

Christmas Day - "God With Us"

John 1:1-14

Christmas traditions

John tells the Christmas story ... What matters?

The Beginning

v1-2 *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning"*

"The Word" = "Jesus"

John's audience was familiar with the Old Testament

Contrast - Light & Darkness

v4-5 *"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"*

Ordinary people, like us, living in darkness ... hiding in darkness

The birth of Jesus is God shining a great light into the darkness

God knows everything we do in the darkness

Why is the birth of Jesus good news?

A message of hope ... of finding fulfilment in who we are meant to be

Are we finding fulfilment in our Christmas preparations? Is there something better? Are we dissatisfied?

Good News

v11-12 *"He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God"*

Sin separates us

There is security in unconditional love

We live in the darkness because we are afraid of

God demonstrates his love for **you** in Jesus

Christmas traditions are nice ... but they are empty unless we meet Jesus on his terms

The Miracle

v14a " The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us"

God made himself known

Christmas is where we meet God

There is a God & he cares about us