

Heart of God Ministries International (HGMI)
Greater Works TEAM Building

The Gift of Presence!

We want to share a study based upon the essence of the Light of Truth with you!
Our focus is Jesus, His Presence, why He came, and the true meaning of Advent.
We hope you enjoy this study!

When we celebrate Advent (arrival, coming), we celebrate the truth of all truths!
We call to mind the core teaching of the Everlasting Gospel and the most
Transformative Event in the history of the world! Simply put, we celebrate the
Incarnation, when God's eternal Son became a human being and lived among us!

Our finite minds can hardly grasp the grandeur of this statement—
Its Mystery! It's Glory! It's Grace!

Could there be a more perfect Person than Jesus Christ?
Can there be any other foundation to our salvation other than Jesus Christ, Son of God?

The Word who "became flesh" reigns over every religion and philosophy as the
Perfection of Truth. It is the heart and soul of the Gospel we share in HGMI documents!

The Incarnation's magnificence should stun us into silent awe. It should also ignite us
into burning adoration! Yet we can become so ensnared by the secularization of
Christmas and other Pagan Holidays or we can get so familiar with the biblical story
that we lose sight of the wonder—

The sheer seemingly impossibility that abides right at the center of our faith.

Pause and think about this for a moment.

By the Holy Spirit, the preexistent Son of God came into the womb of a young virgin.
He experienced humanity on every possible level, from conception to death
and everything in between. But He also remained the person He had always been from
eternity. His divine nature did not conflict with His human nature! Nor did the human
clash with the divine! Somehow these two realities blended to perfection in a young
Galilean known as "Yeshua."

Now knowing that Yeshua means "to save, deliver," and seeing that "Yeshua" is
represented in the Bible, even if it is not by name, how can this name feel as personal to
us as "Jesus?"

First, it is the understanding that "Yeshua" is a more personal name of Jesus because it
originated in the lifetime that Jesus was alive on earth. The use of "Yeshua" in Hebrew
text connects more to when Jesus emerged in the presence of those around Him, as
well as Hebrew being the holy language of the Jews. Those who were fluent in Hebrew,
Greek, and Aramaic would decipher that "Yeshua" meant "deliverer, savior," and realize
this man was more than just a man. Coupled with His behavior and spiritual connection
with God, those around Him would see that He was different from others and this
"difference" may have led to Him being loved by some and hated by others. It's as if
God designed humans so He could one day become one of them. But it's not just that
Jesus was both divine and human. It's *why* He was both divine and human.

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The Incarnation occurred for a specific reason. God wanted to give us the ultimate gift The Freely Given Gift of Himself. He wanted to give us His Presence!

The very word “Advent” refers to Christ’s “coming or presence.”

When Isaiah prophesies that a virgin would be with child and bear a son, he also prophesies the Son’s name: Immanuel, which means God with us.

Isaiah 7:14 (AMP)

Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Listen carefully, the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and she will call his name Immanuel (God with us).

[Reflection: When John proclaims that the Word became flesh, he also proclaims that He dwelt among us!

John 1:14 (AMP)

And the Word (Christ) became flesh, and lived among us; and we [actually] saw His glory, glory as belongs to the [One and] only begotten Son of the Father, [the Son who is truly unique, the only One of His kind, who is] full of grace and truth (absolutely free of deception).

Both writers give the full message!

God’s Son became human for the express purpose of being with us.

That is the “Gospel of all seasons!”

That is the Light of Truth! It’s about the Presence!

God’s whole plan for the world centers on His Presence!

It’s the message of the Bible, and the Heart of the Gospel. That is why it’s so important to push past the frenzy of commercialism and discern the purpose of Advent (arrival)

Don’t let the world dilute the purity of any season.

[Note: Christmas *embodies* the Gospel Message: God became human and made a way for us to come to Him!]

Now...Today! Those who believe the Gospel have His Presence... the indwelling of the Holy Spirit!

You have the choice! You can intentionally make God’s Presence your primary focus! Let it be an Advent season!

Matthew 22:37(AMP)

And Jesus replied to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

In summary: Jesus’ Light is the Word of God and the Indwelling Light of the Holy Spirit! The Gift of Presence!

John 12:36 (AMP)

While you have the Light, believe and trust in the Light [have faith in it, hold on to it, rely on it], so that you may become sons of Light [being filled with Light as followers of God].” Jesus said these things, and then He left and hid Himself from them.