



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.

Matt 1:21 (NIV)

This was the message Joseph received in a dream from the angel of the Lord. Joseph was engaged to be married to Mary, but when he found out she was pregnant he planned to divorce her, until God intervened. The angel declared the child's name should be Jesus, or in Hebrew, *Yeshua*, which is usually translated as Joshua in the Old Testament. This was a common Jewish name that means "Yahweh is salvation." So there were a lot of Jewish men who, by their name, reminded everyone that Yahweh is the One who brings about salvation.

But the angel told Joseph that there was going to be something very different about this Jewish boy. Instead of merely reminding everyone that "Yahweh is salvation", this boy **IS YAHWEH**, and He has come to die for the sins of Yahweh's people! Matthew goes on to tell us of how this boy grew up and did mighty miracles which showed He was more than an ordinary man. Eventually Jesus went to the cross to pay the penalty for the sins of mankind and make it possible for all of us to find salvation and be called God's people!



God called us to come and help share this Good News with the people in Zambia, and we feel privileged to have been given this responsibility. At this Christmas time we want to thank you for partnering with us in this mission. We cannot do it without you! And we want to wish you and your family:

**Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!**

