

December 21, 2022

God is with us
[Colossians 1:15–20](#)

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in^[a] him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in^[b] him all things hold together.

¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God^[c] was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

God is with us: to see a magnificent sunset, to look up at the stars, to see a universe beyond our imagination, to gaze at a bright full rainbow with awe and think how wonderful and awesome these are. God is with us when God the creator came down in the person of Jesus of Nazareth to live among us and show us how to get our lives back on track, a new beginning, a new birth and a new wholesome life. How awesome is that?

God is with us when the birth of Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes laying in a manger could change things so much and so many lives including mine. His life, his blood, his cross so that I and we could have redemption and the forgiveness of sin. Wow, now that's awesome.

God is with us: we can have a new birth, by his life he shows and teaches us how to live, by his death brought reconciliation. This Jesus has restored us to our original relationship with God. How great and awesome is that?

God is with us. He calls us to be disciples to live and serve in an imperfect world, a world full of imperfect people crying out for help. Wow.

We have something to share: that life with Jesus is a life that cannot be imagined and to begin to understand that God is with us.

Prayer: God our creator, we confess our shortcomings, trusting your mercy and forgiveness and finding new life that is renewed every day and to examine our lives in the light of his. Amen.

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