

WHY JESUS?—The Faithful Friend By Pastor Robby Bradford

(Matthew 1:21) She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name **Jesus**, because he will save his people from their sins.

(Matthew 1:23) The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him "**Immanuel**" (which means, "**God with us**").

(John 1:14) The Word became flesh and made his **dwelling** among us.

(Hebrews 2:17-18 MSG) That's why he had to enter into every detail of human life. Then, when he came before God as high priest to get rid of the people's sins, he would have already experienced it all himself—all the **pain**, all the **testing**—and would **be able to help** where help was needed.

✓ **He understands relationships.**

(Mark 6:3) "Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?"

(Mark 3:21) When **his family** heard about this, they went to **take charge of him**, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

✓ **He understands life.**

(Hebrews 4:15) For we do not have a high priest who is unable to **sympathize** with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been **tempted in every way**, just as we are--yet was without sin.

✓ **He understands pain.**

(Isaiah 53:3) He was **despised** and **rejected** by men, a man of **sorrows**, and familiar with **suffering**.

(Isaiah 53:5) He was **pierced** for our transgressions, he was **crushed** for our iniquities; the **punishment** that brought us peace was upon him, and by his **wounds** we are healed.

(Luke 9:22 NLT) "The Son of Man must **suffer** many terrible things," he said. "He will be **rejected** by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He will be **killed**, but on the third day he will be **raised** from the dead."

THE FAITHFUL FRIEND

(Proverbs 18:24) A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a **friend who sticks closer than a brother**.

1. Relate to Jesus as your friend.

(John 15:15) "I no longer call you **servants**, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, **I have called you friends**, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."

2. Pray to him with confidence.

(Hebrews 4:16) Let us then **approach** the throne of grace with **confidence**, so that we may **receive mercy** and **find grace** to help us in our time of need.

3. Trust Jesus with your life.

(John 1:12 TLB) But to all who **received** him, he gave the right to become **children of God**. All they needed to do was to **trust** him to **save** them.

(Psalms 37:5 NLT) **Commit** everything you do to the Lord. **Trust** him, and he will help you.