## GOD WALKS WITH HIS PEOPLE

By Lorena Ocampo Campos, Pastor for Families and Children

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." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). —Matthew 1:21–23

The purpose of the Posada is to cherish, remember, and encourage Christians to keep spreading the message of salvation everywhere we go. Christmas is seen as an epiphany and as a time of revelation, joy, encounter, celebration, and reflection.

Over history, we have seen how God walked with His people and used different symbols to identify His presence—a column of fire that led Moses and the children of Israel; a still, small voice that came to Elijah; "a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night" (Exodus 13:21) just to name a few.

The Bible tells us of Jesus walking with his disciples, walking among women and men, from village to village, healing, eating, teaching, and accompanying. The Bible is a great treasure because it is one place that God reveals God's Self, it is there He speaks to us, and from there He convinces us of His leadership.

He has walked with us during dark and desperate times, in those times when we think that our cause may be nonsense, that our struggle may be fruitless, and that our prayers have been pointless. So, He has taken us in His arms and He has walked with us, His people.

God revealed God's self through the birth of a baby: Jesus, Emmanuel, whose name means "God with us." This is a very valuable gift from our father God to us, His children, because it reminds us constantly of His magnificent love and His daily presence. Today, that same God is not only teaching us that He walks with us, but through us and for us, as well.

Jesus, Emmanuel. He invites us to follow his steps, to walk alongside the fallen and sad ones to support them, and to help all women, men, children; and to stand with people who are in transit who truly need the message of the love and hope that will lead them to celebration, joy, and encounter. I truly recommend that each of us set a goal this year to read the Bible, and immerse ourselves in its stories and its history.

May God bless you all.





