What's So Amazing About Christmas?

Robert Morris

Focus When God became man, the Creator became the creation. He became human to take our sins upon Himself. When Jesus died, we were freed from the power of death. When He came to life again, He guaranteed our eternal destination. It is the most amazing story ever told!

Fun What is your all-time favorite Christmas song?

Review Key Scriptures: Matthew 1:18–23; Isaiah 7:10–14

1. **<u>God</u> became human.**
   The virgin birth signaled that Jesus was fully God. He was begotten of the Father and conceived of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18, 20). Some think that Jesus was just a man, or perhaps a prophet, but He was much more than that (Matthew 16:13–16). He was God in human form (1 Peter 1:23).

2. **God became <u>human</u>.**
   God chose Mary to bear His son (John 1:14). We must recognize that He came in the flesh (2 John 7). Jesus understands all that we go through because He was a man. As a man, He died in our place to pay the penalty for our sins (1 John 4:2–3). His sacrifice broke the power of the devil over us (Hebrews 2:14 NLT).

Group Dynamics Idea A godly leader should never be taken for granted. Consider writing your pastor a thank you note for Christmas.

Discuss

1. Read Isaiah 7:10–14. What was King Ahaz told to ask for? Why do you think the king did not want to ask? What event did God want foretold?

2. Read Matthew 1:18–23. What role did the Holy Spirit have in these verses? What does the name *Immanuel* mean? What significance does it have for us today?

3. What has to happen to transform our corruptible seed into incorruptible seed (1 Peter 1:23)? Have you undergone this transformation? If you are comfortable doing so, share what the catalyst was.

4. How does Hebrews 2:14 (NLT) work in a believer's life?

5. Explain this phrase from Pastor Robert's message, "Justice demanded that the penalty be paid."

6. What is the most amazing thing about Christmas?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Jesus is fully God and fully man.
- He took upon Himself the penalty for our sin.
- He died for us so that we might live.
- Death no longer has power over those who believe.

Prayer Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God. I give my life to You today. Please cleanse and renew me. Thank You for taking my penalty for sin upon Yourself. Equip me to serve You and others rather than myself. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Serving God is an honor and privilege. For ideas on how to serve others, visit serve.gatewaypeople.com.