



STUDY GUIDE

December 5, 2021

**Message Series:**  
**Message Title:**  
**Teaching Pastor:**

**STABLE**  
God With Us  
Angie Frame

**Warm-up/Icebreaker:**

What's your favorite Christmas carol and why?

**Pray:**

Dear Lord, we are filled with wonder at the extreme measures You took to be with us. Help us to have a fresh approach to this Christmas season. Before we study together, we ask that You guide us in being calm and focused, ready to listen and learn. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Get Started:**

- What is your favorite part of the Christmas story?
- Be honest. Do you see the Christmas story as exciting and relevant or boring and outdated? How does that influence the way you see God?

"That first Christmas, God's promise to be with us always changed from something ethereal to something tangible, from God as an idea to God as an individual person with a face and 10 fingers and toes. It was an unprecedented, unimaginable, completely extraordinary reimagining of what it meant for God to be with us. No story will ever compare." - Pastor Angie Frame

**Read Leviticus 26:11-12.**

**Watch and Discuss Video: (running time 13:54 minutes)**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.  
Come into my heart, my home, my world.*

"It's a prayer that's an invitation to God to be with us. I don't know about you, but I need God in my heart helping me to love like he does, in my home bringing peace, joy, and rest, in my world bringing comfort and hope. I need God to be with me; we all need God to be with us, and we need to be with him. Every day this week, try spending just a few seconds with God saying this prayer. Set daily alarms on your phone for those two times. And see what happens; it's an experiment. See if you become more aware of God's presence, if you see him at work around you, if you feel his peace." -Pastor Angie Frame

**Read Isaiah 7:14.**

- How will you incorporate the breath prayer above into your upcoming week?

- What are some of the ways you experience the presence of God? How do you purposely cut through all of the noise of daily life to feel Him? What is one new thing you would like to try to do to acknowledge that God is with you, and you with Him?
- Was the mention of Mother Teresa's memoir (the part where she confessed that she went long periods of time where she didn't feel the presence of God, but she knew that God was present, and that God had told her to help the people in Calcutta) enlightening or surprising in any way? Can you relate? When you are not hearing from God, do you do the last thing that He told you?
- What do you do to remain faithful when you have moments or seasons where you don't experience God's presence as much as others? What did you learn during those seasons in retrospect?

**Reflect and Commit:**

**Read Revelation 21:1-8.**

- How can you improve the quantity and quality of the time you spend in God's Word?
- Why is Revelation 21:3 at the very heart of what salvation is all about?
- How does the person and work of Jesus Christ give you the hope you need to be a conqueror instead of a coward?

"Let's approach these next few weeks with the perspective not just that Jesus was with us, but that he is with us. Let's celebrate and remember the baby born to a virgin in a manger long ago, and let's celebrate and worship the God who's in our midst right now. Let's rely on the stability of the incarnation when so little around us is certain, and let's show the world what it looks like to be with God. Because Jesus is God with us. He's here right now." -Pastor Angie Frame

**Read Romans 15:13.**

**Pray:**

Dear Lord, we glorify You always. No matter what our circumstances are, year after year, You never change. With You, we can be stable. We pray that we become more intentional in our relationship with You, that we understand more clearly how special the experience of Christmas can be, knowing on a deeper level that You are, and always will be, with us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.