## BEYOND SUNDAY Season of Songs - 12.1.24

## O Come O Come Emmanuel — Mark Tumney

## READ ISAIAH 7:1-17

- **1. Faith in Crisis:** King Ahaz faced a moment of fear and uncertainty. How do you respond when facing situations where the outcome feels beyond your control?
- 2. Trust in God: Isaiah told Ahaz, "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all." What does it mean for you to stand firm in your faith during times of uncertainty?
- **3. God's Presence:** The name Emmanuel means "God with us." How does this truth shape the way you view God's role in your current struggles or challenges?
- **4. Promises Fulfilled:** God gave Ahaz the promise of Emmanuel despite his disobedience. Have you ever experienced God's faithfulness even when your trust wavered?
- **5.** Hope Amidst Waiting: Isaiah's prophecy pointed both to immediate hope for Judah and the ultimate hope in Christ. What are you waiting for in your life, and how does God's promise of His presence encourage you in the waiting?

- 6. Fear Versus Faith: Ahaz chose fear and worldly alliances over faith in God. When have you been tempted to rely on your own solutions instead of trusting God? How did it turn out?
- 7. Miracles of God: Isaiah's prophecy of the virgin birth reminds us of God's ability to do the impossible. Where in your life do you need to trust God for something that seems impossible?
- 8. The Tension of Advent: Advent acknowledges both the brokenness of the world and the hope of Jesus' coming. How do you navigate this tension in your life, and how does it draw you closer to God?

**9. As we Wait:** How can we, as a group, reflect God's presence to one another during times of waiting or difficulty, like Isaiah and his son reminded Ahaz of God's promises?

**10. Living the Hope of Emmanuel as we Go:** Isaiah's message called Ahaz to trust that God was working even when it seemed dark. How can we, as followers of Christ, be a light to others, proclaiming the hope of Emmanuel this Advent season?