

Emmanuel: “God with us”

1. “God with us” addresses our fears.

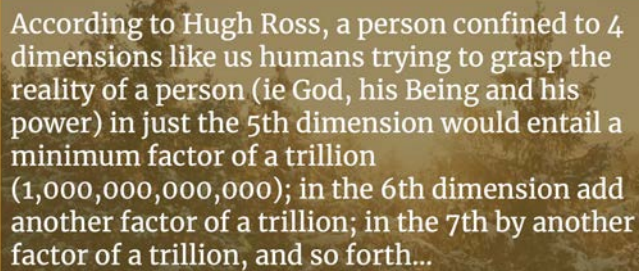


Immanu-EL (the God of all Power)

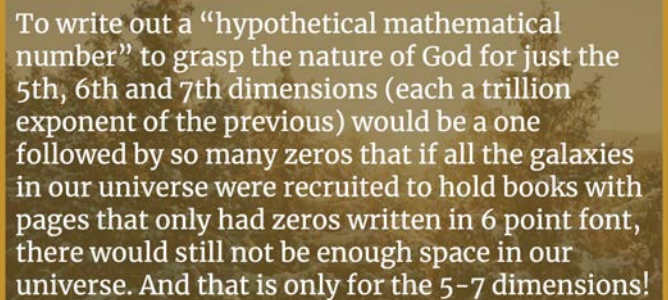
El: 238 times in the Bible

Elohim: 2600 times in the Bible

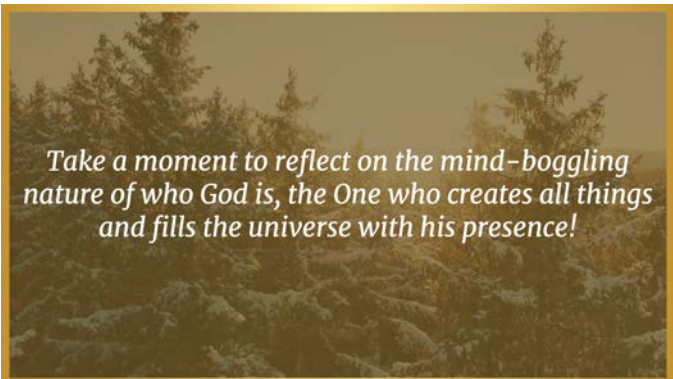
Do not fear: “365” times in the Bible



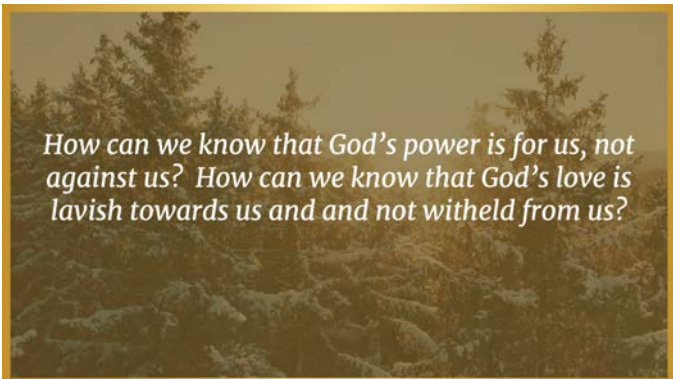
According to Hugh Ross, a person confined to 4 dimensions like us humans trying to grasp the reality of a person (ie God, his Being and his power) in just the 5th dimension would entail a minimum factor of a trillion (1,000,000,000,000); in the 6th dimension add another factor of a trillion; in the 7th by another factor of a trillion, and so forth...



To write out a “hypothetical mathematical number” to grasp the nature of God for just the 5th, 6th and 7th dimensions (each a trillion exponent of the previous) would be a one followed by so many zeros that if all the galaxies in our universe were recruited to hold books with pages that only had zeros written in 6 point font, there would still not be enough space in our universe. And that is only for the 5-7 dimensions!

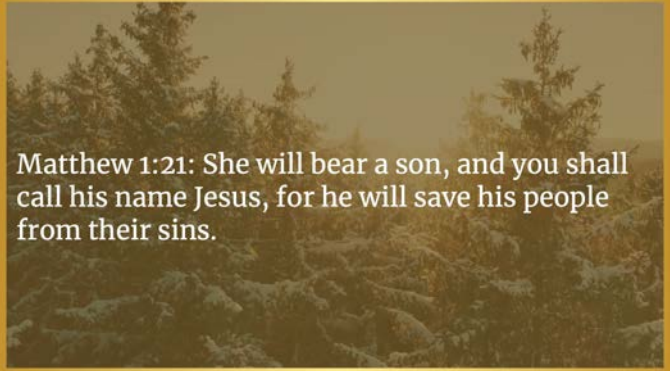


*Take a moment to reflect on the mind-boggling nature of who God is, the One who creates all things and fills the universe with his presence!*



*How can we know that God’s power is for us, not against us? How can we know that God’s love is lavish towards us and not withheld from us?*





Matthew 1:21: She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.



This Christmas, let Emmanuel address your fears:


“God with us, I release to you my fears.”

“God with us, I release to you...(name your specific fears).”



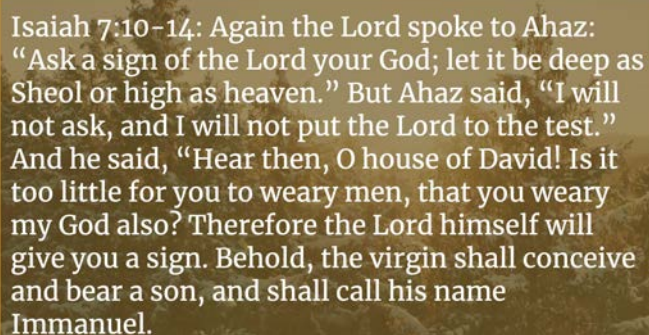
Emmanuel: “God with Us”

1. “God with us” addresses our fears.
2. “God with us” addresses our failures.



Emmanuel:

God addresses our failures with his grace.



Isaiah 7:10-14: Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.



“God with us” addresses our failures with grace:

1. *If you find yourself upset and hurt by others who have failed you, let God’s grace humble you and address your bitterness and unforgiveness.*



“God with us” addresses our failures with grace:

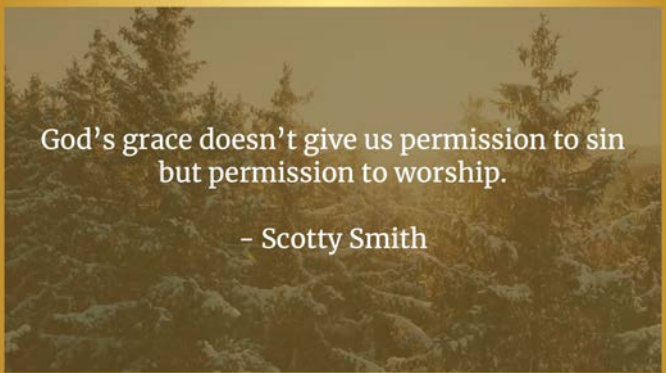
1. If you find yourself upset and hurt by others who have failed you, let God’s grace humble you and address your bitterness and unforgiveness.

2. If you find yourself looking down on those who are constantly “failing” in your eyes, let God’s grace enable you to see how you have failed in judging others out of pride and self righteousness.



“God with us” addresses our failures with grace:

3. If you find yourself devastated by your own failure, let God’s grace comfort you and restore joy in you.



God’s grace doesn’t give us permission to sin  
but permission to worship.

– Scotty Smith

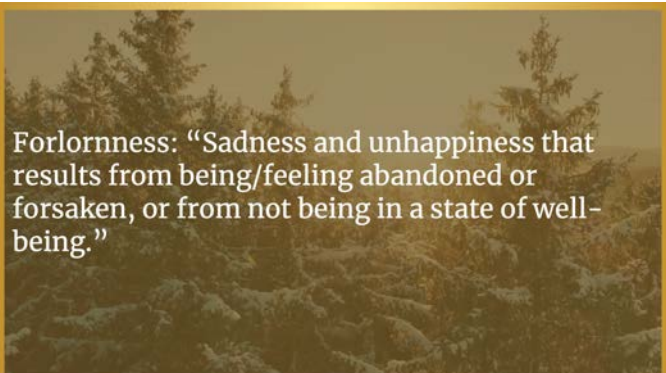


Emmanuel: “God with Us”

1. “God with us” addresses our fears.

2. “God with us” addresses our failures.

3. “God with us” addresses our feeling of loneliness.



Forlornness: “Sadness and unhappiness that results from being/feeling abandoned or forsaken, or from not being in a state of well-being.”



God “WITH US.”





1. "God with us": we are not alone and He desires to be with us.



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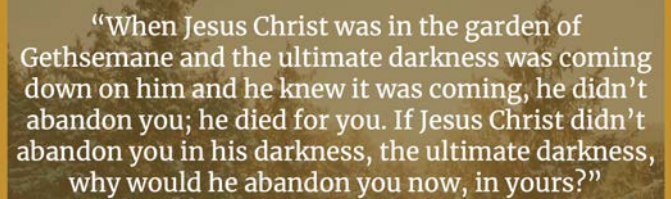
2. "God with us" understands and empathizes with us.



1. "God with us": we are not alone and He desires to be with us.


2. "God with us" understands and empathizes with us.

3. "God with us" will never abandon nor forsake us.



"When Jesus Christ was in the garden of Gethsemane and the ultimate darkness was coming down on him and he knew it was coming, he didn't abandon you; he died for you. If Jesus Christ didn't abandon you in his darkness, the ultimate darkness, why would he abandon you now, in yours?"

-Tim Keller



Emmanuel: God with us



CHRISTMAS EVE