

# He Came to Us

We don't know the exact date of Jesus' birth. Some scholars say it was in the spring, others say it was in the fall—but no one really knows for sure what day He was born.

People really only began celebrating Jesus' birth on December 25<sup>th</sup> around 350 AD. It then took hundreds of years before Christmas was widely accepted by Christians as a celebration of Jesus' birth.

As people all across the Roman Empire were converted, many of their traditions were incorporated into the Christmas holiday.

As I read a bit about the history of Christmas and where we get our various Christmas traditions, it left me with a different feeling altogether. To me, it shows one of the most fundamental truths about Jesus: *He comes to you where you are at.*

Jesus understands the wide variety of cultures and backgrounds, and instead of requiring people to drop everything that they know and enjoy, He becomes a part of your world. Jesus simply wants to be part of your life, and He'll do whatever it takes to reach you.



Jesus meets you where you are. He doesn't create a huge learning curve in order to reach Him. He doesn't require you to change before He accepts you. He doesn't wait until you've achieved a certain level of perfection before He receives you. All you have to do is receive His love, and He does the rest. He meets your needs, and then makes it easy for you to love and understand Him.

As I read about the life of Jesus, it was interesting to see how He adapted to meet the needs of each person He came in contact with. When He was with Nicodemus—an intellectual, high-ranking member of the temple clergy—Jesus spoke to him in ways that piqued his interest and challenged his intellect.<sup>1</sup> When Jesus was with the children, He took them in His arms and talked with them.<sup>2</sup> When He was with the publicans and sinners, He went into their homes and ate and drank and laughed with them.<sup>3</sup> A couple of times after teaching big crowds, He knew their most important concern was their hunger—so He fed them.<sup>4</sup>

Whether with a crowd or one on one, Jesus did whatever was necessary to reach each person and show them that He loved them.



This is the way that Jesus lived and died, and the whole reason He came to earth. He became like us. He took on a human body; He dealt with daily life, hunger, and fatigue. He may have felt discouraged at times. But He went through our human experience so that He could feel what we feel and understand the things that are important to us.

He can take the things that you know and love—the things that are important to you, like your Christmas traditions—and give them even greater meaning.

So as you enjoy your Christmas celebrations, as you open gifts, sing carols, and eat good food, let those things remind you of Jesus' deep love for you. Take each of those traditions that you enjoy and let them point you back to the great gift Jesus gave each of us by coming to earth, living, and dying for us.

#### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> John 3:1–21

<sup>2</sup> Mark 10:13–16

<sup>3</sup> Matthew 9:10

<sup>4</sup> Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–15



**S&S link:** Christian Life and Faith: Personal Connection With Jesus:  
Jesus, Your Best Friend-1a

*Authored by Marie Story, adapted. Originally published on Just1Thing.*

*Illustrations by Alvi. Design by Stefan Merour.*

Published by My Wonder Studio. Copyright © 2016 by The Family International