

PRAYER

- Ask God to open our hearts and understanding and help us see His faithfulness more. Pray that He will rekindle faith in us and cause us to persevere to believe for the promises that we have been holding on to for so long.

- Pray for the people you know who are in dire need of Christ's salvation, that they too will see hope in Jesus and embrace His gift of eternal life.



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NOTES

CONNECT

- What is one miracle you or someone you know experienced this year?
- What does the color white mean for you?
- What is one promise you made to a loved one that you were able to fulfill?

WORD

³¹You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.” ³⁴“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”

Luke 1:31-35

WHAT What does the Bible say?

The color white during Christmas is usually associated with having a white or snowy Christmas. For us, we associate white to the miracle of the virgin birth—the incarnation of Jesus Christ. This miracle is foundational and critical to the Christian faith. The following are two important reasons for the miracle of the virgin birth.

- **To fulfill the promises of salvation made to the patriarchs**
⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God’s truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs ⁹so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name.”
Romans 15:8,9

God made covenant promises of salvation to the patriarchs—Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It involved salvation for both Israel and the Gentiles through their seed. As a covenant-making and covenant-keeping God, Christ came by the incarnation to fulfill these promises that would benefit us as well (Matthew 1:1; Genesis 22:18; Micah 5:1,2). What other promises did God fulfill in your life?

- **To redeem us from our sins**
But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

1 John 3:5

It will take a perfectly sinless man to redeem mankind from sin. That is why Jesus, who is God, came by the miracle of the virgin birth to be born as a man, not inheriting man’s sinful nature and living a sinless life to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins once and for all. Because of Christ’s coming and sacrifice, we are saved from guilt and the penalty of sin. Because of Christ we are forgiven. Because of Him we can have eternal and abundant life (Isaiah 53:6; Mark 10:45; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:26). How does Christ’s expensive gift of salvation affect you personally?

SO WHAT What is the relevance of the Word to my life?

- How does Christ being the ultimate proof that God is a promise-keeping God encourage you with regard to the promises you still believe to come to pass?
- How does the truth that we are redeemed from sin and guilt because of Jesus encourage you today?

NOW WHAT How do I apply the Word to my life?

- Have you experienced the forgiveness that comes from Jesus Christ? If not, would you like to receive his free gift of salvation and redemption today? Ask your Victory group leader to pray with you.
- In what ways can you share about Christ’s redeeming work to your friends and relatives this week?