

**December 1, 2024**

The Lord wants you to live in His light

**2 Cor. 9:15 *Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift. (NIV)***

As we begin to move into the greatest season of the year, I would like to focus on the greatest gift ever given; Jesus our Savior. He is LORD above all. **Mt. 1:23 *The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel (which means “God with us”). (NIV)***

Do you know how it feels to be separated from someone that you love? There have been times in my life where I’ve had to be far away from loved ones. I can just imagine Paul or many of the others, who served and even gave their lives for the Master, and what they felt like being away from family and friends. In many ways, our military families have also experienced this as well. The LORD loves people more than anyone else could ever love, so when the separation of sin in the garden came, He had to push His creations out of paradise and into a world full of hurt and pain. But He has always had a plan of redemption. ***Immanuel (which means “God with us”).*** In fact, it was foretold even in the garden as the LORD spoke to the evil one after he had tempted Adam and Eve and they sinned: **Gen. 3:15 *“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head and you will strike His heel.”***

Immanuel was not His given name, but instead it was a descriptive name. A name of His purpose. It means that God desires to be with His children. Because of His great love for us, He made a way to be with us again. The sin that separated us was covered by the blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus. **Gal. 4:4 *But when the set time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law. (NIV)*** He came, submitting Himself to the law of the LORD, that all sin must be paid for; and He paid our sin debt. That is what Christmas is all about.

**Dear LORD, thank You LORD, that You desires to be with us. You made a way. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. No one can come to You except through Him. This truly is the greatest gift ever! In Jesus Name, Amen**