

4th Week of Advent – Year A

Do you like super-glue? I use super-glue to fix lots of things

- I even lost a screw once and used superglue instead of the screw
- Super glue can fix a lot of things but – it can't fix a broken promise

I want to look at 2 promises God has made

- The first is in GEN – after the fall God promises the serpent
- “The offspring of the woman will crush your head, while you strike at his heel”
- Then the promise in Isaiah: “A virgin shall be with child and bear a son – Emmanuel”
 - Satan's doom is promised in GEN –
 - How it will happen is promised in IS –
 - God does not break His promises
 - BUT – How He fulfills His promises can be surprising

Gospel

“Before Mary and Joseph lived together, she was found to be with child through the power of the Holy Spirit”

- Who could have guessed that the promise of Isaiah would be fulfilled by the Son of the Virgin would ACTUALLY being God Himself?
- When God moves, God moves - & He moves **wherever** He wants to **whenever** He wants to -- **however** He wants to

If that brings you trouble – deal with it!

Joseph wasn't too pleased Mary was pregnant

She visits her cousin Elizabeth and comes back 3 mos. preg

Would you be pleased? I don't think so!

Joseph 3 options (divorce/accuse her of adultery/marriage)

BE JOSEPH – BE MARY

BUT – when we have trouble, GOD COMES

When we have trouble, GOD IS WITH US - Emmanuel

Just ask Joseph – in the midst of his doubt & anger

In the midst of his trouble EMMANUEL God was with him

The idea of Emmanuel, ‘God with us’, becomes very real to Joseph

And it should be very real to us too - **IS IT?**

How would it change your life if you REALLY believed Emmanuel – God is with us?

Shouldn't we EXPECT miracles? WHY NOT?

Because He is Emmanuel → God

with us - LISTEN

It is abnormal for Christians NOT to expect the impossible

It is written into our spiritual DNA (I look like DAD because of my DNA)

Scripture says we are made in the image and likeness of GOD

– we inherit “Emmanuel” within us

God fulfilled the promise to Isaiah – A virgin gives birth to a Son

The Son is ‘God with us’ But that is not a one-time event

Look around the room and see “God with us” next to you

And KNOW that YOU can be Emmanuel for them too