close to those we love and desire to love them by keeping them safe. Is Christmas lost if we choose not to gather with those we love?

### Discussion Questions

1. What is the longest journey you have ever taken to be either “home” for Christmas or to be with someone for Christmas?
2. Christmas is a demonstration of God’s love for us in sending Jesus from heaven to be with us? How do you demonstrate your love for others during Christmas? Have you ever been overwhelmed by a gift?
3. **Read Matthew 1:22 and John 1:14** Why is it significant that in Jesus, “God is with us?” What does the way that Jesus came to earth and how he lived say about God?
4. In the sermon, Jeremy said that there is a progression in scripture at the 30,000 ft view – of God walking with, then dwelling among, to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Why would God go through all of that to be with or live “in” you?
5. **Read 1 John 4:9-10** John says that we understand love by understanding that God sent his son so we might live in him. What does living in him look like?
6. The first 2 chapters of both Matthew and Luke introduce us to or mention many unlikely people in the lead up to Jesus’ birth – from Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, unruly Shepherds, Magi from the East, a young virgin named Mary, her carpenter fiancée Joseph. Very few of these people would seem on the surface as really important but God uses them in the story of Jesus arrival. What can we learn from that?
7. In what ways is Christmas a love story from God to us? How can you share that with those around you at this time?

**Shaping Your Mind** – *1 John 4:9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.*

**Moving Forward** – Jesus made an incredibly long journey to be with us. Immanuel God with us – God with you. Embrace Him this Christmas!