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**Week 4**

**“O Come O Come Emmanuel”**

**INTRODUCTION**

What’s one of the greatest Christmas gifts you’ve ever given to another person?

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

*Read Matthew 1:18-25.* This passage describes the birth of Jesus and explains the meaning of Jesus’ name, which is God with us

* What do think causes you to sometimes feel distant from God?
* In what ways have you experienced God being with you?

*Read Luke 1:28, Genesis 39:21, and Romans 8:35-39.* These verses show us that God is with you, God was with you, and that God will always be with you*.*

* How do you need God’s presence to help you in enduring whatever difficult circumstances you are currently facing?
* What are some of the unique ways that you best connect to God?
* Describe a difficult situation you successfully endured thanks largely to God’s presence in your life?
* Do you find it easier or harder to experience God during the Christmas season? Explain.
* What steps do you need to take to experience more of God?
* What things in your life are you anticipating for the future that will require God’s presence to guide you?

**STEPPING FORWARD**

This week consider doing one or all of the following each day:

• Thank God for continually being with you in both the good and bad times.

• Share with God any difficult circumstances you are facing. Ask Him to be with you and help you endure.

• Ask God to help you experience more of Him.

• Ask God to make His presence known to you during those times that He feels distant to you.

• Pray for those you know that need to experience God in their life. Ask God to make His presence known to them.

*What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

 **Romans 8:31**