**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26050a)] it.

**6** There was a man sent from God whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. **8** He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

**9** The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. **11** He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. **12** Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— **13** children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

**14** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

How do you feel when someone says to you, ***“I’d like a word with you?”*** I suppose a lot depends on the tone of voice that the person uses but still it makes you wonder why that person wants to talk to you. You make a time to meet for the following day and for 24 hours you sweat it out, thinking what on earth he will have to say.

Does he have good news or bad?

Will he find fault with something you’ve done?

Will he ask you for a favour that is going to cost you money and effort?

Maybe he wants to give you something – a gift, an invitation to dinner.

If this is happening at work perhaps, he wants to talk about a promotion or tell you that you had better find alternative employment.

You have to wait until the appointed time to find out.

Today, on the day when we are all excited about Christmas presents, visiting relatives and friends, the Christmas dinner and everything else that goes with making Christmas Day an enjoyable and festive occasion, God says to us: ***I want to have a Word with you.***

What on earth does God want to speak to us about? The Word that God wants to have with us is quite different to what the boss might mean he says,

***“I want to have a word with you”*.**
The Word that God has for us is not the kind of word that we find in the dictionary; not the word that can be translated from one language to another; it is a unique Word, and God is offering it to us now.

The Gospel writer calls Jesus “The Word This summarizes what Christmas is all about. It tells us that the Word, Jesus, has chosen to become human.

The Creator of the universe with its countless stars and planets is born in a stable in Bethlehem. As John himself said: From the very beginning the Word (that is, Son of God) was with God. Through him God made all things; … The Word (the Son of God) became a human being and … lived among us.

The point of this verse, *The Word became a human being* is that in the midst of our agonies in this life we are not alone.

• In Jesus, God is with us when we are depressed and hurting and sick.
• In Jesus, God is with us when we are hit with bad news.
• In Jesus, God is with us when we feel guilty and ashamed.
• In Jesus, God is with us when we are worried about someone we love.
• In Jesus, God is with us when we are caught up in a chain of events that we are powerless to prevent.

The good news of Christmas is that God hasn’t kept to himself separate from all of troubles and pain, but he has come right here into the middle of all of it. He truly is Immanuel – ***God is with us*.**

John Rosen was a doctor in a psychiatric hospital. Unlike all the other doctors who were aloof and separate from their patients, he moved into the ward with them. He placed his bed among their beds. He lived the life they must live. Day to day he shared it. He loved them. If they didn’t talk, he didn’t talk either. It’s as if he understood what was happening. He was just there, and that communicated something to the patients that they hadn’t heard in years – somebody understood them.

But then he did something else. He put his arms around them and hugged them. This doctor with a string of letters after his name, this highly skilled, highly paid physician, who was like God to the patient, who had control over the lives of his patients, held those unattractive, unlovable, sometimes incontinent persons, and loved them back into life. Often, when patients who had been unable to speak said their first words, they were “thank you”.

God does have a special Word for us. This Word is Jesus who came to give his life for us in the shame of the cross, his suffering and dying for the sins of all people. It was for this reason that we have Christmas and continue to celebrate it to this day.

The angel made it quite clear to Joseph, “…You shall call his name Jesus, for it is he who shall **save his people from their sins”** (Matthew 1:21).

God has a word for all of us today. God has become a human being because of us and just for each one of us.