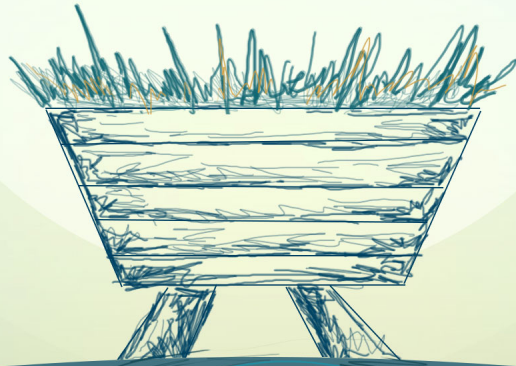


First
Love



A hand-drawn illustration of a stable. The stable is drawn with simple, sketchy lines in a light blue/teal color. It has a triangular roof supported by two vertical posts. On top of the roof is a five-pointed star, also drawn with sketchy lines. In the center of the stable, there is a manger filled with hay. The manger is supported by two small legs. The background is a gradient of teal, with a large, bright white circle in the center, resembling a full moon or a bright light. The word "Advent:" is written in a black, handwritten-style font, underlined, and centered in the white circle.

Advent:

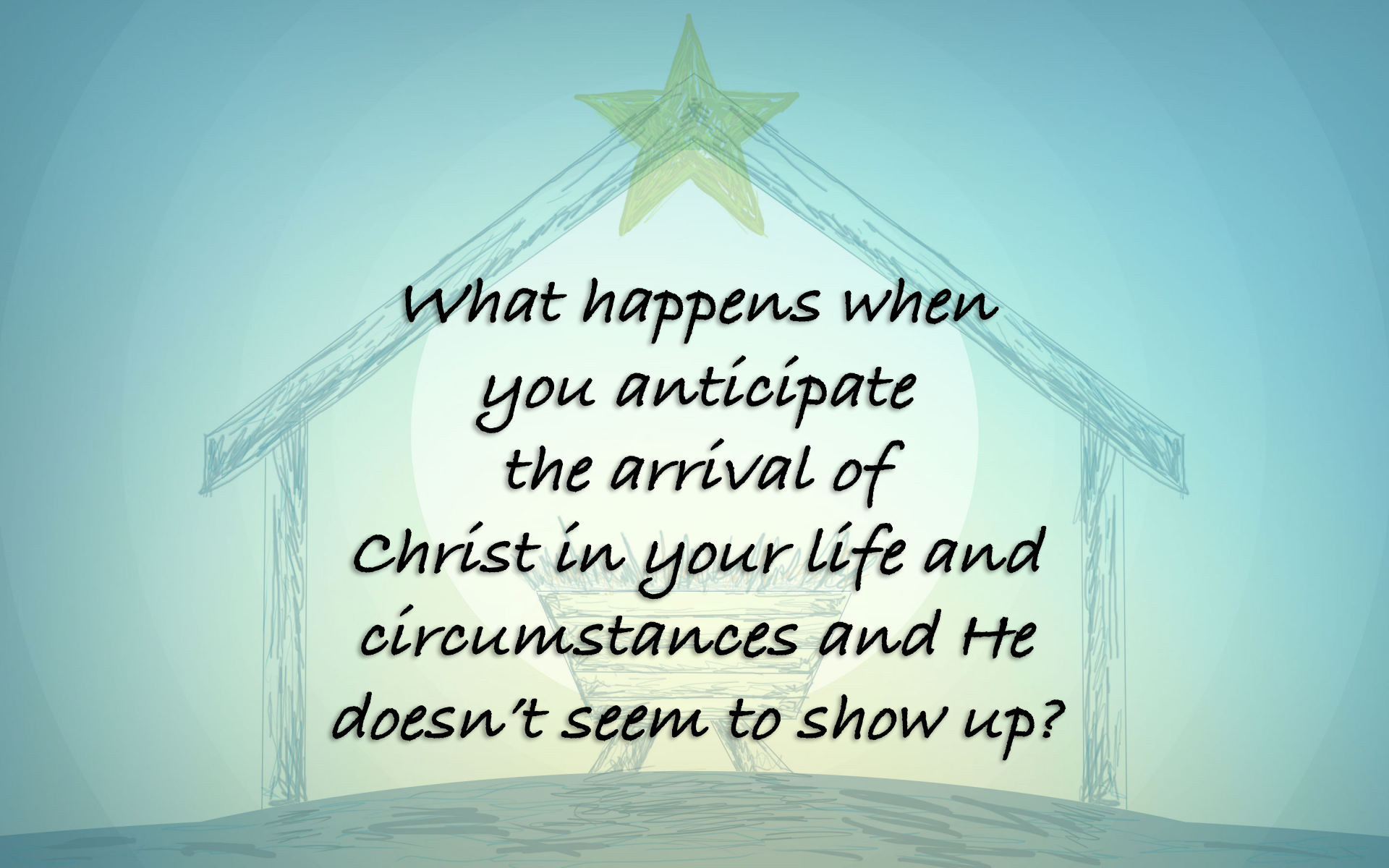


Advent:
the arrival of
a notable
person, thing
or event




Advent:

Preparing for
the arrival of
the Christ child,
the Messiah




What happens when
you anticipate
the arrival of
Christ in your life and
circumstances and He
doesn't seem to show up?



Buy into the culture



*Buy into the culture
Become 'hyperly' religious*



Buy into the culture
Become 'hyperly' religious
"Be with"

John 3:16

For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only Son,
that whoever believes in Him should
not perish but have eternal life.

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John 3:16

He gave

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John 3:16

He gave His only son
Incarnation

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

Crucifixion

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

Crucifixion

Resurrection

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

Crucifixion

Resurrection

Second-coming

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

it is really weird

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

It is really weird

It makes total sense

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incararnation

It is really weird

It makes total sense

It requires a response

Jesus said "I came..."





Jesus said "I came..."

Matthew 9:9-13



Jesus said "I came..."

Matthew 9:9-13

- 9 As Jesus passed on from there,
He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth,
and He said to him, "Follow me."
And he rose and followed Him.
- 10 And as Jesus' reclined at table in the house,
behold many tax collectors and sinners came and
were reclining with Jesus and His disciples.



Jesus said "I came..."

- 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- 12 But when He heard it He said,
"Those who are well have no need of a physician,
but those who are sick.
- 13 Go and learn what this means,
'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'
For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."



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11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

12 **Hosea 6:6**

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt

13 offerings.

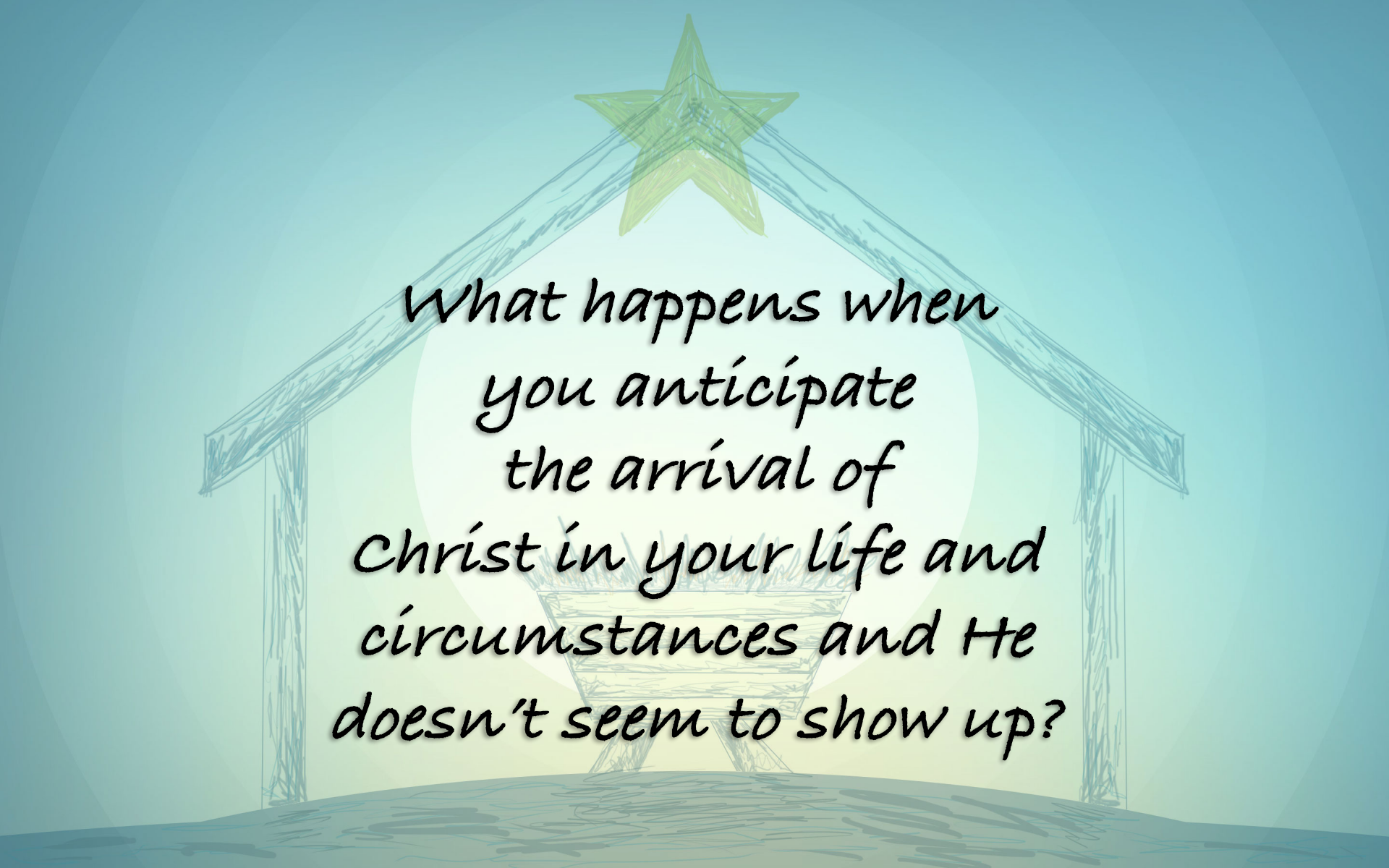
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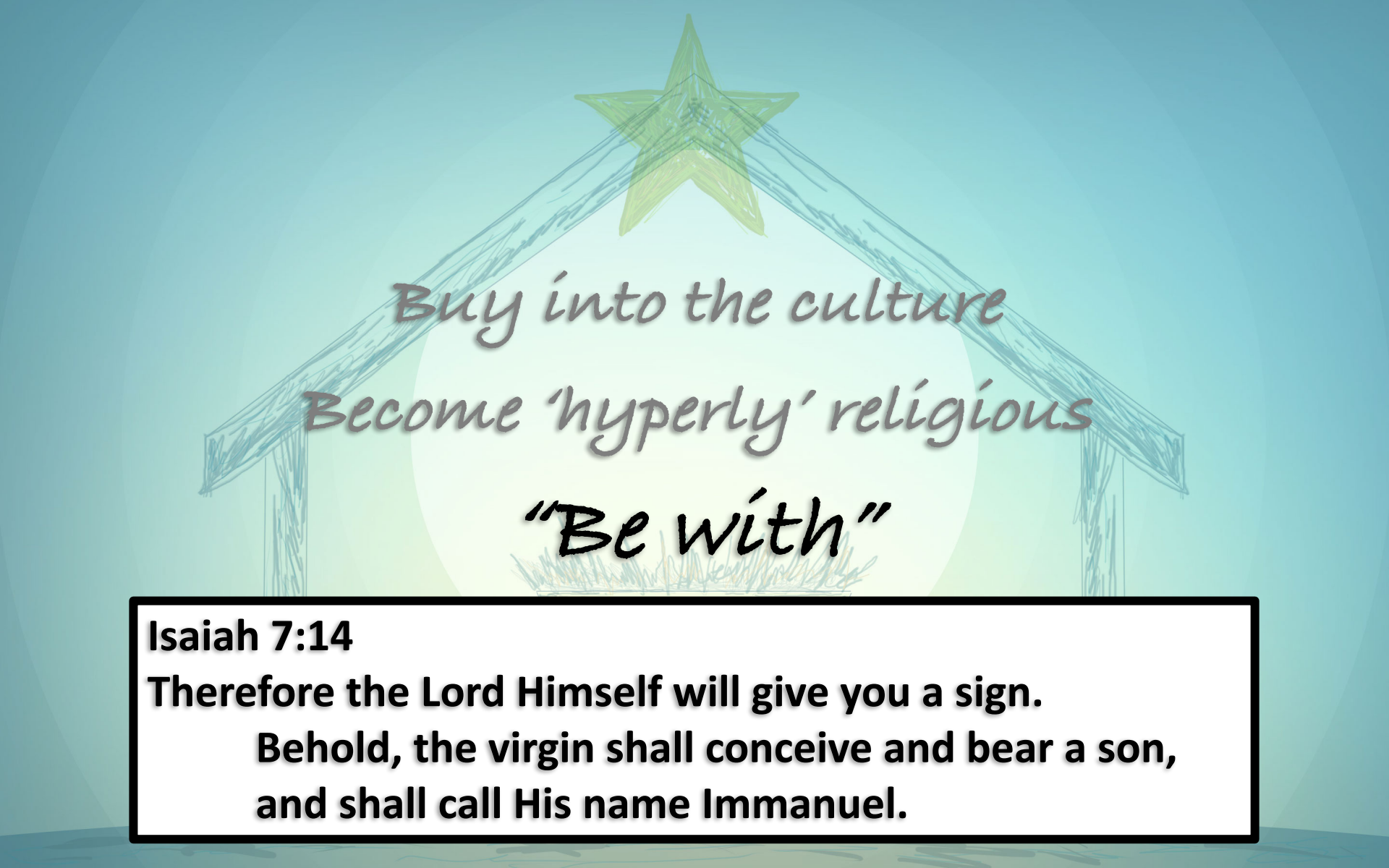
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Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign.

**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call His name Immanuel.**